market relief as quickly as possible, El Paso has developed a multi-part plan, listing as the heart of the plan the immediate conversion of the Line 2000 Project from a compression replacement project to an expansion project.

El Paso describes in plan as follows: Part One—Recontracting Existing Capacity

El Paso states that it has approximately 1.22 Bcf per day of capacity under contracts to El Paso Merchant Energy Company (EPME) which expires on May 31, 2001, subject to EPME having right of first refusal on that capacity. El Paso indicates that, in recognition of the current California energy crisis, it held an open season for this capacity from January 12, through February 12, 2001. El Paso states that it received 148 bids for a total of 14.4 Bcf per day of capacity, but awarded 121 bids pending the February 22, 2001, deadline of EPME matching the bids. It is indicated that the 121 bids fully subscribed the 1.22 Bcf per day of capacity at the posting, at terms ranging from 17 months to 15 years and at the maximum California reservation rate. El Paso advised that EPME did not match any of the bids, and El Paso entered into the transportation service agreements for the total 1.22 Bcf per day of capacity.

Part Two

El Paso advises that the authorization requested in this amendment constitutes Part Two. El Paso advises that as soon as the Line 2000 Project is placed into service, including the 230,000 Mcf per day of incremental capacity in the daily scheduling of gas on the system. El Paso states that this increment of capacity will be utilized as system flexibility capacity and would serve to reduce daily allocations of capacity on the system in times of maintenance, outages, and force majeure events. El Paso also states that it would not require specific new firm transportation service agreements for such capacity but instead would use it as a cushion to meet the demands for gas in the California market in the markets east of California where natural gas is used to generate power that is exported to California. El Paso also submits that the additional capacity would offset the reduction in capacity that could otherwise be experienced as a result of the extraordinary maintenance activities planned for the coming summer months.

Part Three

El Paso has posted on its electronic bulletin board an open season for further system expansion projects timed to meet the needs of potential shippers. El Paso indicates that this open season, which closes on March 23, 2001, provides potential shippers an opportunity to express their non-binding interest in firm transportation service to support additional expansions of the El Paso system.

Any questions regarding the amendment should be directed to Robert T. Tomlinson at (915) 496–2600.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before March

30, 2001, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, a motion to intervene or a protest in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214) and the regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.10). All protests filed with the Commission will be considered by it in determining the appropriate action to be taken but will not serve to make the protestants parties to the proceeding. The Commission's rules require that protestors provide copies of their protests to the party or parties directly involved.

Any person wishing to become a party in any proceeding herein must file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's rules.

A person obtaining intervenor status will be placed on the service list maintained by the Secretary of the Commission and will receive copies of all documents filed by the applicant and by every one of the intervenors. An intervenor can file for rehearing of any Commission order and can petition for court review of any such order. However, an intervenor must submit copies of comments or any other filing it makes with the Commission to every other intervenor in the proceeding, as well as 14 copies with the Commission.

A person does not have to intervene, however, in order to have comments considered. A person, instead, may submit two copies of comments to the Secretary of the Commission. Commenters will be placed on the Commission's environmental mailing list, will receive copies of environmental documents and will be able to participate in meetings associated with the Commission's environmental review process. Commenters will not be required to serve copies of filed documents on all other parties. However, commenters will not receive copies of all documents filed by other parties or issued by the Commission and will not have the right to seek rehearing or appeal the Commission's final order to a federal court.

The Commission will consider all comments and concerns equally, whether filed by commenters or those requesting intervenor status.

Take further notice that, pursuant to the authority contained in and subject to the jurisdiction conferred upon the Commission by Sections 7 and 15 of the Natural Gas Act and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, a hearing will be held without further notice before the Commission or its designee on this application if no motion to intervene is filed within the time required herein, if the Commission on its own review of the matter finds that a grant of the certificate is required by the public convenience and necessity. If a motion for leave to intervene is timely filed, or if the Commission on its own motion believes that formal hearing is required, further notice of such hearing will be duly given.

Under the procedure herein provided for, unless otherwise advised, it will be unnecessary for El Paso to appear or to be represented at the hearing.

Also, comments, protest, or interventions may be filed electronically via the internet in lieu of paper. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's web site at http://www.ferc.fed.us/efi/doorbell.htm.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr., *Acting Secretary*.

[FR Doc. 01–7105 Filed 3–21–01; 8:45 am]

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP01-106-000]

Kern River Gas Transmission Company; Notice of Application

March 16, 2001.

Take notice that on March 15, 2001, Kern River Gas Transmission Company (Kern River), 295 Chipeta Way, Salt Lake City, Utah 84158, filed an application in Docket No. CP01-106-000 pursuant to Sections 7(c) and 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act (NGA) for temporary and permanent certificates of public convenience and necessity authorizing Kern River to construct and operate emergency facilities to provide up to 135,000 Mcf per day of limitedterm, incremental transportation capacity from Wyoming to California to help meet the urgent need for additional energy in California, all as more fully set forth in the application which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection. This filing may be viewed on the web at http:// www.ferc.us/online/rims.htm (call 202-208–2222 for assistance).

Subject to receipt of all necessary permits and regulatory authorizations, Kern River anticipates an in-service date of approximately July 1, 2001 for this needed capacity.

In addition, Kern River requests pregranted approval and permission to abandon certain proposed temporary facilities upon replacement by permanent facilities in a superceding expansion project. Further, Kern River requests approval of incremental transportation rates for the proposed services; approval of pro forma FERC Gas Tariff sheets reflecting the incremental transportation rates and associated incremental compressor fuel reimbursement provisions; and approval of its proposed accounting treatment for certain facility costs.

Kern River states that the name, address, and telephone number of the person to whom correspondence and communication concerning this application should be addressed is: Gary Kotter, Manager, Certificates, Kern River Gas Transmission Company, P.O. Box 58900, Salt Lake City, Utah 84158, (801) 584–7117.

Kern River states that the emergency facilities include: (1) three new compressor stations—the Elberta Compressor Station in Utah County, Utah; the Veyo Compressor Station in Washington County, Utah; and the Daggett Compressor Station in San Bernardino County, California; (2) upgrades and restages for the compressor units at three existing compressor stations—the Muddy Creek Compressor Station in Lincoln County, Wyoming; Fillmore Compressor Station in Millard County, Utah; and the Goodsprings Compressor Station in Clark County, Nevada; and (3) an upgrade of the existing Wheeler Ridge Meter Station in Kern County, California.

Kern River states that approval of new compressor stations at these cities also is pending in Docket No. CP01–31–000 for Kern River's 2002 Expansion Project. However, due to the availability of suitable compressor units for immediate emergency installation, the compressor configurations proposed herein are different.

According to Kern River, the compressor unit proposed for the new Daggett Compressor Station is a temporary facility, which will subsequently be replaced with a permanent compressor unit as part of Kern River's 2002 Expansion Project. Kern River states that upon conclusion of the proposed California Emergency Action, the remainder of the proposed emergency facilities will be permanently incorporated into either the 2002 Expansion Project or Kern River's forthcoming 2003 Expansion Project.

Kern River requests pre-granted approval and permission to abandon the proposed temporary emergency compressor unit at the Daggett Compressor Station upon the in-service date of the replacement permanent unit for the 2002 Expansion Project. It is stated that the in-service date for the replacement permanent compressor unit is May 1, 2003. Kern River states that the certificate application for the 2002 Expansion Project will be amended to reflect the delayed in-service date for the Daggett permanent compressor unit.

According to Kern River, the proposed compression facilities will add a total of 53,900 ISO-rates horsepower (15,000 of which is temporary) to the Kern River system and will create 135,000 Mcf per day (Mcf/d) of incremental transportation capacity, year-round, from Wyoming to California. It is estimated that the cost of the proposed facilities is approximately \$81 million, which includes \$10.5 million for temporary facilities and \$18.5 million of increased costs attributable to the significantly compressed and accelerated construction activities for the permanent facilities.

It is further stated that an open-season has resulted in binding commitments under Rate Schedule KRF-1 for all of the proposed incremental capacity. A total of 135,000 Mcf/d of firm service will be provided commencing with an anticipated in-service date of about July 1, 2001, with 114,000 Mcf/d of that capacity expiring April 30, 2002 and the remaining 21,000 Mcf/d expiring April 30, 2003. It is stated that the latter increment of capacity represents capacity provided by the proposed emergency facilities that will be in excess of the 124,500 Dth per day of long-term contract commitments for the 2002 Expansion Project.

Kern River further requests approval of incremental transportation rates for the proposed capacity, approval of a proforma FERC Gas Tariff provision providing for incremental compressor fuel reimbursement and approval of its proposed accounting treatment for certain facility costs.

Kern River states that its proposed incremental transportation rate on a 100 percent load factor rate is \$0.8790 per Mcf, exclusive of surcharges. It is stated that of this base incremental rate, the reservation charge component is \$0.8190 per Mcf and the commodity charge component is \$0.06 per Mcf. Kern River avers that the incremental fuel reimbursement rates are proposed to be 4.2 percent for the period from July 1, 2001 through April 30, 2002; and 6.2 percent for the period from May 1, 2002 through April 30, 2003.

Pending issuance of a permanent certificate for its proposed emergency action, Kern River requests that the Commission issue it a temporary certificate pursuant to Section 157.17 of its regulations. It is stated that the proposed emergency facilities must be completed as soon as possible to address the urgent need for deliveries of additional natural gas supplies to existing and new electric generation markets to help meet California's energy needs during the 2001 cooling season.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make protest with reference to said application should on or before March 30, 2001, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, a motion to intervene or a protest in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 or 385.214) and the regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.10). All protests filed with the Commission will be considered by it in determining the appropriate action to be taken but will not serve to make the protestants parties to the proceeding. The Commission's rules require that protestors provide copies of their protests to the party or parties directly involved. Any person wishing to become a party to a proceeding or to participate as a party in any hearing therein must file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's rules.

A person obtaining intervenor status will be placed on the service list maintained by the Commission and will receive copies of all documents issued by the Commission, filed by the applicant, or filed by all other intervenors. An intervenor can file for rehearing of any Commission order and can petition for court review of any such order. However, an intervenor must submit copies of comments or any other filing it makes with the Commission to every other intervenor in the proceeding, as well as 14 copies with the Commission.

A person does not have to intervene, however, in order to have comments considered. A person, instead, may submit two copies of comments to the Secretary of the Commission. Commenters will not be placed on the Commission's environmental mailing list, will receive copies of environmental documents and will be able to participate in meetings associated with the Commission's environmental review process. Commenters will not be required to serve copies of filed documents on all other parties. However, commenters will not receive copies of all documents filed by other parties or issued by the Commission and will not have the right to seek rehearing or appeal the

Commission's final order to a federal court.

The Commission will consider all comments and concerns equally, whether filed by commenters or those requesting intervener status.

Take further notice that, pursuant to the authority contained in and subject to jurisdiction conferred upon the Commission by Sections 7 and 15 of the NGA and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, a hearing will be held without further notice before the Commission or its designee on this application if no motion to intervene is filed within the time required herein, if the Commission on its own review of the matter finds that a grant of the certificate is required by the public convenience and necessity. If a motion for leave to intervene is timely filed, or if the Commission on its own motion believes that a formal hearing is required, further notice of such hearing will be duly given.

Under the procedure herein provided for, unless otherwise advised, it will be unnecessary for Kern River to appear or be represented at the hearing.

Also, comments, protest, or interventions may be filed electronically via the internet in lieu of paper. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's web site at http://www.ferc.fed.us/efi/doorbell.htm.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01–7104 Filed 3–21–01; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 6717–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. CP01-94-000 & CP01-96-000]

Nornew Energy Supply, Inc. and Norse Pipeline, L.L.C.; Notice of Applications

March 16, 2001.

Take notice that on March 1, 2001, Nornew Energy Supply, Inc. (Nornew), 19 Ivy Street, Jamestown, New York 14701 and Norse Pipeline, L.L.C. (Norse), 2500 Tanglewilde, Suite 250, Houston, Texas 77063, filed applications pursuant to section 7 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA). In Docket No. CP01–94–0000, Nornew seeks authorization: (1) To acquire from its affiliate, Norse, and to operate approximately 14.67 miles of twelveinch pipeline and 4.33 miles of eightinch pipeline; (2) to construct (nunc protunc) and operate approximately 7.63 of

eight-inch piipeline;1 and, (3) to construct by rearrangement, and operate certain compression and measurement facilities in Mayville, NY, as well as check valves and regulators devices designed to prevent the flow of gas from Nornew into Norse's gathering facilities located in the Town of Ellery, NY and in Mayville, NY. Also in Docket No. CP01-94-000, Norse seeks authorization: (1) To abandon by sale to Nornew approximately 14.67 miles of twelve-inch pipeline and 4.33 miles of eight-inch pipeline and appurtenant facilities previously used by Norse to provide gathering service; and, (2) to abandon in place a 2000 foot line at the point where the Norse facilities connect to Nornew's 7.63 miles of eight-inch pipeline. In Docket No. CP01-96-000, Nornew requests a blanket certificate pursuant to Subpart F of Part 157 of the Commission's Regulations to perform certain routine activities and operations, all as more fully set forth in the applications which are on file with the Commission and open to public inspection. The filing may be viewed at http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

Norse and Nornew's request for certificates of public convenience and necessity are a result of the Commission's previous orders that ruled that interstate natural gas transportation service to the Jamestown BPU would require such authorization. Further the Commission also required Norse to provide evidence that the primary function of its facilities would be gathering exempt from the Commission's jurisdiction pursuant to section 1(b) of the NGA. In compliance with the Commission's orders, Nornew and Norse are proposing to rearrange their business activities to enable Norse, subject to Commission confirmation, to reamin an exempt gatherer and for Nornew to provide interstate transportation to the Jamestown BPU.

Specifically, Nornew has agreed to acquire from Norse and Norse has agreed to sell to Nornew approximately 19 miles of twelve-inch and eight-inch pipeline and appurtenant facilities previously used by Norse in its gathering operations. The purchase price for the facilities is \$1,133,866. Nornew plans to lease two 360 hp compressors currently situated at the Norse compressor site at Mayville, NY.

The 19 miles of pipeline will connect two delivery points from Norse's gathering facilities (in Mayville, NY and Ellery, NY) and a future delivery point from Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company (Tennessee) in Mayville, NY to Nornew's 7.63 mile, eight-inch pipeline, which will serve the Jamestown BPU's Samuel A. Carlson Generating Station (Carlson Generating Station) in Jamestown, NY. Additionally, Nornew will construct approximately 300 feet of six-inch pipeline leading from Tennessee's facilities to the two leased 360 hp compressors, as well as constructing approximately 200 feet of six-inch pipeline from the compressors to Nornew's mainline. Norse seeks abandonment authorization to the extent necessary to sell the facilities to Nornew and to abandon certain minor facilities in place. According to Norse the sale of the facilities will create a geographically separate segment of Norse's system from that of Nornew's system. Therefore, Norse believes that its remaining facilities will continue to operate as non-jurisdictional gathering facilities.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before April 6, 2001, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, a motion to intervene or a protest in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214 or 385.211) and the Regulations under the NGA (18 CFR 157.10). All protests filed with the Commission will be considered by it in determining the appropriate action to be taken but will not serve to make the protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party to a proceeding or to participate as a party in any hearing therein must file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules. Any questions regarding the application should be directed to Oivind Risberg, President, Nornew Energy Supply, Inc., 2500 Tanglewilde, Suite 250, Houston, Texas 77063, telephone (713) 975-1900.

Comments, protests, and interventions may be filed electronically via the internet in lieu of paper. See, 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's web site at http://www.ferc.fed.us/efi/doorbell.htm.

A person obtaining intervenor status will be placed on the service list maintained by the Secretary of the Commission and will receive copies of all documents filed by the applicant and by everyone of the intervenors. An intervenor can file for rehearing of any

¹ National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation, 93 FERC ¶ 61,276 (2000), reh'g denied, 94 FERC ¶ 61,136 (2001). In its orders, the Commission, among other things, ruled that the 7.63 miles of eight-inch pipeline constructed by Nornew to serve the Jamestown Board of Public Utilities (Jamestown BPU) was a jurisdictional facility requiring an NGa section 7(c) certificate.