

Dated: August 13, 2024.

**Debbie-Anne A. Reese,**

*Acting Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2024-18526 Filed 8-16-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

#### Combined Notice of Filings

Take notice that the Commission has received the following Natural Gas Pipeline Rate and Refund Report filings:

#### Filings Instituting Proceedings

*Docket Numbers:* RP24-966-000.

*Applicants:* National Grid LNG, LLC.

*Description:* § 4(d) Rate Filing; 2024-08-09 NGLNG Operational Purchase and Sale Tariff Filing to be effective 9/9/2024.

*Filed Date:* 8/9/24.

*Accession Number:* 20240809-5124.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. ET 8/21/24.

*Docket Numbers:* RP24-967-000.

*Applicants:* Northern Natural Gas Company.

*Description:* § 4(d) Rate Filing; 20240812 Carlton Flow Obligation to be effective 11/1/2024.

*Filed Date:* 8/12/24.

*Accession Number:* 20240812-5043.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. ET 8/26/24.

Any person desiring to intervene, to protest, or to answer a complaint in any of the above proceedings must file in accordance with Rules 211, 214, or 206 of the Commission's Regulations (18 CFR 385.211, 385.214, or 385.206) on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on the specified comment date. Protests may be considered, but intervention is necessary to become a party to the proceeding.

The filings are accessible in the Commission's eLibrary system (<https://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/search/fercgensearch.asp>) by querying the docket number.

eFiling is encouraged. More detailed information relating to filing requirements, interventions, protests, service, and qualifying facilities filings can be found at: <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling/filing-req.pdf>. For other information, call (866) 208-3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502-8659.

The Commission's Office of Public Participation (OPP) supports meaningful public engagement and participation in Commission proceedings. OPP can help members of the public, including landowners, environmental justice communities, Tribal members and others, access publicly available

information and navigate Commission processes. For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, the public is encouraged to contact OPP at (202) 502-6595 or [OPP@ferc.gov](mailto:OPP@ferc.gov).

Dated: August 12, 2024.

**Debbie-Anne A. Reese,**

*Acting Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2024-18467 Filed 8-16-24; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. IC24-25-000]

#### Commission Information Collection Activities (FERC-725X); Comment Request; Extension

**AGENCY:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of information collection and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) is soliciting public comment on the currently approved information collection, FERC 725X, Mandatory Reliability Standards: Voltage and Reactive (VAR) Standards. There were no changes made to the reporting requirements for this information collection.

**DATES:** Comments on the collection of information are due October 18, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit copies of your comments (identified by Docket No. IC24-25-000) by one of the following methods:

Electronic filing through <https://www.ferc.gov>, is preferred.

- *Electronic Filing:* Documents must be filed in acceptable native applications and print-to-PDF, not in scanned or picture format.

- For those unable to file electronically, comments may be filed by USPS mail or by other delivery methods:

- *Mail via U.S. Postal Service Only:* Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Secretary of the Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426.

- *All other delivery services:* Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Office of the Secretary, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, MD 20852.

*Instructions:* All submissions must be formatted and filed in accordance with submission guidelines at: <https://www.ferc.gov>.

[www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov). For user assistance, contact FERC Online Support by email at [ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov](mailto:ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov), or by phone at (866) 208-3676 (toll-free).

*Docket:* Users interested in receiving automatic notification of activity in this docket or in viewing/downloading comments and issuances in this docket may do so at <https://www.ferc.gov>.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Doug Reimel may be reached by email at [DataClearance@FERC.gov](mailto:DataClearance@FERC.gov), telephone at (202) 502-6461.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* FERC 725X, Mandatory Reliability Standards: Voltage and Reactive (VAR) Standards.

*OMB Control No.:* 1902-0278.

*Type of Request:* Three-year extension of the FERC-725X information collection requirements with no changes to the current reporting requirements.

*Abstract:* Pursuant to section 215 of the Federal Power Act (FPA),<sup>1</sup> North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) established the Voltage and Reactive ("VAR") group of Reliability Standards, which consists of two continent-wide Reliability Standards, VAR-001-5 and VAR-002-4.1. NERC conducts periodic reviews of Reliability Standards in accordance with Section 317 of the NERC Rules of Procedure and Section 13 of the NERC Standard Processes Manual. In accordance with these authorities and the NERC *Reliability Standards Development Plan: 2017-2019*, NERC recently completed Project 2016-EPR-02 Enhanced Periodic Review of Voltage and Reactive Reliability Standards. This project conducted a periodic review of mandatory and enforceable Reliability Standards VAR-001-4.1 (Voltage and Reactive Control)<sup>2</sup> and VAR-002-4 (Generator Operation for Maintaining Network Schedules).<sup>3</sup> These two standards were designed to maintain voltage stability on the Bulk-Power System, protect transmission, generation, distribution, and customer equipment, and support the reliable operation of the Bulk-Power System. Voltage stability is the ability of a power

<sup>1</sup> 16 U.S.C. 824o (2012).

<sup>2</sup> The Commission approved Reliability Standard VAR-001-4 (Voltage and Reactive Control) on August 1, 2014. See *North American Electric Reliability Corp.*, Docket No. RD14-11-000 (Aug. 1, 2014) (delegated letter order). The Commission approved errata version VAR-001-4.1 on November 13, 2015. See *North American Electric Reliability Corp.*, Docket No. RD15-6-000 (Nov. 13, 2015) (delegated letter order).

<sup>3</sup> The Commission approved Reliability Standard VAR-002-4, which clarified the applicability of the VAR-002 standard to dispersed generation resources, on May 29, 2015. See *North American Electric Reliability Corp.*, 151 FERC ¶ 61,186 (May 29, 2015).

system to maintain acceptable voltage levels throughout the system under normal operating conditions and following a disturbance. Failure to maintain acceptable voltage levels (*i.e.*, voltage levels become too high or too low) may cause violations of System Operating Limits (“SOLs”) and Interconnection Reliability Operating Limits (“IROLs”), result in damage to Bulk-Power System equipment, and thereby threaten the reliable operation of the Bulk-Power System. The number of manhours for VAR–001–5 and VAR–002–4.1 will remain the same, but the type of job responsibilities to follow the requirements will be split between an engineer and record-keeper, instead of just an engineer. This results in a decrease of the cost of compliance and record-keeping for these two standards.

**Reliability Standard VAR–001–5**

This Reliability Standard requires Transmission Operators to:

- Specify a system-wide voltage schedule (which is either a range or a target value with an associated tolerance band) as part of its plan to operate within SOLs and IROLs, and to provide the voltage schedule to its Reliability Coordinator and adjacent Transmission Operators upon request (Requirement R1);
- Schedule sufficient reactive resources to regulate voltage levels (Requirement R2);
- Operate or direct the operation of devices to regulate transmission voltage and reactive flows (Requirement R3);
- Develop a set of criteria to exempt generators from certain requirements under Reliability Standard VAR–002–

4.1 related to voltage or Reactive Power schedules, automatic voltage regulations, and notification (Requirement R4);

- Specify a voltage or Reactive Power schedule (which is either a range or a target value with an associated tolerance band) for generators at either the high or low voltage side of the generator step-up transformer, provide the schedule to the associated Generator Operator, direct the Generator Operator to comply with that schedule in automatic voltage control mode, provide the Generator Operator the notification requirements for deviating from the schedule, and, if requested, provide the Generator Operator the criteria used to develop the schedule (Requirement R5); and
- Communicate step-up transformer tap changes, the time frame for completion, and the justification for these changes to Generator Owners (Requirement R6).

**Reliability Standard VAR–002–4.1**

This Reliability Standard includes an information collection activity for “Requirement R1” and a separate information collection activity for “Requirements R2 through R6.”

This Reliability Standard requires Generator Operators to:

- Operate each of its generators connected to the interconnected transmission system in automatic voltage control mode or in a different control mode as instructed by the Transmission Operator, unless the Generator Operator (1) is exempted pursuant to the criteria developed under VAR–001–5, Requirement R4, or (2) makes certain notifications to the

Transmission Operator specifying the reasons it cannot so operate (Requirement R1);

- Maintain the Transmission Operator’s generator voltage or Reactive Power schedule, unless the Generator Operator (1) is exempted pursuant to the criteria developed under VAR–001–5, Requirement R4, or (2) complies with the notification requirements for deviations as established by the Transmission Owner pursuant to VAR–001–5, Requirement R5 (Requirement R2);

- Notify the Transmission Operator of a change in status of its voltage controlling device within 30 minutes, unless the status is restored within that time period (Requirement R3); and

- Notify the Transmission Operator of a change in reactive capability due to factors other than those described in VAR–002–4.1, Requirement R3 within 30 minutes unless the capability has been restored during that time period (Requirement R4).

- Provide information on its step-up transformers and auxiliary transformers within 30 days of a request from the Transmission Operator or Transmission Planner (Requirement R5); and

- Comply with the Transmission Operator’s step-up transformer tap change directives unless compliance would violate safety, an equipment rating, or applicable laws, rules or regulations (Requirement R6).

*Type of Respondents:* Generator owners and transmission operators.

*Estimate of Annual Burden:*<sup>4</sup> The Commission estimates the annual public reporting burden for the information collection as:

**FERC–725X, MANDATORY RELIABILITY STANDARDS: VOLTAGE AND REACTIVE (VAR) STANDARDS**

	Number of respondents <sup>5</sup>	Annual number of responses per respondent	Total number of responses	Average burden & cost per response <sup>6</sup>	Total annual burden hours & total annual cost	Cost per respondent (\$)
	(1)	(2)	(1) * (2) = (3)	(4)	(3) * (4) = (5)	(5) ÷ (1)
VAR–001–5 Compliance and record-keeping.	165 (TOP) .....	1	165	160 hrs.; \$11,307.20 ....	26,400 hrs.; \$1,865,688 .....	\$11,307.20
VAR–002–4.1 Compliance and record-keeping.	1,028 (GOP) .....	1	1,028	200 hrs.; \$14,134 .....	205,600 hrs.; \$14,529,752 .....	14,134
<b>Total</b> .....	.....	.....	1,193	.....	232,000 hrs.; \$16,395,440 .....	.....

*Comments:* Comments are invited on: (1) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper

performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden and cost of the collection of information, including the validity of

<sup>4</sup> The Commission defines burden as the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide information to or for a Federal agency. For further explanation of what is included in the information collection burden, reference 5 Code of Federal Regulations 1320.3.

<sup>5</sup> TOP = transmission operator; GOP = generator operators. These values were derived from the NERC Compliance data of April 16, 2024, using only unique United States registered entities.

<sup>6</sup> The estimated hourly cost (salary plus benefits) is a combination based on the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), as of 2024, for 75% of the average

of an Electrical Engineer (17–2071) \$79.31/hr., 79.31 × .75 = 59.4825 (\$59.48-rounded) (\$59.48/hour) and 25% of an Information and Record Clerk (43–4199) \$44.74/hr., \$44.74 × .25% = 11.185 (\$11.19 rounded) (\$11.19/hour), for a total (\$59.48 + \$11.19 = \$70.67/hour).

the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Dated: August 13, 2024.

**Debbie-Anne A. Reese,**

*Acting Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2024-18525 Filed 8-16-24; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP24-507-000]

#### Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC; Notice of Request Under Blanket Authorization and Establishing Intervention and Protest Deadline

Take notice that on August 1, 2024, Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC (Transco), Post Office Box 1396, Houston, Texas 77251, filed in the above referenced docket, a prior notice request pursuant to sections 257.205 and 157.216 of the Commission's regulations under the Natural Gas Act (NGA), and Transco's blanket certificate issued in Docket No. CP82-426-000, for authorization to abandon an existing 2.19-mile-long, 12-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline and appurtenant facilities, all located in Potter County, Pennsylvania (Wharton Extension Lateral Abandonment Project). Transco states that these facilities have not been used during the previous 12 months and therefore, the project will allow Transco to reduce long-term costs associated with the required maintenance of the facilities that are no longer needed for transportation service. The estimated cost for the project is \$2.13 million, all as more fully set forth in the request which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

In addition to publishing the full text of this document in the **Federal Register**, the Commission provides all interested persons an opportunity to view and/or print the contents of this document via the internet through the Commission's Home Page (<http://www.ferc.gov>). From the Commission's Home Page on the internet, this information is available on eLibrary. The full text of this document is available on eLibrary in PDF and Microsoft Word format for viewing,

printing, and/or downloading. To access this document in eLibrary, type the docket number excluding the last three digits of this document in the docket number field.

User assistance is available for eLibrary and the Commission's website during normal business hours from FERC Online Support at (202) 502-6652 (toll free at 1-866-208-3676) or email at [ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov](mailto:ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov), or the Public Reference Room at (202) 502-8371, TTY (202) 502-8659. Email the Public Reference Room at [public.referenceroom@ferc.gov](mailto:public.referenceroom@ferc.gov).

Any questions concerning this request should be directed to Georgia Clark, Regulatory Analyst, Sr., Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC, Post Office Box 1396, Houston, Texas 77251, or by email at [georgia.clark@williams.com](mailto:georgia.clark@williams.com).

#### Public Participation

There are three ways to become involved in the Commission's review of this project: you can file a protest to the project, you can file a motion to intervene in the proceeding, and you can file comments on the project. There is no fee or cost for filing protests, motions to intervene, or comments. The deadline for filing protests, motions to intervene, and comments is 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on October 11, 2024. How to file protests, motions to intervene, and comments is explained below.

The Commission's Office of Public Participation (OPP) supports meaningful public engagement and participation in Commission proceedings. OPP can help members of the public, including landowners, environmental justice communities, Tribal members and others, access publicly available information and navigate Commission processes. For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, the public is encouraged to contact OPP at (202) 502-6595 or [OPP@ferc.gov](mailto:OPP@ferc.gov).

#### Protests

Pursuant to section 157.205 of the Commission's regulations under the NGA,<sup>1</sup> any person<sup>2</sup> or the Commission's staff may file a protest to the request. If no protest is filed within the time allowed or if a protest is filed and then withdrawn within 30 days after the allowed time for filing a protest, the proposed activity shall be deemed to be authorized effective the day after the

time allowed for protest. If a protest is filed and not withdrawn within 30 days after the time allowed for filing a protest, the instant request for authorization will be considered by the Commission.

Protests must comply with the requirements specified in section 157.205(e) of the Commission's regulations,<sup>3</sup> and must be submitted by the protest deadline, which is October 11, 2024. A protest may also serve as a motion to intervene so long as the protestor states it also seeks to be an intervenor.

#### Interventions

Any person has the option to file a motion to intervene in this proceeding. Only intervenors have the right to request rehearing of Commission orders issued in this proceeding and to subsequently challenge the Commission's orders in the U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeal.

To intervene, you must submit a motion to intervene to the Commission in accordance with Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure<sup>4</sup> and the regulations under the NGA<sup>5</sup> by the intervention deadline for the project, which is October 11, 2024. As described further in Rule 214, your motion to intervene must state, to the extent known, your position regarding the proceeding, as well as your interest in the proceeding. For an individual, this could include your status as a landowner, ratepayer, resident of an impacted community, or recreationist. You do not need to have property directly impacted by the project in order to intervene. For more information about motions to intervene, refer to the FERC website at <https://www.ferc.gov/resources/guides/how-to/intervene.asp>.

All timely, unopposed motions to intervene are automatically granted by operation of Rule 214(c)(1). Motions to intervene that are filed after the intervention deadline are untimely and may be denied. Any late-filed motion to intervene must show good cause for being late and must explain why the time limitation should be waived and provide justification by reference to factors set forth in Rule 214(d) of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. A person obtaining party status will be placed on the service list maintained by the Secretary of the Commission and will receive copies (paper or electronic) of all documents filed by the applicant and by all other parties.

<sup>1</sup> 18 CFR 157.205.

<sup>2</sup> Persons include individuals, organizations, businesses, municipalities, and other entities. 18 CFR 385.102(d).

<sup>3</sup> 18 CFR 157.205(e).

<sup>4</sup> 18 CFR 385.214.

<sup>5</sup> 18 CFR 157.10.