

properly allocated to the service to which the rate applies.

(ii) Any minimum rate filed under this section must be based on the average variable costs which are properly allocated to the service to which the rate applies.

(5) *Rate flexibility.* (i) Any rate schedule filed under this section must state a maximum rate and a minimum rate.

(ii)(A) Except as provided in paragraph (d)(5)(ii)(B) of this section the pipeline may charge an individual customer any rate that is neither greater than the maximum rate nor less than the minimum rate on file for that service.

(B) If a pipeline does not hold a blanket certificate under Subpart G of this part, it may not charge, in a transaction involving its marketing affiliate, a rate that is lower than the highest rate it charges in any transaction not involving its marketing affiliate.

(iii) The pipeline may not file a revised or new rate designed to recover costs not recovered under rates previously in effect.

[Order 436, 50 FR 42493, Oct. 18, 1985, as amended at 50 FR 52274, Dec. 23, 1985; 53 FR 22163, June 14, 1988; Order 522, 55 FR 12169, Apr. 2, 1990; Order 581, 60 FR 53072, Oct. 11, 1995. Redesignated and amended by Order 637, 65 FR 10220, Feb. 25, 2000]

§ 284.11 Environmental compliance.

(a) Any activity involving the construction of, or the abandonment with removal of, facilities that is authorized pursuant to § 284.3(c) and subpart B or C of this part is subject to the terms and conditions of § 157.206(b) of this chapter.

(b) *Advance notification*—(1) *General rule.* Except as provided in paragraph (b)(2) of this section, at least 30 days prior to commencing construction a company must file notification with the Commission of any activity described in paragraph (a) of this section.

(2) *Exception.* The advance notification described in paragraph (b)(1) of this section is not required if the cost of the project does not exceed the cost limit specified in Column 1 of Table I of § 157.208(d) of this chapter.

(c) *Contents of advance notification.* The advance notification described in paragraph (b)(1) of this section must include the following information:

(1) A brief description of the facilities to be constructed or abandoned with removal of facilities (including pipeline size and length, compression horsepower, design capacity, and cost of construction);

(2) Evidence of having complied with each provision of § 157.206(b) of this chapter;

(3) Current U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute series topographical maps showing the location of the facilities; and

(4) A description of the procedures to be used for erosion control, revegetation and maintenance, and stream and wetland crossings.

(d) *Reporting requirements.* On or before May 1 of each year, a company must file (on electronic media pursuant to § 385.2011 of this chapter, accompanied by 7 paper copies) an annual report that lists for the previous calendar year each activity that is described in paragraph (a) of this section, and which was completed during the previous calendar year and exempt from the advance notification requirement pursuant to paragraph (b)(2) of this section. For each such activity, the company must include all of the information described in paragraph (c) of this section.

[Order 544, 57 FR 46495, Oct. 9, 1992, as amended by Order 581, 60 FR 53072, Oct. 11, 1995; Order 603-A, 64 FR 54537, Oct. 7, 1999]

§ 284.12 Standards for pipeline business operations and communications.

(a) *Incorporation by reference of NAESB standards.* (1) An interstate pipeline that transports gas under subparts B or G of this part must comply with the following business practice and electronic communication standards promulgated by the North American Energy Standards Board, which are incorporated herein by reference:

(i) Additional Standards (General Standards, Creditworthiness

Standards and Gas/Electric Operational Communications Standards) (Version 1.9, September 30, 2009);

(ii) Nominations Related Standards (Version 1.9, September 30, 2009);

(iii) Flowing Gas Related Standards (Version 1.9, September 30, 2009);

(iv) Invoicing Related Standards (Version 1.9, September 30, 2009);

(v) Quadrant Electronic Delivery Mechanism Related Standards (Version 1.9, September 30, 2009) with the exception of Standard 4.3.4;

(vi) Capacity Release Related Standards (Version 1.9, September 30, 2009); and

(vii) Internet Electronic Transport Related Standards (Version 1.9, September 30, 2009) with the exception of Standard 10.3.2.

(2) This incorporation by reference was approved by the Director of the Federal Register in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51. Copies of these standards may be obtained from the North American Energy Standards Board, 801 Travis Street, Suite 1675, Houston, TX 77002, *Phone:* (713) 356-0060. NAESB's Web site is at <http://www.naesb.org/>. Copies may be inspected at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, *Phone:* (202) 502-8371, <http://www.ferc.gov>, or at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, call 202-741-6030, or go to: http://www.archives.gov/Federal_register/code_of_Federal_regulations/ibr_locations.html.

(b) *Business practices and electronic communication requirements.* An interstate pipeline that transports gas under subparts B or G of this part must comply with the following requirements. The regulations in this paragraph adopt the abbreviations and definitions contained in the North American Energy Standards Board Wholesale Gas Quadrant standards incorporated by reference in paragraph (a)(1) of this section.

(1) Nominations.

(i) Intra-day nominations.

(A) A pipeline must give scheduling priority to an intra-day nomination submitted by a firm shipper over nominated and scheduled volumes for interruptible shippers. When an interruptible shipper's scheduled volumes are to be reduced as a result of an intra-day nomination by a firm shipper, the interruptible shipper must be provided

with advance notice of such reduction and must be notified whether penalties will apply on the day its volumes are reduced.

(B) An intra-day nomination submitted on the day prior to gas flow will take effect at the start of the gas day at 9 a.m. CCT.

(ii) *Capacity release scheduling.* (A) Pipelines must permit shippers acquiring released capacity to submit a nomination at the earliest available nomination opportunity after the acquisition of capacity. If the pipeline requires the replacement shipper to enter into a contract, the contract must be issued within one hour after the pipeline has been notified of the release, but the requirement for contracting must not inhibit the ability of the replacement shipper to submit a nomination at the earliest available nomination opportunity.

(B) A pipeline must permit releasing shippers, as a condition of a capacity release, to recall released capacity and renominate such recalled capacity at each nomination opportunity. Each replacement shipper must be provided with advance notice of such recall and must be notified whether penalties will apply on the day its volumes are reduced.

(2) *Flowing gas.* (i) *Operational balancing agreements.* A pipeline must enter into Operational Balancing Agreements at all points of interconnection between its system and the system of another interstate or intra-state pipeline.

(ii) *Netting and trading of imbalances.* A pipeline must establish provisions permitting shippers and their agents to offset imbalances accruing on different contracts held by the shipper with the pipeline and to trade imbalances with other shippers where such imbalances have similar operational impact on the pipeline's system.

(iii) *Imbalance management.* A pipeline with imbalance penalty provisions in its tariff must provide, to the extent operationally practicable, parking and lending or other services that facilitate the ability of its shippers to manage transportation imbalances. A pipeline also must provide its shippers the opportunity to obtain similar imbalance

management services from other providers and shall provide those shippers using other providers access to transportation and other pipeline services without undue discrimination or preference.

(iv) *Operational flow orders.* A pipeline must take all reasonable actions to minimize the issuance and adverse impacts of operational flow orders (OFOs) or other measures taken to respond to adverse operational events on its system. A pipeline must set forth in its tariff clear standards for when such measures will begin and end and must provide timely information that will enable shippers to minimize the adverse impacts of these measures.

(v) *Penalties.* A pipeline may include in its tariff transportation penalties only to the extent necessary to prevent the impairment of reliable service. Pipelines may not retain net penalty revenues, but must credit them to shippers in a manner to be prescribed in the pipeline's tariff. A pipeline with penalty provisions in its tariff must provide to shippers, on a timely basis, as much information as possible about the imbalance and overrun status of each shipper and the imbalance of the pipeline's system.

(3) *Communication protocols.* (i)(A) All electronic information provided and electronic transactions conducted by a pipeline must be provided on the public Internet. A pipeline must provide, upon request, private network connections using internet tools, internet directory services, and internet communication protocols and must provide these networks with non-discriminatory access to all electronic information. A pipeline may charge a reasonable fee to recover the costs of providing such an interconnection.

(B) A pipeline must implement this requirement no later than June 1, 2000.

(ii) A pipeline must comply with the following requirements for documents constituting public information posted on the pipeline web site:

(A) The documents must be accessible to the public over the public Internet using commercially available web browsers, without imposition of a password or other access requirement;

(B) Users must be able to search an entire document online for selected

words, and must be able to copy selected portions of the documents; and

(C) Documents on the web site should be directly downloadable without the need for users to first view the documents on the web site.

(iii) If a pipeline uses a numeric or other designation to represent information, an electronic cross-reference table between the numeric or other designation and the information represented must be available to users, at a cost not to exceed reasonable shipping and handling.

(iv) A pipeline must provide the same content for all information regardless of the electronic format in which it is provided.

(v) A pipeline must maintain, for a period of three years, all information displayed and transactions conducted electronically under this section and be able to recover and regenerate all such electronic information and documents. The pipeline must make this archived information available in electronic form for a reasonable fee.

(vi) A pipeline must post notices of operational flow orders, critical periods, and other critical notices on its Internet web site and must notify affected parties of such notices in either of the following ways to be chosen by the affected party: Internet E-Mail or direct notification to the party's Internet URL address.

[Order 587, 61 FR 39068, July 26, 1996]

EDITORIAL NOTE: For FEDERAL REGISTER citations affecting § 284.12, see the List of CFR Sections Affected, which appears in the Finding Aids section of the printed volume and at www.fdsys.gov.

§ 284.13 Reporting requirements for interstate pipelines.

An interstate pipeline that provides transportation service under subparts B or G of this part must comply with the following reporting requirements.

(a) *Cross references.* The pipeline must comply with the requirements in Part 358, Part 250, and Part 260 of this chapter, where applicable.

(b) *Reports on firm and interruptible services.* An interstate pipeline must post the following information on its Internet web site, and provide the information in downloadable file formats, in conformity with § 284.12 of this