

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Regulations Governing the Conduct  
of Open Seasons for Alaska Natural  
Gas Transportation Projects

Docket No. RM05-1-000

FURTHER NOTICE OF TECHNICAL CONFERENCE AND  
NOMINATION OF SPEAKERS

(November 15, 2004)

Take notice that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission will host a technical conference in this proceeding on December 3, 2004 in Anchorage, Alaska. As previously announced on October 26, 2004, the Commission has initiated a rulemaking to establish regulations governing the conduct of open seasons for capacity on any Alaska natural gas transportation projects. These regulations are required by section 103(e) of the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act of 2004, enacted into law on October 13, 2004.

The Commission's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NOPR) was issued in the above referenced Docket on November 15, 2004. The NOPR contains a preamble explaining the background of the proposed rule, several specific questions about issues related to the proposed rule, and specific proposed regulatory text. Written comments on the NOPR are required to be submitted by December 17, 2004. The Commission must issue regulations within 120 days of enactment of the Act, that is, by February 10, 2005. The Commission is now providing further public notice with details about the technical conference, including the specific location in Anchorage, Alaska, the expected time of day for the conference, and a request for interested parties to nominate speakers. All interested parties and the public are invited to attend.

Conference Information

Date : December 3, 2004

Time : 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Alaska Time  
(1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time)

Location : Municipality of Anchorage, Loussac Library  
Assembly Chambers  
3600 Denali Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

### Summary of Proposed Regulations

The full text of the NOPR is available through the Commission's eLibrary under Docket No. RM05-1. The proposed regulations first set forth the purpose and applicability of the proposed rules and certain definitions. That purpose is to prescribe rules for the conduct of any open season on any Alaska natural gas transportation project. Any applicant for a proposed Alaska natural gas transportation project must include a showing in its application to construct a project which shows that it has conducted an open season for capacity allocation that fully complies with the requirements of the rules.

The proposed rule requires that a public notice of an open season be issued by the project sponsor at least 30 days prior to the commencement of the open season through methods including postings on Internet websites, press releases, direct mail solicitations, and other advertising. Next, the proposed rule lists the information about a proposed project that any notice of open season for an Alaska natural gas transportation project must contain. The proposed rule states that an open season for an Alaska natural gas transportation project must remain open for a period of at least 90 days. Finally, the proposed rule requires that capacity allocated as a result of any open season shall be awarded without undue discrimination or preference of any kind.

### Nomination of Speakers

The Commission is now soliciting nominations for speakers at the technical conference. In order to more efficiently use the limited time available, there will only be oral presentations at this conference; no power point presentations or use of other visual aids are being considered. All such materials may be submitted for the record prior to the conference, or as part of the written comments due on December 17<sup>th</sup>. Once the Commission has established a specific agenda for the technical conference, all those who have requested an opportunity to speak will be notified whether they have been accepted. Given the limited time available for this technical conference, we may not be able to accommodate all nominated speakers. Speakers with similar interests may be asked to combine their remarks through a single spokesperson. Those persons or parties that wish to nominate speakers should do so using this electronic link : <http://www.ferc.gov/whats-new/registration/alaska-1203-speaker-form.asp> . Such nominations must be made before the close of business, Friday, November 26, 2004, so that an agenda for the technical conference can be drafted and published.

Further Information

Registration for attendees to the December 3<sup>rd</sup> technical conference is not required, but it is encouraged to assist with the conference planning process. Those electing to register are asked to do so on-line by close of business, Friday, November 26, 2004 at: <http://www.ferc.gov/whats-new/registration/alaska-1203-form.asp> .

Transcripts of the conference will be immediately available from Ace Reporting Company (202-347-3700 or 1-800-336-6646) for a fee. They will be available for the public on the Commission's eLibrary system seven calendar days after FERC receives the transcript. For information about this proceeding, interested persons may go to the Commission's website, [www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov), and search under the docket number for this proceeding, Docket No. RM05-1. Materials for the conference will also be posted on the Commission's monthly calendar page for this event. Also, materials already provided to the Commission Staff by certain interested parties have already been placed in the record of this proceeding and are available electronically through the Commission's eLibrary under Docket No. RM05-1.

Additionally, Capitol Connection offers the opportunity for remote listening of the conference via the Internet or a Phone Bridge Connection for a fee. Interested persons should make arrangements as soon as possible by visiting the Capitol Connection website at <http://www.capitolconnection.gmu.edu> and clicking on "FERC." If you have any questions contact David Reininger or Julia Morelli at the Capitol Connection (703-993-3100).

Any questions or comments about this technical conference may be directed to: Edwin Holden, 202-502-8089, [Edwin.Holden@ferc.gov](mailto:Edwin.Holden@ferc.gov) or Richard Foley, 202-502-8955, [Richard.Foley@ferc.gov](mailto:Richard.Foley@ferc.gov).

Magalie R. Salas  
Secretary