

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**  
**FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION**

Revisions to Oil Pipeline Regulations  
Pursuant to the Energy Policy Act of 1992

Docket No. RM93-11-000

NOTICE OF ANNUAL CHANGE  
IN THE PRODUCER PRICE INDEX FOR FINISHED GOODS

(May 18, 2006)

The Commission's regulations include a methodology for oil pipelines to change their rates through use of an index system that establishes ceiling levels for such rates. The Commission bases the index system, found at 18 CFR § 342.3, on the annual change in the Producer Price Index for Finished Goods (PPI-FG), plus one point three percent (PPI+1.3). The Commission determined in an "Order Establishing Index For Oil Price Change Ceiling Levels" issued March 21, 2006, that PPI+1.3 is the appropriate oil pricing index factor for pipelines to use.<sup>1</sup>

The regulations provide that the Commission will publish annually, an index figure reflecting the final change in the PPI-FG, after the Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes the final PPI-FG in May of each calendar year. The annual average PPI-FG index figures were 148.5 for 2004 and 155.7 for 2005.<sup>2</sup> Thus, the percent change (expressed as a decimal) in the annual average PPI-FG from 2004 to 2005, plus 1.3 percent, is positive .061485.<sup>3</sup> Oil pipelines must multiply their July 1, 2005, through June 30, 2006, index ceiling levels by positive 1.061485<sup>4</sup> to compute their index ceiling levels for July 1, 2006,

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<sup>1</sup>114 FERC ¶ 61,293 at P 2 (2006).

<sup>2</sup> Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) publishes the final figure in mid-May of each year. This figure is publicly available from the Division of Industrial Prices and Price Indexes of the BLS, at (202) 691-7705, and in print in August in Table 1 of the annual data supplement to the BLS publication Producer Price Indexes via the Internet at [\[http://www.bls.gov/ppi\]](http://www.bls.gov/ppi). To obtain the BLS data, click on "Get Detailed PPI Statistics," and then under the heading "Most Requested Statistics" click on "Commodity Data." At the next screen, under the heading "Producer Price Index - Commodity," select the first box, "Finished goods - WPUSOP3000", then scroll all the way to the bottom of this screen and click on Retrieve data.

<sup>3</sup> $[155.7 - 148.5] / 148.5 = 0.048485 + .013 = 0.061485$

through June 30, 2007, in accordance with 18 CFR § 342.3(d). For guidance in calculating the ceiling levels for each 12 month period beginning January 1, 1995,<sup>5</sup> see *Explorer Pipeline Company*, 71 FERC 61,416 at n.6 (1995).

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Magalie R. Salas,  
Secretary

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<sup>4</sup>1 + 0.061485 = 1.061485

<sup>5</sup>For a listing of all prior multipliers issued by the Commission, see the Commission's website, [www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov). The table of multipliers can be found under the headings "Oil" and "Index".