

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

Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America, LLC))))	Docket No. RP10-147-000
Northern Natural Gas Company))	Docket No. RP10-148-000
Great Lakes Gas Transmission Company)	Docket No. RP10-149-000

(NOT CONSOLIDATED)

**JOINDER IN PROTESTS OF THE
AMERICAN PUBLIC GAS ASSOCIATION**

Pursuant to Rule 211 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“Commission”),¹ the American Public Gas Association (“APGA”), an intervenor in each of the above-designated proceedings, files this Joinder in Protests regarding the “cost and revenue” studies filed respectively by Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America, LLC (“Natural”), Northern Natural Gas Company (“Northern”), and Great Lakes Gas Transmission Company (“Great Lakes”), collectively the “Respondent Pipelines.” APGA joins in the Protests already filed in these proceedings by the Indicated Shippers, BP Energy Company, *et al.*, and the American Forest & Paper Association, *et al.*, collectively the “Protestants,” because they are well founded and because they raise important issues for the Commission’s prompt consideration.

On November 19, 2009, FERC issued similar orders instituting investigations of the rates of the Respondent Pipelines under section 5 of the Natural Gas Act (“Investigation Orders”).²

¹ 18 C.F. R. § 385.211 (2009).

² *Natural Gas Pipeline Co. of America LLC*, 129 FERC ¶ 61,158 (2009); *Northern Natural Gas Co.*, 129 FERC ¶ 61,159 (2009); *Great Lakes Gas Transmission Co.*, 129 FERC ¶ 61,160 (2009).

FERC ordered the Respondent Pipelines to “file a cost and revenue study within 45 days of the date this order issues,” and specifically required that the cost and revenue study “include actual data for the latest 12-month period available as of the date of this order.” The Commission was clear that the Respondent Pipelines did not “need to file nine months of post-base period adjustment data required by section 153.303(a) at this point in the proceeding.” Investigation Orders at P 7 (*Northern Natural and Great Lakes*) and P 8 (*Natural*).

What the Commission ordered, the Respondent Pipelines have not provided, as the Protestants have pointed out in some detail in their pleadings. The Commission in its Investigation Orders observed that on the basis of Form 2 data for 2008 filed by the Respondent Pipelines, they appeared to be over-recovering their legitimate costs of service. The Commission determined, as it has in past Section 5 proceedings, to have the Respondent Pipelines supplement their Form 2 data with the most recent 12 months actual data available. The Commission did not require, but did not foreclose, the Respondent Pipelines from providing post-base period adjustment data provided for under section 154.303(a).

The Respondent Pipelines, presumably aware that their base period data would likely reveal the same substantial over-recovery as their Form 2 data, have attempted to frustrate the Commission’s Investigation Orders by providing adjusted base period data that makes meaningful analysis difficult if not impossible. The Respondent Pipelines each relies upon the camouflaged data to claim in its transmittal letter accompanying the cost and revenue study that the cost data shows that its rates are inadequate to recover its costs.

The Protestants have urged the Commission either to reject these cost and revenue studies (in favor of revised studies that comply with the Investigation Orders) or at a minimum to require the Respondent Pipelines to amend their filings immediately to separate the base period data

from the adjustment data so that the Commission, its staff, and the parties can properly and promptly assess the filings. APGA joins these requests.

WHEREFORE, APGA respectfully submits that the Respondent Pipelines have declined to obey the clear mandate of the Investigation Orders, and APGA respectfully requests that they be required to do so promptly so that these proceedings may be concluded in a timely fashion, as anticipated by the Commission in its Investigation Orders.

Respectfully submitted,

AMERICAN PUBLIC GAS ASSOCIATION

By /s/ William T. Miller
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February 17, 2010

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing document upon each of the parties in these proceedings in accordance with Rule 2010 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure.

Dated at Washington, D.C., this 17th day of February 2010.

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