

the certificate holder to deliver gas to any party.

(11) *Sensitive environmental area* means:

(i) The habitats of species which have been identified as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act (Pub. L. 93-205, as amended) and essential fish habitat as identified under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801, *et seq.*);

(ii) National or State Forests or Parks;

(iii) Properties listed on, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places, or the National Register of Natural Landmarks;

(iv) Floodplains and wetlands;

(v) Designated or proposed wilderness areas, national or state wild and scenic rivers, wildlife refuges and management areas and sanctuaries;

(vi) Prime agricultural lands, designated by the Department of Agriculture; or

(vii) Sites which are subject to use by American Indians and other Native Americans for religious purposes.

(12) *Interconnection facilities* means the interconnecting point, which includes the tap, metering, and M&R facilities and the related interconnecting pipeline.

(13) *Emergency* means a sudden unanticipated loss of gas supply or capacity that requires an immediate restoration of interrupted service for protection of life or health or for maintenance of physical property.

[Order 234, 47 FR 24266, June 4, 1982, as amended by Order 319, 48 FR 34888, Aug. 1, 1983; Order 319-A, 48 FR 51446, Nov. 9, 1983; Order 436, 50 FR 42490, Oct. 18, 1985; Order 603, 64 FR 26606, May 14, 1999; Order 603-A, 64 FR 54536, Oct. 7, 1999; Order 609, 64 FR 57391, Oct. 25, 1999; Order 603-B, 65 FR 11464, Mar. 3, 2000; Order 633, 68 FR 31604, May 28, 2003]

§ 157.203 Blanket certification.

(a) *Effect.* A blanket certificate issued pursuant to this subpart authorizes the certificate holder, in accordance with the provisions of this subpart, to engage in any of the activities specified in § 157.208 through § 157.218 (as may be amended from time to time).

(b) *Automatic authorization.* A blanket certificate issued pursuant to this subpart authorizes the certificate holder

to engage in transactions described in § 157.208(a), § 157.209(a), § 157.211(a)(1), § 157.215, § 157.216(a), or § 157.218 without further Commission approval.

(c) *Prior notice required.* A blanket certificate issued pursuant to this subpart authorizes the certificate holder to engage in activities described in § 157.208(b), § 157.211(a)(2), § 157.214, or § 157.216(b), if the requirements of § 157.205 have been fulfilled.

(d) *Landowner notification.* (1) Except as identified in paragraph (d)(3) of this section, no activity described in paragraph (b) of this section is authorized unless the company makes a good faith effort to notify all affected landowners, as defined in § 157.6(d)(2), at least 30 days prior to commencing construction or at the time it initiates easement negotiations, whichever is earlier. A landowner may waive the 30-day prior notice requirement in writing as long as the notice has been provided. For activity required to restore service in an emergency, the 30-day prior notice period is satisfied in the event a company obtains all necessary easements. The notification shall include at least:

(i) A brief description of the facilities to be constructed or replaced and the effect the construction activity will have on the landowner's property;

(ii) The name and phone number of a company representative who is knowledgeable about the project; and

(iii) An explanation of the Commission's Enforcement Hotline procedures, as codified in § 1b.21 of this chapter, and the Enforcement Hotline telephone number.

(2) For activities described in paragraph (c) of this section, the company shall make a good faith effort to notify all affected landowners, as defined in § 157.6(d)(2), within at least three business days following the date that a docket number is assigned to the application or at the time it initiates easement negotiations, whichever is earlier. The notice should include at least:

(i) A brief description of the facilities to be constructed or replaced and the effect the construction activity will have on the landowner's property;

(ii) The name and phone number of a company representative that is knowledgeable about the project;

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(iii) The docket number (if assigned) for the company's application; and

(iv) The following paragraph: This project is being proposed under the prior notice requirements of the blanket certificate program administered by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Under the Commission's regulations, you have the right to protest this project within 45 days of the date the Commission issues a notice of the pipeline's filing. If you file a protest, you should include the docket number listed in this letter and provide the specific reasons for your protest. The protest should be mailed to the Secretary of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., NE., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. A copy of the protest should be mailed to the pipeline at [pipeline address]. If you have any questions concerning these procedures you can call the Commission's Office of External Affairs at (202) 208-1088.

(3) *Exceptions.* (i) No landowner notice is required for replacements which would have been done under §2.55 of this chapter but for the fact that the replacement facilities are not of the same capacity and as long as they meet the location requirements of §2.55(b)(1)(ii) of this chapter; or any replacement done for safety, DOT compliance, environmental, or unplanned maintenance reasons that are not foreseen and that require immediate attention by the certificate holder.

(ii) No landowner notice is required for abandonments which involve only the sale or transfer of the facilities, and the easement will continue to be used for transportation of natural gas.

(iii) No landowner notice is required if there is only one landowner and that landowner has requested the service or facilities.

(iv) No landowner notice is required for activities that do not involve ground disturbance or changes to operational air and noise emissions.

(4) If paragraphs (d)(1) or (d)(2) of this section require an applicant to reveal Critical Energy Infrastructure Information (CEII), as defined by §388.113(c) of this chapter, to any person, the ap-

plicant shall follow the procedures set out in §157.10(d).

[Order 234, 47 FR 24266, June 4, 1982, as amended by Order 319, 48 FR 34888, Aug. 1, 1983; Order 436, 50 FR 42490, Oct. 18, 1985; Order 603, 64 FR 26607, May 14, 1999; Order 609, 64 FR 57391, Oct. 25, 1999; Order 609-A, 65 FR 15238, Mar. 22, 2000; Order 633, 68 FR 31605, May 28, 2003; Order 643, 68 FR 52096, Sept. 2, 2003]

§ 157.204 Application procedure.

(a) *Who may apply.* Any interstate pipeline which has been issued a certificate other than a limited-jurisdiction certificate, pursuant to section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and had rates accepted by the Commission may apply for a blanket certificate under this subpart in the manner prescribed in §§157.6(a), 157.14(a) and 385.2011 of this chapter.

(b) *Hearing procedure.* Upon receiving an application for a blanket certificate under this subpart, the Commission will conduct a hearing pursuant to section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act and §§1.32 and 157.11 of this chapter.

(c) *Issuance.* If required by the present or future public convenience and necessity, the Commission will issue a blanket certificate to the applicant.

(d) *Application contents.* Applications for blanket certificates shall contain:

(1) Information indicating the exact legal name of the applicant; its principal place of business; whether the applicant is an individual, partnership, corporation or otherwise; citation to the certificate proceeding in which the applicant was found to be a natural gas company; the state under the laws of which the applicant is organized or authorized to do business; and the name, title, and mailing address and telephone number of the person or persons to whom communications concerning the application are to be addressed;

(2) A statement that the applicant will comply with the terms, conditions and procedures specified in this subpart.

[Order 234, 47 FR 24266, June 4, 1982, as amended by Order 319, 48 FR 34888, Aug. 1, 1983; Order 433, 50 FR 40345, Oct. 3, 1985; Order 436, 50 FR 42490, Oct. 18, 1985; Order 493, 53 FR 15030, Apr. 27, 1988; Order 603, 64 FR 26607, May 14, 1999]