

Applicants are authorized to issue securities and assume obligations or liabilities as a guarantor, indorser, surety, or otherwise in respect of any security of another person; provided that such issuance or assumption is for some lawful object within the corporate purposes of Applicants, compatible with the public interest, and is reasonably necessary or appropriate for such purposes.

The Commission reserves the right to require a further showing that neither public nor private interests will be adversely affected by continued approval of the Applicants' issuances of securities or assumptions of liability.

Copies of the full text of the Order are available from the Commission's Public Reference Branch, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. The Order may also be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov>, using the "FERRIS" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll-free at (866) 208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659. Comments, protests, and interventions may be filed electronically via the internet in lieu of paper. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site under the "e-Filing" link. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings.

**Magalie R. Salas,**  
*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP03-95-001]

#### PG&E Gas Transmission, Northwest Corporation; Notice of Tariff Filing

March 25, 2003.

Take notice that on March 20, 2003, PG&E Gas Transmission, Northwest Corporation (GTN) tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Second Revised Volume No. 1, Third Revised Sheet No. 6, with an effective date of January 1, 2003.

GTN states that the filing is being made to reflect in its tariff the incremental fuel surcharge that was approved by Commission order issued March 4, 2003 in Docket No. RP02-331-002.

GTN further states that a copy of this filing has been served on GTN's jurisdictional customers and interested state regulatory agencies.

Any person desiring to protest said filing should file a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with section 385.211 of the Commission's rules and regulations. All such protests must be filed in accordance with section 154.210 of the Commission's regulations. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceedings. This filing is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "FERRIS" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll-free at (866) 208-3676, or TTY, contact (202) 502-8659. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site under the "e-Filing" link.

Protest Date: April 1, 2003.

**Magalie R. Salas,**  
*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. EL03-59-000 and EL03-60-000]

#### Order Proposing Revocation of Market-Based Rate Authority

Issued March 26, 2003.

Before Commissioners: Pat Wood, III, Chairman; William L. Massey, and Nora Mead Brownell; Reliant Energy Services, Inc., BP Energy Company.

1. This order directs Reliant Energy Services, Inc. (Reliant) and BP Energy Company (BP Energy) to show cause to the Commission in paper hearings why their authority to sell power at market-based rates<sup>1</sup> should not be revoked by

<sup>1</sup> Reliant and BP Energy are power marketers previously authorized to sell electric power at market-based rates. See Office Director Letter Orders issued on July 25, 1994 in Docket No. ER94-1247-000 and March 12, 1999 in Docket No. ER99-1801-000 (granting Reliant market-based rate

the Commission in light of their apparent manipulation of electricity prices at the Palo Verde, Arizona trading hub, in violation of section 205(a) of the Federal Power Act's (FPA) requirement that rates be just and reasonable.<sup>2</sup> This order also initiates proceedings under section 206 of the FPA,<sup>3</sup> in Docket Nos. EL03-59-000 (for Reliant) and EL03-60-000 (for BP Energy), where the show cause filings will be considered.

2. This order is necessary to fulfill the Commission's obligation to monitor competitive markets in order to protect wholesale electricity customers from unjust and unreasonable rates.

#### Background

3. On February 13, 2002, the Commission directed a Staff fact-finding investigation into whether any entity manipulated prices in electricity or natural gas markets in the West or otherwise exercised undue influence over wholesale electricity prices in the West, since January 1, 2000.<sup>4</sup>

4. On August 13, 2002, Staff released its Initial Report in Docket No. PA02-2-000.<sup>5</sup> In that Report, Staff recommended the initiation of various company-specific proceedings<sup>6</sup> to further investigate possible misconduct, and recommended several generic changes to market-based tariffs to prohibit the deliberate submission of false information or the deliberate omission of material information and to provide for the imposition of both refunds and penalties for violations.

5. In Staff's Final Report, being publicly released concurrently with this order,<sup>7</sup> Staff notes evidence that indicates that Reliant and BP Energy appear to have engaged in coordinated efforts to manipulate electricity prices.

6. Specifically, Staff points to three occasions where a BP Energy trader called a Reliant trader and asked him to buy power from an offer he was going

authority); Office Director Letter Orders issued on June 17, 1999 in Docket No. ER99-2895-000 and October 18, 2000 in Docket No. ER00-3614-000 (granting BP Energy market-based rate authority).

<sup>2</sup> 16 U.S.C. 824d(a) (2000).

<sup>3</sup> 16 U.S.C. 824e (2000).

<sup>4</sup> Fact-Finding Investigation of Potential Manipulation of Electric and Natural Gas Prices, 98 FERC ¶ 61,165 (2002) (February 13 Order).

<sup>5</sup> The Initial Report is available on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov/electric/bulkpower/pa02-2/Initial-Report-PA02-2-000.pdf>.

<sup>6</sup> These proceedings, which are currently pending before the Commission, are Docket Nos. EL02-113-000, EL02-114-000, and EL02-115-000.

<sup>7</sup> Final Report on Price Manipulation in Western Markets (Docket No. PA02-2-000 March 2003). The Staff Final Report is available on the Commission's website. We will incorporate the Staff Final report, and the underlying record in Docket No. PA02-2-000, by reference into the records in these proceedings.