

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

Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C.)

Docket No. RP19-___-000

**PETITION OF TENNESSEE GAS PIPELINE COMPANY, L.L.C. FOR AN
EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE FERC FORM 501-G**

Pursuant to Rule 207 of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission’s (“FERC” or “Commission”) Rules of Practice and Procedure,¹ Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C. (“Tennessee”) hereby submits its second unopposed petition (“Petition”) requesting an extension of time to file the FERC Form No. 501-G (“Form 501-G”).² Tennessee was granted an extension of time on December 6, 2018 to help facilitate rate settlement negotiations with its customers and is scheduled to file its Form 501-G by February 4, 2019.³ Tennessee and its customers continue to be engaged in productive pre-filing settlement negotiations of its rates. While Tennessee and its customers agreed to a schedule which was intended to reach an agreement in principle by Feb. 4, additional time is required to reach a settlement. As explained by the Commission in its Final Rule, pipelines engaged in settlement negotiations at the time of the Form 501-G filing date may individually request a waiver or extension of the filing requirements.⁴ In evaluating such request, “the Commission will consider whether other interested parties support or do not

¹ 18 C.F.R. § 385.207 (2018).

² Section 260.402 of the Commission’s regulations provides an automatic exemption of the Form 501-G filing requirement to natural gas companies “whose rates are being examined in a general rate case under section 4 of the Natural Gas Act or in an investigation under section 5 of the Natural Gas Act.” 18 C.F.R. § 260.402(b)(1)(ii). Further, the regulations provide the same exemption to natural gas companies that file an uncontested settlement of its rates “before the deadline for it [to] file the FERC Form No. 501-G.” *Id.*

³ *Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C.*, Notice of Extension of Time, Docket No. RP19-351-000 (Dec. 6, 2018).

⁴ Final Rule at P 163.

oppose the request.”⁵ All customers involved in settlement negotiations have been provided with a draft of this filing and have expressed support for or do not object to an additional 60-day extension for filing of the Form 501-G to facilitate settlement. Accordingly, Tennessee expects that this Petition will be unopposed and respectfully requests that the Commission waive any applicable comment period.

As stated in Tennessee’s initial request for an extension of time, Tennessee is committed to resolving rate issues associated with the Tax Cuts and Job Act (“TCJA”)⁶ through a direct and amicable approach with its shippers. Accordingly, the extension of time requested by Tennessee is reasonable and good cause exists for the Commission to grant the Petition. Because Tennessee is scheduled to file its Form 501-G on February 4, 2019, Tennessee requests that the Commission act on this Petition by February 1, 2019 in order to allow Tennessee to file its FERC Form 501-G by February 4, 2019 if the requested extension of time is not granted.

I. COMMUNICATIONS

Tennessee respectfully requests that all communications and correspondence concerning this Petition be addressed to each of the following persons:⁷

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⁵ *Id.*

⁶ An Act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018, Pub. L. No. 115-97, 131 Stat. 2054 (2017).

⁷ To the extent necessary, Tennessee also respectfully requests that the Commission grant a waiver of Rule 203(b)(3) to permit all of the indicated persons to be added to the service list for this Petition.

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II. REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

In its Final Rule, the Commission adopted procedures requiring each interstate natural gas pipeline to file Form 501-G and choose one of four options to address any changes resulting from the TCJA by a specified date.⁸ As explained by the Commission in its Final Rule, the Form 501-G filing procedures “are intended to encourage natural gas pipelines to voluntarily reduce their rates to the extent the tax changes result in their over-recovering their cost of service while also providing the Commission and stakeholders information necessary” to ensure just and reasonable rates.⁹ The Commission also recognized that pipelines engaged in settlement negotiations at the time the Form 501-G is due may request a waiver of the Form’s filing requirements, which will be evaluated by the Commission on a case-by-case basis.¹⁰ In evaluating such requests, the

⁸ See Final Rule at P 31.

⁹ *Id.*

¹⁰ *Id.* at P 163; *see id.* at P 165.

Commission will consider “whether other interested parties support or do not oppose the request.”¹¹

In this Petition, Tennessee requests an extension of time, from its currently scheduled date of February 4, 2019 to April 5, 2019, to file its Form 501-G and select one of the Commission’s four options.

As stated above, Tennessee continues to be engaged with its customers in pre-filing settlement negotiations. As part of these discussions, customers have been, and will continue to be, provided with information necessary to reach an uncontested prepackaged settlement agreement.¹² While the participants have been working towards a resolution, negotiations are not complete and therefore, Tennessee is requesting an additional extension of the Form 501-G filing requirement until April 5, 2019 to facilitate ongoing settlement discussions. Any settlement reached will consider the TCJA. As noted above, since participants have had an opportunity to review this filing and either support or do not object, Tennessee does not expect any opposition to this request for an extension of time. If there is no opposition to this Petition, then Tennessee’s requested extension of time to file the Form 501-G until April 5, 2019 will be consistent with the intent of the Commission’s Final Rule. It is also consistent with the Commission’s policy of encouraging settlements between a pipeline and its customers.¹³ Accordingly, consistent with its Final Rule, the Commission should grant the requested extension and waive any applicable 30-day filing requirements in connection with the filing of this Petition.

¹¹ *Id.* at P 163.

¹² In the Final Rule, the Commission acknowledges that information provided in the settlement context is likely greater than the information provided only through the Form 501-G. *See id.* Thus, Tennessee’s customers are not disadvantaged by the requested extension of time to file the Form.

¹³ *See, e.g., Tenn. Gas Pipeline Co.*, 20 FERC ¶ 61,096, at pp. 61,206-07, *reh’g denied*, 20 FERC ¶ 61,237 (1982).

Tennessee respectfully requests that the Commission act on this Petition by February 1, 2019. This will ensure that Tennessee can file its FERC Form 501-G by February 4, 2019, if necessary.

III. CONCLUSION

Tennessee respectfully requests that the Commission grant it an extension of time to file its Form 501-G until April 5, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Mosby G. Perrow

Mosby G. Perrow

Dated: January 25, 2019

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Consistent with Section 154.208 of the Commission's regulations, a copy of the instant filing is being served to all of Tennessee's jurisdictional customers and to interested state commissions. A copy of this filing is also available for public inspection during regular business hours at the office of Tennessee in Houston, TX.

Dated at Houston, TX this 25th day of January, 2019.

/s/ Mosby G. Perrow

Mosby G. Perrow