DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

18 CFR Part 381

[Docket No. RM15–6–000]

Annual Update of Filing Fees

AGENCY: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, DOE.

ACTION: Final rule; annual update of Commission filing fees.

SUMMARY: In accordance with Commission regulations, the Commission issues this update of its filing fees. This notice provides the yearly update using data in the Commission’s Financial System to calculate the new fees. The purpose of updating is to adjust the fees on the basis of the Commission’s costs for Fiscal Year 2014.

DATES: Effective Date: April 13, 2015.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Document Availability: In addition to publishing the full text of this document in the Federal Register, the Commission provides all interested persons an opportunity to view and/or print the contents of this document via the Internet through FERC’s Home Page (http://www.ferc.gov) and in FERC’s Public Reference Room during normal business hours (8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern time) at 888 First Street NE., Room 2A, Washington DC 20426.

From FERC’s Web site on the Internet, this information is available in the eLibrary. The full text of this document is available on eLibrary in PDF and Microsoft Word format for viewing, printing, and/or downloading. To access this document on eLibrary, type the docket number excluding the last three digits of this document in the docket number field and follow other directions on the search page.

User assistance is available for eLibrary and other aspects of FERC’s Web site during normal business hours. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at FERConlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll free at (866) 208–3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502–8659.

Annual Update of Filing Fees

(Issued March 4, 2015)

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) is issuing this notice to update filing fees that the Commission assesses for specific services and benefits provided to identifiable beneficiaries. Pursuant to 18 CFR 381.104, the Commission is establishing updated fees on the basis of the Commission’s Fiscal Year 2014 costs. The adjusted fees announced in this notice are effective April 13, 2015. The Commission has determined, with the concurrence of the Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of the Office of Management and Budget, that this final rule is not a major rule within the meaning of section 251 of Subtitle E of Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act, 5 U.S.C. 804(2). The Commission is submitting this final rule to both houses of the United States Congress and to the Comptroller General of the United States.

The new fee schedule is as follows:

FEES APPLICABLE TO THE NATURAL GAS POLICY ACT

1. Petitions for rate approval pursuant to 18 CFR 284.123(b)(2). (18 CFR 381.403) ................................................................. $12,310

FEES APPLICABLE TO GENERAL ACTIVITIES

1. Petition for issuance of a declaratory order (except under Part I of the Federal Power Act). (18 CFR 381.302(a)) .................. $24,730

2. Review of a Department of Energy remedial order:

   Amount in controversy

   $0–9,999. (18 CFR 381.303(b)) .................................................. $100
   $10,000–29,999. (18 CFR 381.303(b)) ..................................... $600
   $30,000 or more. (18 CFR 381.303(a)) ................................. $36,100

3. Review of a Department of Energy denial of adjustment:

   Amount in controversy

   $0–9,999. (18 CFR 381.304(b)) ................................................. $100
   $10,000–29,999. (18 CFR 381.304(b)) ................................. $600
   $30,000 or more. (18 CFR 381.304(a)) ............................... $18,920

4. Written legal interpretations by the Office of General Counsel. (18 CFR 381.305(a)) .......................................................... $7,090

FEES APPLICABLE TO NATURAL GAS PIPELINES

1. Pipeline certificate applications pursuant to 18 CFR 284.224. (18 CFR 381.207(b)) ................................................................. * $1,000

FEES APPLICABLE TO COGENERATORS AND SMALL POWER PRODUCERS

1. Certification of qualifying status as a small power production facility. (18 CFR 381.505(a)) .................................................. $21,260

2. Certification of qualifying status as a cogeneration facility. (18 CFR 381.505(a)) ................................................................. $24,070

* This fee has not been changed.
List of Subjects in 18 CFR Part 381

Electric power plants, Electric utilities, Natural gas, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Anton C. Porter, Executive Director.

In consideration of the foregoing, the Commission amends Part 381, Chapter I, Title 18, Code of Federal Regulations, as set forth below.

PART 381—FEES

§ 381.302 [Amended]
2. In § 381.302, paragraph (a) is amended by removing "$24,260" and adding "$24,730" in its place.

§ 381.303 [Amended]
3. In § 381.303, paragraph (a) is amended by removing "$35,410" and adding "$36,100" in its place.

§ 381.304 [Amended]
4. In § 381.304, paragraph (a) is amended by removing "$18,570" and adding "$18,920" in its place.

§ 381.305 [Amended]
5. In § 381.305, paragraph (a) is amended by removing "$6,690" and adding "$6,760" in its place.

§ 381.403 [Amended]
6. Section 381.403 is amended by removing "$12,070" and adding "$12,310" in its place.

§ 381.505 [Amended]
7. In § 381.505, paragraph (a) is amended by removing "$20,860" and adding "$21,260" in its place and by removing "$23,610" and adding "$24,070" in its place.

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

18 CFR Part 375
[Docket No. RM15–15–000; Order No. 806]

Disruptive Conduct at Commission Open Meetings

AGENCY: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Commission is amending the CFR regulations which specify the roles available to the public at the Commission’s open meetings. This rule utilizes language from the Federal Communication Commission’s (FCC) open meeting regulation, and the Rural Telephone Bank’s open meeting regulation, to clarify that the term “observe” does not include disruptive behavior. The rule also uses language from the FCC’s open meeting regulation to clarify that communications made or presented by unscheduled presenters will not be considered by the Commission. Finally, the rule uses language similar to the Consumer Product Safety Commission’s open meeting regulation, 16 CFR 1013.4, to clarify that members of the public may record open meetings in a non-disruptive manner. The rule imposes no new obligations on the public.

DATES: This rule will become effective April 13, 2015.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
Order No. 806
Final Rule

Table of Contents

I. Introduction ................................................................. 1.
II. Background ............................................................ 2.
III. Discussion ................................................................. 6.
IV. Information Collection Statement ............................. 10.
V. Environmental Analysis ............................................. 11.
VI. Regulatory Flexibility Act ......................................... 12.
VII. Document Availability ............................................... 13.
VIII. Effective Date ......................................................... 16.

I. Introduction

1. By this final rule, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) is amending 18 CFR 375.203(b), which specifies the roles available to the public at the Commission’s open meetings. This rule utilizes language from the Federal Communication Commission’s (FCC) open meeting regulation, 47 CFR 0.602, and the Rural Telephone Bank’s open meeting regulation, 7 CFR 1600.3, to clarify that the term “observe” does not include disruptive behavior. The rule also utilizes language from the FCC’s open meeting regulation to clarify that communications made or presented by unscheduled presenters will not be considered by the Commission. Finally, the rule uses language similar to the Consumer Product Safety Commission’s open meeting regulation, 16 CFR 1013.4, to clarify that members of the public may record open meetings in a non-disruptive manner. The rule imposes no new obligations on the public.

II. Background

2. The Commission has recently experienced multiple disruptions to its open meetings from individual protesters. The disruptions have consisted of members of the public making unscheduled statements, standing up repeatedly, walking about the room, and displaying signs.

3. The Commission’s regulations outline the roles available to the public at the Commission’s open meetings. Specifically, 18 CFR 375.203(b) states that “[m]embers of the public are invited to listen and observe at open meetings.”

4. Like the Commission, other Federal agencies limit the conduct of the public at open meetings.1 Several other agencies have regulations on open meetings that expressly address

1 See, e.g., 12 CFR 311.2, 10 CFR 9.103, and 16 CFR 4.15 (Regulations of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and Federal Trade Commission limiting the participation of the public to observing open meetings).