

certification requirements set forth at 10 CFR part 429.

Issued in Washington, DC, on 4/28/2017.
Kathleen B. Hogan,
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy
Efficiency, Energy Efficiency and Renewable
Energy.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products: Representative Average Unit Costs of Energy

AGENCY: Office of Energy Efficiency and
Renewable Energy, Department of
Energy.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In this notice, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is forecasting the representative average unit costs of five residential energy sources for the year 2017 pursuant to the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (Act). The five sources are electricity, natural gas, No. 2 heating oil, propane, and kerosene.

DATES: The representative average unit costs of energy contained in this notice will become effective June 5, 2017 and will remain in effect until further notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Cymbalsky, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Forrestal Building, Mail Station EE-5B, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585-0121, (202) 287-1692, ApplianceStandardsQuestions@ee.doe.gov.

Francine Pinto, Esq., U.S. Department of Energy, Office of General Counsel Forrestal Building, Mail Station GC-33, 1000 Independence Avenue SW.,

Washington, DC 20585-0103, (202) 586-7432, Francine.Pinto@hq.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 323 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act requires that DOE prescribe test procedures for the measurement of the estimated annual operating costs or other measures of energy consumption for certain consumer products specified in the Act. (42 U.S.C. 6293(b)(3)) These test procedures are found in Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 430, subpart B.

Section 323(b)(3) of the Act requires that the estimated annual operating costs of a covered product be calculated from measurements of energy use in a representative average use cycle or period of use and from representative average unit costs of the energy needed to operate such product during such cycle. (42 U.S.C. 6293(b)(3)) The section further requires that DOE provide information to manufacturers regarding the representative average unit costs of energy. (42 U.S.C. 6293(b)(4)) This cost information should be used by manufacturers to meet their obligations under section 323(c) of the Act. Most notably, these costs are used to comply with Federal Trade Commission (FTC) requirements for labeling.

Manufacturers are required to use the revised DOE representative average unit costs when the FTC publishes new ranges of comparability for specific covered products, 16 CFR part 305. Interested parties can also find information covering the FTC labeling requirements at <http://www.ftc.gov/appliances>.

DOE last published representative average unit costs of residential energy in a **Federal Register** notice entitled, "Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products: Representative Average Unit Costs of Energy", dated March 23, 2016, 81 FR 15513.

On June 5, 2017, the cost figures published in this notice will become

effective and supersede those cost figures published on March 23, 2016. The cost figures set forth in this notice will be effective until further notice.

DOE's Energy Information Administration (EIA) is the data source for the 2017 representative average unit after-tax residential costs found in this notice. These costs for electricity, natural gas, No. 2 heating oil, and propane are based on simulations used to produce the April 2017, *EIA Short-Term Energy Outlook* (EIA releases the *Outlook* monthly). The representative average unit after-tax cost for kerosene is derived from its price relative to that of heating oil, based on the 2010-to-2013 averages of the U.S. refiner price to end users, which include all the major energy-consuming sectors in the U.S. for these fuels. The source for these price data is the April 2017, *Monthly Energy Review* DOE/EIA-0035(2017/04). The *Short-Term Energy Outlook* and the *Monthly Energy Review* are available on the EIA Web site at <http://www.eia.doe.gov>. The representative average unit after-tax cost for propane is derived from its price relative to that of heating oil, based on the 2017 averages of the U.S. residential sector prices found in the *Annual Energy Outlook 2017*, AEO2017 (January 5, 2017). For more information on the data sources used in this Notice, contact the National Energy Information Center, Forrestal Building, EI-30, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-8800, email: infoctr@eia.doe.gov.

The 2017 representative average unit costs under section 323(b)(4) of the Act are set forth in Table 1, and will become effective June 5, 2017. They will remain in effect until further notice.

Issued in Washington, DC, on May 1, 2017.

Daniel Simmons,

*Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary, Energy
Efficiency and Renewable Energy.*

TABLE 1—REPRESENTATIVE AVERAGE UNIT COSTS OF ENERGY FOR FIVE RESIDENTIAL ENERGY SOURCES
[2017]

Type of energy	Per million Btu ¹	In commonly used terms	As required by test procedure
Electricity	\$37.72	12.9c/kWh ^{2,3}	\$0.129/kWh.
Natural Gas	10.52	\$1.052/therm ⁴ or \$10.86/MCF ^{5,6}	\$0.00001052/Btu.
No. 2 Heating Oil	18.83	\$2.59/gallon ⁷	\$0.00001883/Btu.
Propane	16.72	\$1.53/gallon ⁸	\$0.00001672/Btu.
Kerosene	22.32	\$3.01/gallon ⁹	\$0.00002232/Btu.

Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration, *Short-Term Energy Outlook* (April 11, 2017), *Annual Energy Outlook* (January 5, 2017), and *Monthly Energy Review* (April 25, 2017).

Notes: Prices include taxes.

1. Btu stands for British thermal units.

2. kWh stands for kilowatt hour.

3. 1 kWh = 3,412 Btu.

4. 1 therm = 100,000 Btu.

5. MCF stands for 1,000 cubic feet.
6. For the purposes of this table, one cubic foot of natural gas has an energy equivalence of 1,032 Btu.
7. For the purposes of this table, one gallon of No. 2 heating oil has an energy equivalence of 137,561 Btu.
8. For the purposes of this table, one gallon of liquid propane has an energy equivalence of 91,333 Btu.
9. For the purposes of this table, one gallon of kerosene has an energy equivalence of 135,000 Btu.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. AC17-127-000]

South Central MCN LLC; Notice of Petition for Waiver

Take notice that on April 27, 2017, South Central MCN LLC filed a petition for waiver of the requirement to file a FERC Form 3-Q for the periods of January 1, 2017 through March 31, 2017, and April 1, 2017 through June 30, 2017, as required by 18 CFR 141.400, all as more fully explained in the petition.

Any person desiring to intervene or to protest this filing must file in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211, 385.214). 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 proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a notice of intervention or motion to intervene, as appropriate. Such notices, motions, or protests must be filed on or before the comment date. Anyone filing a motion to intervene or protest must serve a copy of that document on the Petitioner.

The Commission encourages electronic submission of protests and interventions in lieu of paper using the "eFiling" link at <http://www.ferc.gov>. Persons unable to file electronically should submit an original and 5 copies of the protest or intervention to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426.

This filing is accessible on-line at <http://www.ferc.gov>, using the "eLibrary" link and is available for review in the Commission's Public Reference Room in Washington, DC. There is an "eSubscription" link on the Web site that enables subscribers to receive email notification when a document is added to a subscribed docket(s). For assistance with any FERC Online service, please email FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, or call (866) 208-3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502-8659.

Comments: 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on May 18, 2017.

Dated: April 28, 2017.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2017-09105 Filed 5-4-17; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP16-498-000]

Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC; Notice of Availability of the Environmental Assessment for the Proposed B-System Project

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared an environmental assessment (EA) for the B-System Project, proposed by Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC (Columbia) in the above-referenced docket. Columbia requests authorization to modernize and upgrade Columbia's B-System pipelines by replacing and abandoning existing pipeline as well as constructing new pipeline and appurtenant facilities in Fairfield and Franklin Counties, Ohio.

The EA assesses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the B-System Project in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The FERC staff concludes that approval of the proposed project, with appropriate mitigating measures, would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Ohio Department of Natural Resources participated as cooperating agencies in the preparation of the EA. Cooperating agencies have jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to resources potentially affected by the proposal and participate in the NEPA analysis.

As part of its proposed B-System Project, Columbia would:

- Abandon in place approximately 17.5 miles of 20-inch-diameter pipeline, remove two associated mainline valves (mileposts 7.7 and 10.9), install two gas heaters, and remove various exposed

pipe segments on Columbia's Line B-105;

- construct approximately 14.0 miles of 20-inch-diameter replacement pipeline on Columbia's Line B-111;
- construct approximately 0.1 mile of 4-inch-diameter replacement pipeline on Columbia's Line B-121;
- construct approximately 0.5 mile of 4-inch-diameter replacement pipeline on Columbia's Line B-130;
- construct approximately 7.6 miles of new 20-inch-diameter pipeline ("Line K-270") connecting Columbia's K-System and B-System; and
- remove, replace, restore, and install various appurtenances including connections, valves, aboveground piping, one regulation facility, and pig¹ launchers and receivers.

The FERC staff mailed copies of the EA to federal, state, and local government representatives and agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Native American tribes; potentially affected landowners and other interested individuals and groups; and newspapers and libraries in the project area. In addition, the EA is available for public viewing on the FERC's Web site (www.ferc.gov) using the eLibrary link. A limited number of copies of the EA are available for distribution and public inspection at: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Public Reference Room, 888 First Street NE., Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426, (202) 502-8371.

Any person wishing to comment on the EA may do so. Your comments should focus on the potential environmental effects, reasonable alternatives, and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impacts. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. To ensure that the Commission has the opportunity to consider your comments prior to making its decision on this project, it is important that we receive your comments in Washington, DC on or before May 30, 2017.

For your convenience, there are three methods you can use to file your comments with the Commission. In all instances please reference the project docket number (CP16-498-000) with your submission. The Commission

¹ A "pig" is a tool that the pipeline company inserts into and pushes through the pipeline for cleaning the pipeline, conducting internal inspections, or other purposes.