

# **Public Service Commission of Wisconsin**

Phil Montgomery, Chairperson Eric Callisto, Commissioner Ellen Nowak, Commissioner 610 North Whitney Way P.O. Box 7854 Madison, WI 53707-7854

June 23, 2014

The Electronic Service List

Re: Application of Wisconsin Gas LLC, as a Gas Public Utility, 6650-CG-233 for Authority to Construct a Natural Gas Transmission Lateral from the Viking Gas Transmission Company Interstate Pipeline to the City of Tomah, through Eau Claire, Jackson, Clark, and Monroe Counties, Wisconsin, to Provide Natural Gas to Existing and New Service Areas in Municipalities in the Project Area

In compliance with the June 19, 2014, Order of Administrative Law Judge Michael Newmark, in the above-named docket, a change has been made to Page 2, Issue 1, Clean Wisconsin's position.

Sincerely,

/s/ Michael John Jaeger

Michael John Jaeger Docket Coordinator Gas and Energy Division

XX:cmk:DL: 00929451

Attached: Decision Matrix (Revised)

Issue 1: Does the proposed construction project satisfy the service efficiency, future facilities need, and proportionate value requirements of Wis. Stat. § 196.49(3)(b) and the requirements of Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 133?

**Issue Scope:** Does the record demonstrate sufficient information from Wisconsin Gas LLC (WG) to satisfy the statutory criterion that the proposed project, if constructed, satisfies the reasonable needs of the public for an adequate supply of natural gas without substantially impairing the efficiency of utility service, providing facilities unreasonably in excess of probable future requirements, or adding to the cost of service without proportionately increasing the value or available quantity of service, pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 196.49(3)(b) and the requirements of Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 133?

BADEN DOCITIONS					
PARTY POSITIONS	AMOUNT*	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCES			
WG: Yes. The Project will meet uncontested long-term demand in the		Direct-WG-Whitefoot-3-6, 8-9;			
region and avert a short-term gas shortage.		Direct-WG-Sexton-4cr-13cr; Direct-			
		WG-Kharouf-2-8; Rebuttal-WG-			
		Kharouf-1-2			
The Project is the least-cost option for meeting demand. The winner of a		Direct-WG-Sexton-14cr-22cr; Direct-			
competitive RFP process, the Project was less expensive than the next least		WG-Whitefoot-3; ExWG-			
costly bid. The Project is significantly less expensive than a stepped		Witefoot-3p; Ex-WG-Whitefoot-4c,			
expansion of NNG's existing system.		Att. 2			
expansion of WWG's existing system.		Au. 2			
Bid evaluations showed the Project best delivers non-economic benefits to		Direct-WG-Sexton-22cr-23cr; Direct-			
customers.		WG-Whitefoot-3-5; ExWG-			
		Whitefoot-4c			
NNG's "14 for 14" concept will not meet demand beyond 2018 and does		Direct-WG-Sexton-11pr-13pr;			
not deliver any other benefits of the Project.		Direct-WG-Whitefoot-4; Rebuttal-			
not deriver any other benefits of the Hojeet.		WG-Sexton-2cr-12cr; Rebuttal-WG-			
		Reed-7r-8r, 15r-16r, 19r; ExWG-			
		Whitefoot-84-89, 135; ExWG-			
		Bruessel-2			
	l				

<b>CUB:</b> CUB is not taking a position regarding whether the project should	CUB Initial Br. pp. 1-2; CUB RB, pp.
be approved, but notes that the economic benefits attributed to the project	1-3; ExCUB-1
are heavily dependent on the new commercial and industrial customers in	
WG's forecast actually showing up and seeking service from WG at the	
levels WG estimates. If the Commission approves the project, it should	
monitor customer growth in the area to determine whether the new load	
materializes and address any significant variations from the forecasted load	
in a future rate case.	
<b>CW:</b> WG may be providing facilities in excess of the reasonable needs of	ExCW-Mosca-11; ExCW-Mosca-
the public, given the Northern Natural Gas Co. expansion alternative, and	12; ExCUB-1
uncertain industrial need which is the primary basis for future	
requirements.	
<b>Commission Staff:</b> Commission staff estimated that the proposed project	Direct-PSC-Bauer-1 to 3
could raise margin rates by 8.4 percent for Route A and 8.9 percent for	
Route B. Estimates of an overall potential bill increase for typical WG	
residential customers (factoring the cost of gas) were 3.5 percent for Route	
A and 3.7 percent for Route B.	
The final environmental impact statement (EIS) discusses the basic	ExPSC-Jaeger and Ingwell-1
purpose, costs, and alternatives of the proposed project.	(Chapters 2 and 3)
COMMISSION ALTERNATIVES	·
Alternative One: The Commission determines that the proposed project is in confor	rmance with Wis. Stat. § 196.49(3) and Wis.
Admin. Code ch. PSC 133.	
Alternative Two: The Commission determines that the proposed project is not in co	onformance with Wis. Stat. § 196.49(3) and Wis.
Admin. Code ch. PSC 133.	
Notes:	

Issue 2: Are there technically feasible and environmentally sound alternatives to building the proposed project, per Wis. Stat. §§ 1.12(4) and 196.025(1)? Specifically, is energy efficiency and conservation a reasonable alternative to the proposed project?

**Issue Scope:** This issue examines whether the evidence of record demonstrates that, apart from need and cost, the construction project complies with the state energy policy's prioritization of fuel choices and the promotion of energy conservation and efficiency.

PARTY POSITIONS	AMOUNT*	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCES		
WG: The purpose of the Project is to deliver natural gas to West Central		Direct-WG-Whitefoot-3-6, 8-9;		
Wisconsin and to avert impending shortages. No party submitted evidence		Direct-WG-Sexton-4cr-13cr; Direct-		
that would support a finding that the shortages could be avoided through		WG-Kharouf-2-8; Rebuttal-WG-		
energy efficiency, conservation, or expansion of renewable resources.		Kharouf-1-2; ExPSC-Jaeger and		
		Ingwell-1, pp. 4-5; WG Initial Br. p.		
		23		
CUB:				
<b>CW:</b> There is an absence of evidence in the record on Issue 2. WG has				
not met its burden to show the project complies with the state's energy				
priorities law.				
Commission Staff:				
COMMISSION ALTERNATIVES				
Alternative One: The Commission finds the proposed project complies with the state energy policies on prioritization of fuel				
choices and the promotion of energy conservation and efficiency.				
Alternative Two: The Commission finds that the proposed project does no	t comply with stat	e energy policies on prioritization of		
fuel choices and the promotion of energy conservation and efficiency.				
Notes:				

Issue 3: Do the proposed route options appear to be permittable under	DNR waterway	and wetland regulations?
Issue Scope: DNR, under Wis. Stat. § 30.025, is required to provide an opi	nion that the prop	oosed project routes are permittable
when considering waterways and wetlands.		
PARTY POSITIONS	AMOUNT*	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCES
WG: Yes. Both proposed routes are permittable under Wis. Stat.		Direct-DNR-Brown-3r-21r
§ 30.025.		
CUB:		
<b>CW:</b> Due to incomplete permit applications, there is insufficient		Direct-CW-Mosca-7-9, 13-15;
information available at this time to determine whether the routes are		Surrebuttal-CW-Mosca-4-6;
permittable under DNR waterway and wetland regulations. Important		Rebuttal-WG-Grisar-16-17; Ex
information, such as the wetland mitigation-restoration plan and data that		PSC-Jaeger/Ingwell-1 at 214; Ex
agency staff has requested regarding wooded wetlands, is incomplete or		CW-Mosca-7; ExWG-Grisar-7;
has not yet been provided. It is also unclear whether the applicant has		Hr'g Trp. Vol. 1 at 150:10-24, 152:5-
sufficiently budgeted for wetland restoration and mitigation activities,		15, 153:20-24
which impact project cost.		
Commission Staff:		
<b>DNR Staff:</b> DNR staff testimony states that the proposed routes would be		Direct-DNR-Brown-15r
permittable.		
COMMISSION ALTERNATIVES		
Alternative One: The proposed route options appear permittable under DN	IR waterway and	wetland requirements.
Alternative Two: The proposed route options do not appear permittable un	der DNR waterw	ay and wetland requirements.
Notes:		

## Issue 4: What project alignment, if any, does the Commission authorize?

**Issue Scope:** WG provided two overall alternate routes for the proposed project. WG also divided the overall project into nine principle sections, each with A and B segments, along with some common ties from the mainline into service areas. In addition, WG provided information on a set of sub-segment alternatives to address specific concerns at various locations along the routes. WG identified its preferred combination of segments and sub-segment alternatives.

The Commission could discuss and select an overall route via consideration of the A and B options in each of the nine principal sections along with consideration of each the sub-segment alternatives. Another approach would be to use the WG preferred alignment as a starting point and modifying that if needed.

Individual landowners also identified preferences or concerns regarding their properties.

PARTY POSITIONS	AMOUNT*	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCES
WG: WG's preferred route with the additional adjustment discussed in		Direct-WG-Bruessel-12-13; Rebuttal-
footnote 2 of WG's initial brief (and potentially Segment B8)		WG-Bruessel-2r-4r; Ex-WG-
accommodates substantially all of the landowner and Commission staff		Bruessel-1, 3; WG Initial Br. p. 6, n.
concerns identified below.		2; Sur-surrebuttal-WG-Bruessel-1;
		ExWG-Bruessel-4; Direct-WG-
		Grisar-3r
WG's preferred route was developed with Commission staff and DNR to minimize $cost - and results$ in a savings of \$3.5 million over original Route A – and to minimize environmental impacts.		Rebuttal-WG-Bruessel-3r; Rebuttal- WG-Grisar-3-5
The "RD-B1xA1 crossover" would add \$2.1 million to the Project's cost compared to Route A1, and \$1.1 million compared to Route B1. The		
"RD-B1xA1 crossover" crosses more waterways and affects more KBB		
habitat than WG's preferred route.		
CUB:		

<b>CW:</b> CW cannot recommend either route at this time due to the	Direct CW Mosco 10 20: Direct
	Direct-CW-Mosca-19-20; Direct- CW-Howe-12
environmental impacts associated with both routes A and B, and the lack	Cw-Howe-12
of complete project information. If the Commission selects a project	
alignment, it should obtain clarification on two route modifications	Rebuttal-WG-Grisar-5-6
recently identified by WG, which to date have only been described in	Hr'g Trp., Vol. 1 at 148:5-150:6
narrative form: 1) rerouting in two environmentally sensitive areas in	
Segment A7; and 2) rerouting in Segments A9 and B9 that WG described	WG Initial Br. at 5 n.2 ( <u>PSC REF#:</u>
in its initial brief, pursuant to an agreement with landowner Tim Liddane.	<u>205602</u> )
Landowners: Richard Jung: Placing pipeline near home at intersection	ExPSC-Jaeger and Ingwell-4 at pp.
of Willard and Dickerson along Segment B1 would be a safety issue and	5 to 8 of 111 of the pdf
would lower property values.	
Scott Ellison, Chairman, town of Foster: A pipeline at the intersection of	ExPSC-Jaeger and Ingwell-4 at pp.
Willard and Dickerson along Segment B1 would be a safety issue for the	9 and 10 of 111 of the pdf
unincorporated community around Rock Dam Lake.	-
John Ross, Director, Clark County Emergency Management: A pipeline at	ExPSC-Jaeger and Ingwell-4 at pp.
the intersection of Willard and Dickerson along Segment B1 would be a	11 and 12 of 111 of the pdf
safety issue for the unincorporated community around Rock Dam Lake.	
Bridget Kelley, Red Flint Group, LLC: Provided information on four	ExPSC-Jaeger and Ingwell-4 at pp.
property owner leases that are involved with a sand mine project. A	15 to 47 of 111 of the pdf
portion of both segments A4 and B4 would negatively affect the	
development of this mine project, while sub-segment alternative A.4.1	
would not. Another portion of segment A4 would also have a negative	
effect, but as there is not a sub-segment alternative that would alleviate this	
concern, the Commission should require WG to work with the landowners	
and the mine developer to shift the A4 segment to another location (would	
not affect other landowners).	
Bill Divyak: Route A9 preferred to Route B9 near his farm.	ExPSC-Jaeger and Ingwell-4 at pp.
	50 and 51 of 111 of the pdf
David and Barbara Duerkop: Farm organically. Construction on segment	ExPSC-Jaeger and Ingwell-4 at p.
B2 across their lands would disrupt the crop rotation practices in the areas	54 of 111 of the pdf
used for construction work space.	
<u> </u>	

Raymond and Barbara Gahan: Construction of line along segment B1	ExPSC-Jaeger and Ingwell-4 at p.
would remove vegetation screening their cabins and likely affect property	57 of 111 of the pdf
values.	
James Hoffman, Goose Island Sand Co: Construction along A3 would	ExPSC-Jaeger and Ingwell-4 at pp.
affect the sand mine they are currently developing. Sub-segment	61 to 85 of 111 of the pdf
alternative A.3.1 would be better.	Tr. pp. 199 to 204
Albert Lahmayer: Segment B6 crossing his property would greatly	Tr. pp. 192 to 193
diminish its natural beauty.	
Tim Liddane: Would like the pipeline to cross over on his property from	Tr. pp. 204 to 205
segment A9 to B9 to reduce the total length on his property and to move it	
out of his active farmland.	
Judy Lund: Placing pipeline near home at intersection of Willard and	Tr. pp. 185 to 191
Dickerson along Segment B1 would be a safety issue, would lower	
property values, and would affect important bird habitat.	
Bob Madvig: Pipeline along segment A5 would cross his yard and be a	Tr. pp. 177 to 182
significant safety hazard for his family. Sub-segment alternative A.5.2	
would be better.	
Mary Melcher: Pipeline along segment A2 would be a safety hazard for	ExPSC-Jaeger and Ingwell-4 at pp.
her home. She is also against a proposed sand mine across the road from	94 and 95 of 111 of the pdf
her house and is concerned that the proposed pipeline would increase the	
chances that this sand mine would proceed.	
Eugene Noonan, Northern Frac Proppants: Segment A3 would run	ExPSC-Jaeger and Ingwell-4 at pp.
through their developing sand mine. Sub-segment alternative A.3.1 would	97 to 104 of 111 of the pdf
eliminate their concerns.	
James Williams: Concerned with the process WG is using trying to obtain	ExPSC-Jaeger and Ingwell-4 at pp.
voluntary easements. Concerned that there are other nearby existing utility	110 and 111 of 111 of the pdf
corridors that WG should be following.	1
	1 I

Commission Staff. Commission staff noted that the American state	Direct DCC Stevenich 2 to 4		
<b>Commission Staff:</b> Commission staff noted that the A segments in	Direct-PSC-Stemrich-3 to 4		
areas 1 and 7 were easier to construct and less expensive than the			
corresponding B segments. In addition, use of sub-segment alternatives			
A.5.1 and A.5.2 would be significantly less expensive than the			
corresponding original alignments.			
The original alignment corresponding to sub-segment alternative A.2.2	Direct-PSC-Jaeger and Ingwell-4r		
has a remaining unresolved archeological site concern.			
Commission staff suggested that if segment B1 is chosen, the	Tr. pp. 144 to 146		
Commission consider requiring WG to investigate an alternative alignment			
in the vicinity of the intersection of Willard and Dickerson to address the			
public concerns of Jung, Ellison (town of Foster), Ross (Clark County),			
and Lund.			
Note: Some of the specific landowner concerns are moot or reduced if WG's preferred			
route is adopted (Ex-WG-Bruessel-1). The selection of Segment A1 would eliminate the			
concerns expressed by Jung, Ellison (town of Foster), Ross (Clark County), Gahan and			
Lund. The selection of Sub-segment A.3.1 would reduce the sand mine concerns of			
Hoffman (Goose Island Sand Co.) and Noonan (Northern Frac Proppants). The selection			
of Sub-segment A.4.1 would eliminate some of the sand mine concerns of Kelley (Red Flint Group). The selection of A5 would eliminate the concern of Lahmayer. The			
selection of Sub-segment A.5.2 would reduce the concern of Madvig. The selection of			
Segment A9 would eliminate the concern of Divyak.			
<b>DNR Staff:</b> DNR staff noted that the Route A segment options affect	Direct-DNR-Brown-7r, 12r to 13r,		
fewer waterways and wetlands than the Route B segment options. In	and 15r		
addition, DNR staff testified that the RD-B1xA1 crossover configuration			
would result in lower wetland impacts than either the A1 or B1 segments			
in their original configuration.			
COMMISSION ALTERNATIVES			
Alternative One: The Commission selected the WG preferred alignment to be the authorized route with no modifications.			
Alternative Two: The Commission selected the WG preferred alignment to be the authorized route some modifications.			
Alternative Three: The Commission identified the authorized route as a co	mbination of specific segments and sub-segment		
alternatives.			

Notes:			

Issue 5:	What general conditions, if any, should be attached to construction of the proposed project to meet the
requiren	nents of Commission approval?

**Issue Scope:** WG's application described multiple construction methods and conditions the WG has committed to implement in order to reduce potential project impacts to landowners, land use, and environmental resources along the project route. The issue is whether these commitments by WG be incorporated as part of any authorization of the proposed project?

PARTY POSITIONS	AMOUNT*	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCES
WG: WG should be held to the construction methods and conditions to		ExWG-Whitefoot-2; Ex-PSC-
which it committed in the Project application, as modified during the		Jaeger/Ingwell-1; WG Reply Br. p. 2
review and hearing process. No further specification of each individual		
commitment is necessary.		
CUB:		
<b>CW:</b> Additional safeguards/clarifications are needed beyond those		Direct-CW-Mosca-9-22; Surrebuttal-
proposed by the applicant. The application's general construction		CW-Mosca-1-8; Direct-CW-Howe-3-
methods/conditions are vague, inadequate, and unenforceable, allowing		13; Surrebuttal-CW-Howe-1-6; Ex-
substantial leeway to impact the environment. For example, WG		CW-Mosca-2; Ex-CW-Mosca-9; Ex-
testimony on corridor width has been inconsistent, and WG has provided		CW-Mosca-10; Ex-CW-Mosca-14
few details on revegetation and long-term corridor maintenance even		
though these activities can substantially contribute to habitat		
fragmentation. Other impacts depend on plans that have not been finalized		
or are not site-specific. Any approval of the application should include		
order points that strengthen and clarify construction and maintenance		
methods, as specified in CW's initial brief, pp. 7-27. (PSC REF#:		
<u>205630</u> .)		
<b>Commission Staff:</b> The analysis of the proposed project by Commission		ExPSC-Jaeger and Ingwell-1
staff, including the EIS that was prepared, assumes that the multiple		
construction methods and conditions described in WG's application to		
reduce potential project impacts are implemented.		
Note: This Issue and Issue 6 overlap. Commission staff has framed the alternatives in		
this Issue to address the overall reasonableness of WG's general construction and		
mitigation methods. The need, if any, for additional specific measures has been framed in		
Issue 6.		

### **COMMISSION ALTERNATIVES**

Alternative One: The Commission finds that it is reasonable to incorporate all of the general construction methods and conditions committed to by WG in its application as part of the project authorization without needing to specifically identify each commitment.

Alternative Two: The Commission finds that the general construction methods and conditions committed to by WG in its application are inadequate.

Notes:

Issue 6: What additional construction or routing mitigation measures in addition to those proposed as part of WG's application, if any, should be attached to construction of the proposed project to meet the requirements of Commission approval?

**Issue Scope:** Should additional construction methods and conditions beyond those identified in WG's application be required to further reduce potential project impacts?

PARTY POSITIONS	AMOUNT*	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCES
<b>WG:</b> Wisconsin Gas should be required to: 1) comply with all applicable		ExPSC-Jaeger/Ingwell-1; WG
laws and regulations concerning construction of the Project; and 2) comply		Reply Br. p. 2.
with all conditions contained in environmental permits for the Project. No		_
additional construction or routing mitigation measures should be imposed		
for construction.		
CUB:		
<b>CW:</b> Additional construction/routing mitigation and monitoring measures are needed to reduce the project's environmental impacts during and after construction. CW has proposed a number of such measures in its initial brief and respectfully asks the Commission to adopt them as order points. CW also requests that the applicant provide additional information that will help reduce environmental impacts and prevent potential conflicts during and after construction, such as enhanced surveys for endangered and threatened species and better identification of upland forest types. CW Br. at 7-27. ( <u>PSC REF#: 205630</u> .)		Direct-CW-Mosca-9-22; Surrebuttal- CW-Mosca-1-8; Direct-CW-Howe-3- 13; Surrebuttal-CW-Howe-1-6; Ex WG-Grisar-5; ExWG-Grisar-6 Hr'g Trp. Vol. 1 at 123:1-15, 133:1- 15, 162:8-163:2
Commission Staff:		
COMMISSION ALTERNATIVES		
Alternative One: The Commission finds that no additional construction me	ethods or condition	ns need be specified as part of project
approval.		
Alternative Two: The Commission finds that additional construction methods	ods or conditions	are needed as part of project approval.
Notes:		

Issue 7: Should the Commission define the scope of new customers that can be served from the initial construction of the proposed project without requiring any gas extension construction contributions under WG's extension rule tariffs?

**Issue Scope:** WG's application identified two villages (Fairchild and Warrens) and nine towns in which it is seeking authority to provide natural gas service from the proposed project. Included in two of the towns are the unincorporated communities of Millston and Humbird. Typically, a utility must initiate service within a year of the Commission authorization or the authority lapses. The initial service to the new areas from the proposed project would occur without any extension rule gas main customer contributions. The Commission may consider a time restriction for this, after which extension rule main contributions may be applicable to new customers.

PARTY POSITIONS	AMOUNT*	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCES		
WG: Properties crossed by, or directly adjacent to, the lateral (as well as		Rebuttal-WG-Bruessel-7r-8r		
customers at the locations listed in Mr. Bruessel's rebuttal testimony)				
should be considered part of the Project, and should not be required to				
contribute to the cost of mains installation.				
The Commission should order a five-year period (2015-2019) for		Rebuttal-WG-Bruessel-8r		
customers to sign up for natural gas service.				
CUB:				
CW:				
<b>Commission Staff:</b> Customers served in the new service areas during		Direct-PSC-Stemrich-4		
2015 and 2016 should not be subject to main extension rule contributions.				
New customers served in 2017 or later would be subject to applicable				
extension rule gas main contributions.				
COMMISSION ALTERNATIVES				
Alternative One: The Commission finds that WG's proposal to serve new customers in the project area for a 5 year period without				
requiring any main extension contributions is reasonable.				
Alternative Two: The Commission finds that it is reasonable to allow new customers to be served in the project area without				
requiring any main extension contribution if they are served by the end of 2016.				
Notes:				

Issue 8: Should minor routing flexibility be allowed and, if so, what pr	ocess should be	followed?		
Issue Scope: WG has proposed an approach that would allow some post-au				
be made without requiring a full review by full Commission.				
PARTY POSITIONS	AMOUNT*	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCES		
<b>WG:</b> The Commission should authorize Wisconsin Gas to make "minor" changes to the route. Changes to the route should be considered "minor" if the change:		Direct-WG-Bruessel-11-12		
<ol> <li>Does not move the pipe location more than 200 feet;</li> <li>Does not affect new landowners on the selected route;</li> <li>Does not affect additional wetlands, archaeological sites, waterways, or occupied endangered species habitat; and</li> <li>Is agreed to by the landowner.</li> </ol>				
CUB:				
<b>CW:</b> Yes, except WG's proposed approach allows too much flexibility that could result in substantial environmental impacts with little oversight. CW's reply brief suggests three order points that will clarify "minor" route adjustments by: 1) more precisely defining what types of environmental impacts may occur for a route adjustment to still qualify as "minor"; 2) making the width of a "minor" route adjustment consistent with the permanent/temporary easement width; and 3) requiring notice of the route adjustment to agency staff. CW requests that the Commission adopt these points in its final order. (CW Reply Br. at 11, <u>PSC REF#: 205941</u> .)		Direct-WG-Bruessel-11; Direct-CW- Mosca-9-11; Direct-CW-Howe-7-8 ExCW-Mosca-2; ExCW-Mosca- 14; ExCW-Howe-9; ExWG- Whitefoot-2p at 4-5; Hr'g Trp. Vol. 1 at 39:4-16, 40:1-25, 51:11-21		
CW:	-			
Commission Staff:				
COMMISSION ALTERNATIVES				
	Alternative One: The Commission finds that the minor route adjustment process proposed by WG is reasonable.			
Alternative Two: The Commission finds that specific changes to the route adjustment process proposed by WG are appropriate.				
Alternative Three: The Commission finds that all route adjustments must be brought back to for review and approval by the full				
Commission.				
Notes:				

Issue 9: Should WG be required to directly connect the proposed pipeline with the high-pressure pipelines of Northern Natural Gas Company (Northern)?

**Issue Scope:** The high-pressure gas pipeline proposed by WG would not connect directly to Northern's high-pressure lines serving the Black River Falls and Tomah areas. The issue is whether WG should directly connect with the existing Northern pipelines as a potential to increase reliability in emergency situations.

PARTY POSITIONS	AMOUNT*	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCES		
WG: These connections were not proposed as part of the Project and are		Rebuttal-WG-Bruessel-5r-6r; WG		
not included in the Project cost. These connections would potentially		Legal Opinion on FERC		
subject the project to FERC jurisdiction. Even if this legal problem did not		Jurisdictional Issue (PSC REF#:		
exist, there are significant engineering, technical and contracting issues, as		<u>206174</u> )		
well as agreement from NNG, that would need to be resolved before				
connection could be considered. Further, the proposed connections would				
require extensive evaluation of environmental impacts, regulatory				
approvals, and land acquisition. The record in this case does not support				
an order that WG attempt to coordinate these connections.				
CUB:				
CW:				
<b>Commission Staff:</b> Commission staff suggests that WG attempt to make		PSC-Direct-Stemrich-2 to 3		
a direct connection of the proposed project facilities with Northern's high-				
pressure lines serving Tomah and Black River Falls. This could increase				
overall system reliability in emergency situations where a loss of service				
upstream from these communities occurs on either high-pressure system.				
COMMISSION ALTERNATIVES				
Alternative One: The Commission finds that WG should attempt to coordi	nate a direct conn	ection of the proposed project facilities		
with the high-pressure pipeline system of Northern at Tomah and Black Riv	er Falls.			
Alternative Two: The Commission finds that it is not necessary to encourage WG to interconnect the proposed project with the				
high-pressure system of Northern.				
Notes:				

Issue 10: Has the Commission complied with the Wisconsin Environmental Policy Act (WEPA) pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 1.11 and Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 4?

**Issue Scope:** This issue is whether the Commission, in compliance with WEPA and Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 4, has properly recognized and assessed potential environmental concerns arising from the construction and subsequent operation of the proposed project.

PARTY POSITIONS	AMOUNT*	TRANSCRIPT REFERENCES		
WG: The Commission staff/DNR final EIS complies with WEPA. The		ExPSC-Jaeger and Ingwell-1, p. 212		
potential for construction of additional frac sand facilities is too speculative				
to qualify as an "indirect effect" of the Project. The frac sand industry has				
experienced rapid growth without the Project, and factors other than the				
availability of natural gas are likely to spur future growth in the industry.				
CUB:				
<b>CW:</b> The EIS is not in compliance with Wis. Stat. § 1.11 and Wis.		Direct-CW-Howe-7; ExPSC-		
Admin. Code ch. PSC 4 because it fails to discuss the indirect		Jaeger/Ingwell-4 at 48, 57, 89, 92, 96,		
environmental effects of the project. The project will largely serve new		93-94; ExPSC-Jaeger/Ingwell 1r at		
industrial (frac) sand mines, which will likely have significant		12, 16, 212; ExWG-Whitefoot-2p at		
environmental impacts, such as increased air pollution, reduced quality of		14-15; ExCUB-1; Direct-WG-		
life for nearby residents, and accelerated declines in the amount and		Sexton at 11p; Direct-WG-		
quality of species identified in the project application. The final EIS		Whitefoot-3		
should be revised to include a discussion of these impacts consistent with				
legal authority requiring analysis of indirect project impacts.				
<b>Commission Staff:</b> Commission staff prepared an EIS that followed the		Direct-PSC-Jaeger and Ingwell-2r;		
requirements of Wis. Stat. § 1.11 and Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 4.		ExPSC-Jaeger and Ingwell-1		
COMMISSION ALTERNATIVES				
Alternative One: The Commission's analysis and review of the proposed project meets the requirements of Wis. Stat. § 1.11 and				
Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 4.				
Alternative Two: The Commission's analysis and review of the proposed project does not meet the requirements of Wis. Stat.				
§ 1.11 and Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 4.				

Notes:

MJJ:jlt:DL: 00928200