

Alaska - Yukon Territory



Gas Pipeline Update

Alcan Pipeline Company, Northern Border Pipeline Company and Pacific Gas Transmission Company (PGT) recently filed motions with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) requesting certificates to construct and operate the U.S. segments of a natural gas pipeline system extending from Alaska's Prudhoe Bay through Canada to the Midwest and California.

The certificates are subject to satisfying conditions established by President Carter when he selected the system to transport Alaskan gas, as well as the traditional requirements on interstate pipeline systems within the jurisdiction of FERC.

Alcan Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of Northwest Pipeline Corporation of Salt Lake City, Utah, will build and operate the 731-mile section of the system that will be located in Alaska. In the lower 48 states, Northern Border, a consortium of six U.S. transmission companies, will construct and operate a 1,100-mile eastern leg from the Saskatchewan-Montana border to Dwight, Illinois. A western U.S. leg consisting of 612 miles of looped line will be built by PGT and operated as part of its system on its existing pipeline right-of-way extending from the British Columbia-Idaho border to the northern California border.

According to John G. McMillian, chairman and chief executive officer of Northwest Pipeline Corporation and Alcan, "We and the other applicants are vitally interested in insuring that all links of the Alcan system are built and operated in the most timely, dependable and economic fashion.

"The conditional certificates requested today conform to the President's decision, as well as to the Commission's own report to Congress in October," McMillian said, adding that "early issuance of such certificates by FERC will enable us to move forward expeditiously with our design and planning activities, and will materially assist us in obtaining our project financing."