

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20426

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

In Reply Refer To:
OEP/DG2E/Gas 1
Midwestern Gas Transmission
Company
Docket No. PF05-2-000

OCT 27 2004

Bambi L. Heckerman, Director
Regulatory Affairs
Midwestern Gas Transmission Company
13710 FNB Parkway
Omaha, NE 68154-5200

Re: Approval of Pre-Filing Process Request

Dear Ms. Heckerman:

Thank you for your letter dated October 18, 2004, requesting use of our Pre-Filing Process for the planned MGT Eastern Extension Project. We believe that beginning the Commission's National Environmental Policy Act review prior to our receipt of your application will greatly improve the chances of completing the process in the requested time frame. Therefore, I am granting your request and instructing my staff to begin working with Midwestern Gas Transmission Company (MGT) on this project.

As outlined in your request, MGT intends to file an applicant-prepared draft Environmental Assessment (EA) with its certificate application. The objective of the applicant-prepared draft EA is to accelerate staff review after filing an application; however, close coordination with my staff is necessary to assure the draft EA is adequately crafted to realize the benefits of this process. Your request also describes MGT's commitment to provide a third-party contractor to assist our staff in the preparation of the environmental document should we determine it necessary. At this time, I believe that my staff can proceed with the Pre-Filing Process without a third-party contractor.

Your project has been assigned Docket No. PF05-2-000. All future "pre-filing" correspondence and submissions by MGT to the Commission for this project should reference this docket number. If you have any questions, please contact David Gallo at (202)-502-8906.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Mark Robinson", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

J. Mark Robinson
Director
Office of Energy Projects

cc: Public File, Docket No. PF05-2-000