

Dynegy Comments on R99033

Information reporting requirements play a crucial role in creating and maintaining a competitive market. Having equal access to all relevant information regarding available capacity and how it is calculated helps to ensure that shippers are on equal footing, not only with each other, but with pipeline marketing affiliates, as well.

Information nourishes competition by providing competitors with information needed to conduct the most basic part of their business, delivering the product. In addition to the reporting of “Operational Available Capacity”, shippers need information that make up the other parts of that equation, “Operating Capacity” and “Total Scheduled Quantity”. Only in this way can the market efficiently plan business, structure transactions, and make long-term capacity commitments. As shippers evaluate their capacity options, they are in need of more information than what “Operational Available Capacity” will provide. For example, crucial to the decision for market participants of where to buy gas for the winter heating season is not only whether pipeline capacity is available to ship the gas, but they need to know what the potential operating capacity is on different segments or at different locations of the pipeline. Without this type of information, market participants will not be able to successfully and reliably structure the arrangements for their transactions.

Furthermore, this additional information is needed so that the market can help monitor and verify whether market power is being exercised. As the Commission stated itself in the Gas NOPR (RM98-10), “Indeed, the knowledge that information will be provided to the market should itself act as a check against anticompetitive transactions.”