

NATIONAL FUEL GAS DISTRIBUTION – ORDER 637 – INTERPRETATIONS
PROPOSED ALTERNATE MODIFIED INTERPRETATIONS 7.3.3 AND 7.3.15
Provided as a response to the April 11,2001 Request for Comments

7.3.3 Clarify the differences between Business Day and Work Day, as it applies to GISB standard 3.2.1.

Interpretation:

Standard 3.2.1 defines the ~~business~~Business day~~Day~~ as “...Monday through Friday, excluding Federal Banking Holidays for transactions in the U.S., and similar holidays for transactions occurring in Canada and Mexico.” There is no GISB definition for the hours comprising a work day. The ~~business~~Business day~~Day~~ definition described in Standard 3.2.1 applies to Standard 5.3.2.

With regard to the ~~short term~~“less than 1 year” release open season, Standard 5.3.2 states:

*“For ~~short term~~biddable releases (less than 5 months~~1 year):~~
-- Offers should be tendered by ~~1:00 p.m.~~12:00 p.m. on the day before
~~nominations for~~
~~short term releases (less than 5 months)~~on a Business Day;
-- open season ends no later than ~~2:00 p.m.~~1:00 p.m. on the day before
~~nominations are~~
~~due on a Business Day...~~”*

This means that the latest time that bidding on a ~~short term~~“less than 1 year” Offer ~~offer~~ of release can start is ~~1:00 PM~~12:00 p.m. on the business day before timely nominations would be ~~due on a Business Day~~ for flow on the first date that a release starts.

With regard to the posting of offers four days in advance of award start and providing for a 3 ~~business~~Business day~~Day~~ open season, the example of a ~~five month~~1 year release commencing on a Tuesday after a Monday holiday would be as follows: The Offer would be posted no later than ~~1:00 p.m.~~12:00 p.m. the prior Wednesday (four business days prior to the Tuesday award start) as Saturday, Sunday, and the Monday holiday do not qualify as business days.

Assume another example of a ~~five month~~1 year release with the award commencing on a Saturday. The timeline would be as follows: The Offer would be posted no later than ~~1:00 P.M.~~12:00 p.m. the prior Tuesday. This provides for both the required four business days prior to the Saturday award start and the three business days prior to the ~~2 P.M.~~1:00 p.m. Thursday ending of the open season, which is required in order to provide a three business day open season in advance of the Friday A.M. timely nominations deadline for Saturday flow under the award.

7.3.15 Clarify the timeline for capacity release posting and award - there are 3 known proposed implementations

Interpretation:

With regard to the "less than 1 year" ~~short term~~ release open season, Standard 5.3.2 states

"For short term-release (less than 5 months 1 year):

- *Offers should be tendered by 1:00 p.m. 12:00 p.m. ~~on the day before nominations for short term releases (less than 5 months) on a Business Day;~~*
- *open season ends no later than 2:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. ~~on the day before nominations are due on a Business Day...~~"*

The short term release must be posted no later than 1:00 P.M. 12:00 p.m. the day ~~before~~ nominations are due. This does not mean that an Offer may only be posted the day ~~before~~ nominations are due. There is no maximum number of days, in advance of nominations being due, by which an Offer must be posted. At a minimum, an Offer must be posted prior to 1:00 P.M. 12:00 p.m. The Offer of release may be posted for a greater period of time. If an Offer is posted after 1:00 P.M. 12:00 p.m. on a day, it must remain available for bid until no earlier than 2:00 P.M. 1:00 p.m. the next day. In this way all bidders may review the Offer postings between a known hour and know that all of the biddable Offers are available. On what ever day an Offer is posted, the open season must encompass at least the next occurrence of the hour between 1:00 P.M. 12:00 p.m. and 2:00 P.M. 1:00 p.m. central clock time. Thus, the intent of standard 5.3.2 is as follows:

- a) The time that bidding on a particular ~~Offer-offer~~ of release ends is 2 PM 1:00 p.m. on a business day;
- b) the latest date that bidding on a particular ~~Offer-offer~~ of release can end is the business day before ~~timely~~ nominations would be due for flow on the first date that a release starts;
- c) the minimum open season on a ~~short term~~ "less than 1 year" ~~Offer-offer~~ of release (open season being the time duration between bidding starting and bidding ending) is one hour;
- d) the minimum open season on a ~~long term~~ "1 year or more" ~~Offer-offer~~ of release (open season being the time duration between bidding starting and bidding ending) is three business days and one hour;
- e) there is no maximum bidding period other than the bidding on a particular ~~Offer-offer~~ of release can start no earlier than the time a particular ~~Offer-offer~~ of release is received and posted by the capacity release service provider;
- f) the latest time that bidding on a ~~short term~~ "less than 1 year" ~~Offer-offer~~ of release can start is 1:00 PM 12:00 p.m. ~~on the business day before timely nominations would be due on a Business Day~~ for flow on the first date that a release starts; and,
- g) the latest time that bidding on a ~~long term~~ "1 year or more" ~~Offer-offer~~ of release can start is 1:00 PM 12:00 p.m. on the third business day before timely nominations would be due for flow on the first date that a release starts (the fourth business day prior to award ~~—i.e., the 10:00 A.M. provision of the contract number by TSP to Service Requester~~).