Louisiana Public Service Commission



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April 25, 2016

EVE KAHAO GONZALEZ Executive Secretary

BRANDON FREY Executive Counsel JOHNNY E. SNELLEROVE, JR Deputy Undersecretary

James Percy Jones Walker, LLP 8555 United Plaza Blvd. Baton Rouge, LA70809

Re: Docket No. S-33966. Maurepas Pipeline, LLC. Request to operate under a tariff exception.

Dear Mr. Percy:

Staff

Maurepas Pipeline, LLC ("Maurepas") requested approval from the Louisiana Public Service Commission ("Commission" or "LPSC") to provide petroleum pipeline transportation services under a tariff exception, as provided for in General Order dated March 9, 2015 ("the Pipeline Order.") The Commission published the request in the Commission's Bulletin on February 12, 2016, and received no interventions. Based on the facts and circumstances described below, Maurepas' request to operate the three segments pursuant to tariff exceptions is granted.

Maurepas will provide crude oil and petrochemical intermediates transportation services on the following three segments. One of the intermediates segments will transport butylene and the other will transport vacuum gas oil.

1. LOCAP in St. James Parish to Motiva's Norco refinery (crude oil) - 34.2 miles

2. Motiva's Norco refinery to Convent refineries (intermediates) - 35 miles

3. Motiva's Norco refinery to Convent refineries (intermediates) - 34 miles

All three pipeline segments are expected to be constructed and in service by December 2016. The three pipeline segments support the efforts of Motiva Enterprises, LLC to interconnect its Louisiana refinery operations and, initially, the refinery will be the only shipper on the pipeline. Maurepas will ultimately offer use of the the pipeline system to a few shippers.

Common carrier pipelines are required to file tariffs with the Commission.¹ The Pipeline Order allows carriers to request approval from the Commission's Executive Secretary to provide service on a particular pipeline segment pursuant to the terms of transportation contracts with individual shippers rather than a tariff. The LPSC's consideration of requests for tariff exceptions is somewhat similar to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's consideration of requests for waivers.² Both regulatory authorities are allowed to use their discretion, consistent with the public interest, in allowing tariff exceptions and waivers. The LPSC considers why individually negotiated contracts will meet the needs of the carrier and the shippers, whether there are additional parties seeking transportation on the segment or whether an interest is likely to materialize, the limited nature of the pipeline operations, and whether there is opposition.³

The approvals in this letter are based solely on the facts presented in the request and are subject to revocation should the circumstances change. Maurepas shall report to the LPSC any substantial changes in operations, shippers, or services provided, including but not limited to addition of or the refusal of service to new shippers and the termination, expiration, or renegotiation of contracts with existing shippers. For those segments in which transportation pursuant to a tariff exception is approved, Maurepas must comply with all requirements of General Order dated March 9, 2015, except those related to tariff and rate filings. Please be advised that failure to abide by the LPSC's requirements may result in the revocation of approval to operate pursuant to a tariff exception.

The approvals and denials are without prejudice to the authority of the Commission to make investigations and require any reasonably necessary change it may find to be in the public interest.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Ann Hill at (225) 219-9411.

Sincerely,

Eve Kahao Gonzalez Executive Secretary

¹ See La. R.S. 45:258 and the Pipeline Order.

² The Interstate Commerce Act requires interstate oil pipeline carriers to file tariffs. The carrier may request a waiver from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. See 49 App. U.S.C. §6 (1988). See also Saddle Butte Rockies Midstream, LLC, 152 FERC 61,239 (2015); Targa Badlands, LLC, 144 FERC 61,138 (2013) See LPSC Docket No. S-33768 and LPSC Docket No. S-33945.