

111 FERC ¶ 61,226
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Revisions to Oil Pipeline Regulations
Pursuant to the Energy Policy Act of 1992

Docket No RM93-11-000

NOTICE OF ANNUAL CHANGE
IN THE PRODUCER PRICE INDEX FOR FINISHED GOODS

(May 17, 2005)

The Commission's regulations include a methodology for oil pipelines to change their rates through use of an index system that establishes ceiling levels for such rates. The Commission bases the index system, found at 18 CFR § 342.3, on the annual change in the Producer Price Index for Finished Goods (PPI-FG). This rule now provides that pipelines should use PPI-FG as the oil pricing index factor, 18 CFR § 342.3(d)(2).¹ The Commission determined in an order on remand issued February 24, 2003, that the PPI-FG *without* the minus 1 percent is the appropriate oil pricing index factor for pipelines to use.²

The regulations provide that the Commission will publish annually, an index figure reflecting the final change in the PPI-FG, after the Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes the final PPG-FG in May of each calendar year. The annual average PPI-FG index figure for 2003 was 143.3. The annual average PPI-FG index figure for 2004 was 148.5.³ Thus, the percent change (expressed as a decimal) in the annual average PPI-FG from 2003 to

¹ 108 FERC ¶ 61,210 (2004).

² 102 FERC ¶ 61,195 at P 1 (2003).

³ Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) publishes the final figure in mid-May of each year. This figure is publicly available from the Division of Industrial Prices and Price Indexes of the BLS, at (202) 691-7705, and in print in August in Table 1 of the annual data supplement to the BLS publication *Producer Price Indexes* via the Internet at <http://www.bls.gov/ppi>. To obtain the BLS data, click on "Get Detailed PPI Statistics," and then under the heading "Most Requested Statistics" click on "Commodity Data." At the next screen, under the heading "Producer Price Index - Commodity," select the first box, "Finished goods - WPUSOP3000", then scroll all the way to the bottom of this screen and click on Retrieve data.

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2004 is positive .036288.⁴ Oil pipelines must multiply their July 1, 2004, through June 30, 2005, index ceiling levels by positive 1.036288⁵ to compute their index ceiling levels for July 1, 2005, through June 30, 2006, in accordance with 18 CFR § 342.3(d). For guidance in calculating the ceiling levels for each 12 month period beginning January 1, 1995,⁶ see Explorer Pipeline Company, 71 FERC 61,416 at n.6 (1995).

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Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary

⁴ $[148.5 - 143.3] / 143.3 = 0.036288$

⁵ $1 + 0.036288 = 1.036288$

⁶For a listing of all prior multipliers issued by the Commission, see the Commission's website, www.ferc.gov. The table of multipliers can be found under the headings "Oil" and "Index".