

cause shown Applicant may demonstrate in the alternative, the feasibility of a smaller proposed line;

(4) Demonstrate that its proposed facilities will be utilized, either by it individually or jointly with other pipeline companies, at a minimum annual load factor of 60 percent of the annual capacity available by the end of a 12-month period following the installation thereof, unless a waiver is issued.

(b) It is the intention of the Commission to enforce the fourth requirement by permitting offshore pipeline facilities, certificated after the date of this order, to be included in Applicant's cost-of-service in future rate proceedings at an average unit cost predicated upon load factors of not less than 60 percent of the annual capacity available.

(Sec. 7, 52 Stat. 824; 15 U.S.C. 717f)

[Order 363, 33 FR 8593, June 12, 1968]

**§ 2.67 Calculation of taxes for property of pipeline companies constructed or acquired after January 1, 1970.**

Pursuant to the provisions of section 441(a)(4)(A) of the Tax Reform Act of 1969, 83 Stat. 487, 625, natural gas pipeline companies which have exercised the option provided by that section to change from flow through accounting will be permitted by the Commission, with respect to liberalized depreciation, to employ a normalization method for computing Federal income taxes in their accounts and annual reports with respect to property constructed or acquired after January 1, 1970, to the extent to which such property increases the productive or operational capacity of the utility and is not a replacement of existing capacity. Such normalization will also be permitted for ratemaking purposes. As to balances in Account No. 282 of the Uniform System of Accounts, "Accumulated deferred income taxes—Other property," it will remain the Commission's policy to deduct such balances

from the rate base of natural gas pipeline companies in rate proceedings.

(Secs. 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 301, 304, 308, and 309 (41 Stat. 1063–1066, 1068, 1072, 1075; 49 Stat. 838, 839, 840, 841, 854–856, 858–859; 52 Stat. 822, 823, 825, 826; 76 Stat. 72; 82 Stat. 617; 16 U.S.C. 796, 797, 803, 808, 809, 816, 825, 825b, 825c, 825g, 825h, 826i); as amended, secs. 8, 10, and 16 (52 Stat. 825–826, 830; 15 U.S.C. 717c, 717d, 717g, 717h, 717i, 717o))

[Order 404, 35 FR 7964, May 23, 1970, as amended by Order 567, 42 FR 30612, June 16, 1977]

**§ 2.69 Guidelines to be followed by natural gas pipeline companies in the planning, locating, clearing and maintenance of rights-of-way and the construction of aboveground facilities.**

(a) In the interest of preserving scenic, historic, wildlife and recreational values, the construction and maintenance of facilities authorized by certificates granted under section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act should be undertaken in a manner that will minimize adverse effects on these values. Accordingly, the Commission believes that the planning, locating, clearing and maintenance of rights-of-way and the construction of aboveground facilities should, as a general practice, conform to the guidelines set forth below. The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, Pub. L. 91–190, 83 Stat. 852, title I, section 102 thereof, directs agencies of the Federal Government to utilize a systematic, interdisciplinary approach which will insure integrated use of the natural and social sciences and the environmental design arts in planning and in decision-making which may have an impact on man's environment. Congress has declared as a national policy the critical importance of restoring and maintaining environmental quality and directed that all practicable means be used to create and maintain conditions under which man and nature can exist in productive harmony, and fulfill the social and economic requirements of present and future generations of Americans. There