

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF) ASSOCIATED MILK PRODUCERS, INC.) PIPELINE, INC. TO CONTINUE INTRASTATE) NATURAL GAS TRANSPORTATION RATE) AND ELIMINATE REFUND CONDITION)	ASSESSMENT OF FILING FEE NG00-004
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On April 3, 2000, the Associated Milk Producers, Inc. Pipeline, Inc. (AMPIP), a subsidiary of Associated Milk Producers, Inc. (AMPI), filed an application with the Public Utilities Commission (Commission). According to the application, the intent of the filing is to: (1) seek Commission authorization to continue to provide service at the rate approved in Docket No. NG97-015; (2) remove the potential refund obligation currently tied to the existing rate; and (3) conclude matters under this docket. Earlier proceedings in docket NG97-015 allowed AMPIP to serve both AMPI and the new municipal gas utility owned and operated by the City of Freeman, South Dakota, at a transportation rate of \$0.99 per Mcf to continue in effect until September 1, 2000, subject to refund. The rate commenced October 8, 1997. AMPIP is not proposing to change the existing transportation rate or the Transportation Service Tariff. AMPIP seeks a waiver of ARSD 20:10:13:04 and 20:10:13:05. AMPIP is also requesting that the refund obligation on the existing rate be terminated as it has not recovered its cost of service.

SDCL 49-1A-8 authorizes the Commission to require a deposit of up to one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) in the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission's (SDPUC) regulatory assessment fee fund to defray Commission expenses incident to analyzing and ruling upon this type of filing. The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26, 49-1A, 49-34A and ARSD 20:10:01:15.02 and 20:10:01:15.03.

At its regularly scheduled meeting of May 17, 2000, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission found that pursuant to SDCL 49-1A-8, AMPIP shall be assessed a filing fee as requested by the executive director up to the statutory limit of \$100,000. It is therefore

ORDERED, that AMPIP shall deposit a filing fee, to be established by the executive director, in the SDPUC regulatory assessment fee fund and it shall deposit any additional amounts as requested by the executive director.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 23rd day of May, 2000.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.
By: <u>Delaine Kolbo</u>
Date: <u>5/25/00</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Laska Schoenfelder
LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner