May 8, 2008 Energy Transfer Partners LP Docket No. IN06-3-003

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## **FERC Acts on ETP Subpoena Request**

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) has granted, in part, a request by Energy Transfer Partners LP (ETP) for a subpoena to compel the McGraw-Hill Companies Inc. to provide data and information related to allegations brought by FERC that ETP violated Commission regulations by manipulating wholesale natural gas prices.

## **Background**

On July 26, 2007, FERC directed ETP to show cause why it had not violated the code of conduct applicable to persons holding blanket marketing certificates by allegedly manipulating wholesale gas prices at the Houston Ship Channel by suppressing prices to benefit its financial and physical positions from December 2003 to December 2005.

ETP seeks to subpoena McGraw-Hill for data on the compilation of *Inside FERC*'s gas price indices. ETP contends that these price indices go the core of the allegations against it.

## The Order

FERC noted that since its initial subpoena request, ETP has withdrawn one request for data and held another in abeyance. ETP also has obtained trade data and information regarding the Houston Ship Channel under a Feb. 11, 2008, protective order.

## FERC's order:

- Granted the subpoena request for trade data and other information for certain South Texas trading locations for both the period of the allegations and the historical period covered in the requests;
- Will allow McGraw-Hill to redact the names of the transacting parties in the trade data it must provide;
- Denied ETP's subpoena request for certain trade data reported to McGraw-Hill or Platts that were not used to develop any price index for certain South Texas trading locations for the period November 2003 through December 2005; and
- Denied ETP's request for trade data and other information related to 11 trading points across the United States that were not at issue in the show cause order.

McGraw-Hill has 15 days to comply with FERC's order. Any information exchanged as a result of this subpoena is subject to the Feb. 11, 2008, protective order.