

## Natural Gas Pipeline Competition Study Advisory Committee Charge

1. Given that the Commission has already initiated improving the existing Informal Complaint Process in accordance with agreed upon deficiencies identified during multiple workshop sessions, does the Advisory Committee suggest any *additional improvements*?
2. Is additional Transparency needed in the Texas natural gas pipeline industry to better foster viable market competition?
  - a. How much Transparency is needed?  
(e.g., full mandatory public disclosure of contractual terms and conditions; mandatory filing of contracts with the Commission with limited public disclosure or with public disclosure upon mutual agreement of the parties; mandatory electronic posting of terms and conditions by shippers on their websites or on the Commission website; etc.)
  - b. What specific items should be made public and how should they be made public? Should the Commission revise its tariff information rule to require filing of additional information?
  - c. Are there other market-based solutions that serve to provide the same effect as total transparency?
3. What transporters should be affected by any change in policy or law?
  - a. Traditional gatherers and transporters that perform services for a fee?
  - b. Should marketers be included?
  - c. Should producer-owned systems be included?
    - i. Those with minimal transport for others?
    - ii. Those that gather/transport only their own production?
  - d. Should all gathering/transport systems be open access and be required to provide service for any shipper?
4. Marginal gas well production (low volume/low pressure/low quality gas) is important to the State of Texas.
  - a. Should these wells be given special gathering/transportation and other considerations to make them more economically viable?
  - b. In underserved regions where need is determined, would alternative market-based solutions or tax incentives provide for a more competitive environment?
5. Should the Commission exercise oversight regarding the types and categories of fees related to gas gathering and transportation? Should some pricing terms in gas gathering arrangements be standardized?
6. How do other states address discrimination issues relative to gas gathering and transportation services and should their methods be applicable to Texas?
7. This is a preliminary charge that is subject to additional questions as the process unfolds.