131 FERC ¶ 61,040 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Before Commissioners: Jon Wellinghoff, Chairman;

Marc Spitzer, Philip D. Moeller,

and John R. Norris.

Enforcement of Statutes, Orders, Rules, and Regulations

Docket No. PL10-4-000

ORDER REGARDING POLICY STATEMENT ON PENALTY GUIDELINES

(Issued April 15, 2010)

On March 18, 2010, the Commission issued a Policy Statement on Penalty Guidelines¹ for the purpose of adding greater fairness, consistency, and transparency to its civil penalty determinations. The Commission has conducted three workshops on the Penalty Guidelines in Washington, DC, Houston, TX and San Francisco, CA. The Commission has determined that the public interest would be served by affording interested entities a broader opportunity to comment on the Penalty Guidelines before issuing a final order and putting them into effect. Thus, the Commission will suspend the Policy Statement and the application of the Penalty Guidelines. The Commission considers its March 18, 2010 action as interim in this proceeding. Interested entities are invited to submit comments within 60 days of the date of this order. The Commission will assess the submitted comments and determine in a future order whether to amend the Policy Statement before adopting it and putting it into effect.

By the Commission.

(SEAL)

Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr., Deputy Secretary.

 $^{^1}$ Enforcement of Statutes, Orders, Rules, and Regulations, 130 FERC \P 61,220 (2010) (Policy Statement).