

research aspect of the organization. We also request comments on any inconsistencies perceived within the report, and possible omissions of important topics or issues. This draft report is being issued for comment only and is not intended for interim use. For any shortcoming noted within the report, please propose specific remedies. Suggested changes will be incorporated where appropriate, and a final report will be posted on the OER Web site.

Please follow these instructions for preparing and submitting comments. Overview comments should be provided first and should be numbered. Comments that are specific to particular pages or paragraphs of the section should follow any overview comments and should identify the page numbers to which they apply. Please number each page of your comments. Following these instructions will facilitate the processing of comments and assure that all comments are appropriately considered.

Dated: December 23, 2010.

Mark E. Brown,

Acting Chief Financial Officer, Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. 2010-32886 Filed 12-29-10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-KA-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No. PTO-C-2010-0091]

National Medal of Technology and Innovation Call for 2011 Nominations

AGENCY: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice and request for nominations.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (United States Patent and Trademark Office) is accepting nominations for the National Medal of Technology and Innovation (NMTI). Since establishment by Congress in the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980, the President of the United States has awarded the National Medal of Technology and Innovation (initially known as the National Medal of Technology) annually to our nation's leading innovators. If you know of a candidate who has made an outstanding, lasting contribution to the economy through the promotion of technology or technological manpower, you may obtain a nomination form from: <http://go.usa.gov/1dU>.

DATES: The deadline for submission of a nomination is March 31, 2011.

ADDRESSES: The NMTI nomination form for the year 2011 may be obtained by visiting the USPTO Web site at <http://go.usa.gov/1dU>. Nomination applications should be submitted to Richard Maulsby, Program Manager, National Medal of Technology and Innovation Program, by electronic mail to: NMTI@uspto.gov; or by mail to Richard Maulsby, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard Maulsby, Program Manager, National Medal of Technology and Innovation Program, United States Patent and Trademark Office, 600 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314; telephone (571) 272-8333, or by electronic mail to: nmti@uspto.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background: Enacted by Congress in the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980, the National Medal of Technology was first awarded in 1985. On August 9, 2007, the President signed the America COMPETES (Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science) Act of 2007. The Act amended Section 16 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980, changing the name of the Medal to the "National Medal of Technology and Innovation." The Medal is the highest honor awarded by the President of the United States to America's leading innovators in the field of technology and is given annually to individuals, teams, or companies who have made outstanding contributions to the promotion of technology and technological manpower for the improvement of the economic, environmental or social well-being of the United States.

The primary purpose of the National Medal of Technology and Innovation is to recognize American innovators whose vision, creativity, and brilliance in moving ideas to market has had a profound and lasting impact on our economy and way of life. The Medal highlights the national importance of fostering technological innovation based upon solid science, resulting in commercially successful products and services.

Eligibility and Nomination Criteria: Information on eligibility and nomination criteria is provided on the Nominations Guidelines at <http://go.usa.gov/1dU>.

Dated: December 21, 2010.

David J. Kappos,

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. 2010-32906 Filed 12-29-10; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP11-52-000]

Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company; Notice of Application

December 22, 2010.

Take notice that on December 15, 2010, Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company (Tennessee), 1001 Louisiana Street, Houston, Texas 77002, filed in Docket No. CP11-52-000 an application pursuant to section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act (NGA) and the Commission Regulations, for authorization to abandon by sale to Tauber Pipeline L.L.C. (Tauber) three supply laterals and related facilities located in South Texas, all as more fully set forth in the application which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection. The filing may also be viewed on the Web at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll free at (866) 208-3676, or TTY, contact (202) 502-8659.

Any questions concerning this application may be directed to James D. Johnston, Associate General Counsel, Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, 1001 Louisiana Street, Houston, Texas 77002 at (713) 420-4998 or by e-mail at james.johnston@elpaso.com.

Specifically, Tennessee filed an application requesting approval for abandonment by sale to Tauber of three supply laterals: Tennessee's Line 5A-100, approximately 5.8 miles of 10-inch pipeline, Line No. 5A-200, approximately 32.2 miles of 12-inch pipeline, and Line No. 5A-300, approximately 6.2 miles of 6-inch pipeline.

Pursuant to section 157.9 of the Commission's rules, 18 CFR 157.9, within 90 days of this Notice the Commission staff will either complete its environmental assessment (EA) and place it into the Commission's public record (eLibrary) for this proceeding; or