

Mobile Sierra

Parties may wish to consider using this optional provision to document their intent to waive or limit the ability of regulators to modify the rates or terms and conditions of wholesale power transactions. The issues are complex and evolving, and each person is advised to consult with his or her counsel on the appropriate use of this provision.

This version is modified from what EEI published on its website in 2004 in two ways. First, the Supreme Court in *Morgan Stanley Capital Group, Inc. v. Public Util. Dist. No. 1 of Snohomish*, 554 U.S. __ (2008) ruled that there is a single statutory standard of FERC review- the "just and reasonable" standard, which permits contract abrogation by FERC only in "those extraordinary circumstances where the public will be severely harmed" (Slip. Op. at 23), and not two standards from which parties may select by agreement. Second, a referenced FERC policy statement on the subject of its standard of review has since been terminated – see Docket No. RM-35-000, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, footnote 1.

The following is added to the Agreement as Section 10.__: <u>FERC Standard of Review; Mobile-Sierra Waiver</u>.

- (a) Absent the agreement of all Parties to the proposed change, the standard of review for changes to any rate, charge, classification, term or condition of this Agreement, whether proposed by a Party (to the extent that any waiver in subsection (b) below is unenforceable or ineffective as to such Party), a non-party or FERC acting *sua sponte*, shall solely be the "public interest" application of the "just and reasonable" standard of review set forth in United Gas Pipe Line Co. v. Mobile Gas Service Corp., 350 U.S. 332 (1956) and Federal Power Commission v. Sierra Pacific Power Co., 350 U.S. 348 (1956) and clarified by Morgan Stanley Capital Group, Inc. v. Public Util. Dist. No. 1 of Snohomish 554 U.S. __ (2008) (the "Mobile-Sierra" doctrine).
- (b) In addition, and notwithstanding the foregoing subsection (a), to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, each Party, for itself and its successors and assigns, hereby expressly and irrevocably waives any rights it can or may have, now or in the future, whether under §§ 205 and/or 206 of the Federal Power Act or otherwise, to seek to obtain from FERC by any means, directly or indirectly (through complaint, investigation or otherwise), and each hereby covenants and agrees not at any time to seek to so obtain, an order from FERC changing any section of this Agreement specifying the rate, charge, classification, or other term or condition agreed to by the Parties, it being the express intent of the Parties that, to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, neither Party shall unilaterally seek to obtain from FERC any relief changing the rate, charge, classification, or other term or condition of this Agreement, notwithstanding any subsequent changes in applicable law or market conditions that may occur. In the event it were to be determined that applicable law precludes the Parties from waiving their rights to seek changes from FERC to their market-based power sales contracts (including entering into covenants not to do so) then this subsection (b) shall not apply, provided that, consistent with the foregoing subsection (a), neither Party shall seek any such changes except solely under the "public interest" application of the "just and reasonable" standard of review and otherwise as set forth in the foregoing section (a).

©2008 by the Edison Electric Institute

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED UNDER U.S. AND FOREIGN LAW, TREATIES AND CONVENTIONS. AUTOMATIC LICENSE – PERMISSION OF THE COPYRIGHT OWNERS IS GRANTED FOR REPRODUCTION BY DOWNLOADING FROM A COMPUTER AND PRINTING ELECTRONIC COPIES OF THE WORK. NO AUTHORIZED COPY MAY BE SOLD. WHEN USED AS A REFERENCE, ATTRIBUTION TO THE COPYRIGHT OWNERS IS REQUESTED.