

Sincerely,  
Hazel R. O'Leary  
[FR Doc. 96-31961 Filed 12-16-96; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 6450-01-M

## Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

### Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products: Meeting of the Advisory Committee on Appliance Energy Efficiency Standards

**AGENCY:** Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting of the Advisory Committee on Appliance Energy Efficiency Standards.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Energy (the Department or DOE) will hold a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Appliance Energy Efficiency. The Department will consider the information and comments received at this meeting in preparation of its rulemakings. All persons are hereby given notice of the first meeting of the Advisory Committee on Appliance Energy Efficiency Standards.

**DATES:** The first meeting of the advisory committee will be held on Wednesday, January 8, 1997, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The Advisory Committee meeting will be held at the Embassy Row Hotel, 2015 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington D.C. 20036, (202)265-1600. Rooms are available at the discounted government rate.

Copies of the Committee's charter and this notice may be viewed at the DOE Freedom of Information Reading Room, Forrestal Building, Room 1E-190, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-6020 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kathi Epping, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Forrestal Building, Mail Station EE-43, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585-0121, (202) 586-7425

Michael McCabe, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Forrestal Building, Mail Station EE-43, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585-0121, (202) 586-9127

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Energy Policy and Conservation Act, as

amended by the National Energy Policy Conservation Act, the National Appliance Energy Conservation Act, the National Appliance Energy Conservation Amendments of 1988, and the Energy Policy Act of 1992, prescribes energy conservation standards for certain major appliances and equipment and requires the Department of Energy to administer an energy conservation program for the products. Recent appliance rulemakings have highlighted the need to address a number of complex issues concerning the impact of standards on consumers and manufacturers. In response to these issues, the Department initiated a comprehensive process improvement effort to examine, through a series of stakeholder meetings and interviews, issues surrounding the appliance standards program. On March 19-20, 1996, the Department held a workshop to discuss the initial findings from these meetings and interviews. Discussion topics included the planning and prioritization process, data collection and analysis, and decision making criteria. On June 14, 1996, the Department held the first prioritization public workshop to discuss criteria to be used in planning and prioritizing future rules. On July 15, 1996, DOE issued 10 CFR Part 430 Procedures for Consideration of New or Revised Energy Conservation Standards for Consumer Products final rule (interpretive rule) resulting from the process improvement effort.

The establishment of an Advisory Committee was one of the primary recommendations of this effort. The Committee will serve to improve the quality of the Appliance Energy Efficiency Standards rulemaking process and serve as a vehicle for evaluation and refinement of the appliance standards rulemaking process. The Committee will provide an official, organized forum for a diverse set of interested stakeholders to provide the Department with advice, information, and recommendations on the appliance standards rulemaking process. Some of the major objectives of the process improvement are to seek early involvement of stakeholders, increase predictability of the rulemaking timetable, increase use of technically adept individuals, eliminate impractical or problematic designs early in the process, consider alternatives to standards, support consensus rulemaking, reduce the time and cost of developing standards, and enhance the analysis of the standards' impacts.

The Committee will evaluate the development, implementation, and workability of the new rulemaking

process. The Committee will serve as the focal point for discussion of the desirability of making changes to the procedures, interpretations, and policies set out in the interpretative rule and on cross cutting analytical issues affecting all product standards.

The Committee members were chosen to ensure an appropriately balanced membership to bring into account a diversity of viewpoints, including representatives from manufacturer trade associations, energy conservation advocates, utilities, state energy offices, consumers, and others who may significantly contribute to the deliberations of the committee.

The first advisory committee meeting will be professionally facilitated. Copies of the draft agenda are available upon request by calling one of the individuals listed below.

A copy of the workshop transcript will be available in the DOE public reading room approximately 10 days after the workshop.

Please notify either Kathi Epping, (202)586-7425, or Sandy Beall, (202)586-7574 of your intention to attend the advisory committee meeting.

Issued in Washington, DC, December 11, 1996.

Brian T. Castelli,

*Chief of Staff, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.*

[FR Doc. 96-31962 Filed 12-16-96; 8:45 am]

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## Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP97-138-000]

### Columbia Gulf Transmission Company; Notice of Application

December 11, 1996.

Take notice that on December 5, 1996, Columbia Gulf Transmission Company (CGT), 2603 Augusta, Suite 125, Houston, Texas 77210-4621, filed in Docket No. CP97-138-000, an application pursuant to Section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act for permission and approval to abandon an exchange interconnection and related facilities with Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company (Tennessee), which were authorized in Docket No. CP64-141, all as more fully set forth in the application on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

CGT proposes to abandon an exchange interconnection with Tennessee located in La Salle Parish, Louisiana. CGT states that the facilities proposed for abandonment were constructed in 1965 as an emergency

interconnection between the pipeline systems of CGT and Tennessee. CGT asserts that as a result of existing operations of the pipeline systems and the existence of a similar emergency interconnection located in Rowan County, Kentucky, the facilities proposed for abandonment are no longer needed. CGT further asserts that the proposed abandonment will have no impact on any existing customer.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make protest with reference to said application should on or before January 2, 1997, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20426, a motion to intervene or a protest in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214 or 385.211) and the Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.10). All protests filed with the Commission will be considered by it in determining the appropriate action to be taken but will not serve to make the protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party to a proceeding or to participate as a party in any hearing therein must file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules.

Take further notice that, pursuant to the authority contained in and subject to the jurisdiction conferred upon the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by Sections 7 and 15 of the Natural Gas Act and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, a hearing will be held without further notice before the Commission or its designee on this application if no motion to intervene is filed within the time required therein, if the Commission on its own review of the matter finds that permission and approval for the proposed abandonment required by the public convenience and necessity. If a motion for leave to intervene is timely filed, or if the Commission on its own motion believes that a formal hearing is required, further notice of such hearing will be duly given.

Under the procedure provided for, unless otherwise advised, it will be unnecessary for CGT to appear or be represented at the hearing.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

*Acting Secretary.*

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[Project No. 2145-029 and Docket No. EL97-12-000]

**Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County, Washington; Notice of Petition for Declaratory Order or in the Alternative Application for Approval of Contracts for the Sale of Power for a Period Extending Beyond the Term of the License**

December 11, 1996.

On November 22, 1996, pursuant to Rule 207 of the Commission's regulations, 18 CFR 385.207, and Section 22 of the Federal Power Act, 16 U.S.C. 815, Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County, Washington (Chelan County PUD), petitioned for a declaratory order that the Commission had in 1968 implicitly approved power sales contracts for project power extending beyond the license term, or in the alternative requested that the Commission now approve these power sales contracts for approximately five years beyond 2006 expiration date of the license. The Rocky Reach Project No. 2145 is located on the Columbia River in Chelan and Douglas Counties, Washington.

Section 22 provides that contracts for the sale and delivery of power for periods extending beyond the termination date of a license may be entered into upon the joint approval of the Commission and the appropriate state public service Commission or other similar authority in the state in which the sale or delivery of power is made. Chelan County PUD states in its application that Commission approval of the Rocky Reach Project power sales contracts is in the public interest because the revenues from those contracts have been pledged to secure repayment of bonds that Chelan County PUD issued to finance construction of the Rocky Reach Project and that the contracts were essential to the development of the project.

Anyone may submit comments, a protest, or a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of practice and procedure, 18 CFR 385.210, 385.211, 385.214. In determining the appropriate action to take, the Commission will consider all protests and other comments, but only those who file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's rules may become a party to the proceeding. Comments, protests, or motions to intervene must be filed by [the 30th day following publication of this notice in the Federal Register]; must bear in all capital letters the title "COMMENTS," "PROTESTS," or "MOTION TO INTERVENE," as

applicable, and "Project No. 2145-029 and EL97-12-000." Send the filings (original and 14 copies) to: The Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426. A copy of any filing must also be served upon each representative of the licensee specified in its application.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

*Acting Secretary.*

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[Project No. 2596-003 and Docket No. D196-5-001]

**Rochester Gas & Electric Corp.; Notice of Availability of Navigability Report for the Genesee River, Request for Comments, and Notice of Pending Jurisdictional Inquiry**

December 11, 1996.

Rochester Gas & Electric Corp. (RG&E) filed an application for subsequent license to continue operation on its Station 160 Project. On February 20, 1996, RG&E filed a petition for Declaratory Order requesting that the Commission determine whether the project is subject to the Commission's licensing jurisdiction pursuant to Section 23(b)(1) of the Federal Power Act. (FPA).<sup>1</sup> The facility is located on the Genesee River, in Livingston County, New York.

As part of its review of RG&E's relicensing application, and the petition for Declaratory Order, staff is investigating the jurisdictional status of the project and has prepared a navigability report on the Genesee River.

Before making its decision, the staff will accept and consider comments on the navigability report. Comments may be filed no later than January 28, 1997.

**Jurisdiction:** Under Section 23(b)(1) of the FPA, a license is required for a hydroelectric project if it: (1) is located on navigable waters of the United States; (2) occupies lands or reservations of the United States; (3) uses surplus water on waterpower from a government dam; or (4) is located on a non-navigable Commerce Clause stream, affects the interests of interstate or foreign commerce, and has undergone construction or major modifications after August 26, 1935.<sup>2</sup>

Concurrent with the publication of this notice, all persons whose names appear on the official mailing list for Rochester Gas & Electric Corp.'s

<sup>1</sup> 16 USC 191a-825r.

<sup>2</sup> See *Farmington River Power Co. v. Federal Power Commission*, 455 F.2d 86 (2d Cir. 1972)