

Agreement with Reliant Energy Services, Inc. (Reliant), under the NU System Companies' Sale for Resale Tariff No. 7.

NUSCO requests that the Service Agreement become effective July 19, 1999.

NUSCO states that a copy of this filing has been mailed to TransAlta.

Comment date: August 17, 1999, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

22. PECO Energy Company

[Docket No. ER99-3778-000]

Take notice that on July 28, 1999, PECO Energy Company (PECO), tendered for filing under Section 205 of the Federal Power Act, 16 U.S.C. S 792 *et seq.*, a Transaction Letter dated July 27, 1999 with Horizon Energy Company d/b/a Exelon Energy (EXELON) under PECO's FERC Electric Tariff Original Volume No. 1 (Tariff).

PECO requests an effective date of August 1, 1999, for the Transaction Letter.

PECO states that copies of this filing have been supplied to EXELON and to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission.

Comment date: August 17, 1999, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

23. PP&L EnergyPlus Co., LLC

[Docket No. ER99-3779-000]

Take notice that on July 28, 1999, PP&L EnergyPlus Co., LLC (EnergyPlus), tendered for filing with the Commission an application to amend its Market-Based Rate Tariff, FERC Electric Tariff Original Volume No. 1, to allow EnergyPlus to sell specified ancillary services at market-based rates.

EnergyPlus requested waiver of Commission regulations to permit the tariff amendment to become effective on July 29, 1999.

EnergyPlus stated that it served a copy of the foregoing on the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission and on those parties who take service under EnergyPlus' Market-Based Rate Tariff.

Comment date: August 17, 1999, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

24. California Power Exchange Corporation

[Docket No. ER99-3781-000]

Take notice that on July 28, 1999, the California Power Exchange Corporation (CalPX), tendered for filing revised tariff sheets to make two minor changes in its Power Exchange Settlement and Billing Protocol (PSABP). CalPX proposes to

eliminate references to "ancillary services" from Section 1.6.1 of the PSABP and proposes an effective date of September 26, 1999 for that proposed change. CalPX proposes to change Section 1.6.4 of the PSABP to finalize payments or receipts to or from the California ISO 56 business days, as opposed to 65 calendar days, after the last day of the Trading Period.

CalPX requests waiver of the notice requirement to permit the second proposed change to become effective concurrently with the effective date of the Payments Calendar changes of the ISO's Amendment No. 17.

Comment date: August 17, 1999, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

25. California Power Exchange Corporation

[Docket Nos. ER99-3782-000 and ER99-3783-000]

Take notice that on July 28, 1999, the above-mentioned affiliated power producers and/or public utilities filed their quarterly reports for the quarter ending June 30, 1999.

Comment date: August 17, 1999, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

26. Central Power and Light Company, West Texas Utilities Company, Public Service Company of Oklahoma and Southwestern Electric Power Company

[Docket No. ER99-3787-000]

Take notice that on July 28, 1999, Central and South West Services, Inc., as agent for Central Power and Light Company, West Texas Utilities Company, Public Service Company of Oklahoma, and Southwestern Electric Power Company (collectively, the CSW Operating Companies), tendered for filing a quarterly report under the CSW Operating Companies' market-based sales tariff. The report is for the period April 1, 1999 through June 30, 1999.

Comment date: August 17, 1999, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

27. Soyland Power Cooperative, Inc.

[Docket No. ES99-52-000]

Take notice that on July 28, 1999, Soyland Power Cooperative Inc. (Soyland), submitted an application under Section 204 of the Federal Power Act for authorization to issue and pledge an amount not to exceed \$25,000,000 of debt securities. The Applicant also requested exemption from the competitive bidding and negotiated offer requirements. Soyland requests expedited treatment for its application.

Comment date: August 23, 1999, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

Standard Paragraphs

E. Any person desiring to be heard or to protest such filing should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214). All such motions or protests should be filed on or before the comment date. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of these filings are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection. This filing may also be viewed on the Internet at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-20638 Filed 8-10-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP99-576-000]

Williams Gas Pipelines Central, Inc.; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Empire District Electric Company State Line Plant Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

August 5, 1999.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) that will discuss the environmental impacts of the Empire District Electric Company State Line Plant (Empire) Project involving construction and operation of facilities by Williams Gas Pipelines Central, Inc. (Williams) in Kay, Osage, and Washington Counties, Oklahoma; Labette and Cherokee Counties, Kansas; and Jasper County, Missouri.¹ These facilities would require the replacement of various minor facilities along about 84.3 miles of its Blackwell-Cotton

¹ Williams' application was filed with the Commission under Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations.

Valley pipeline (Blackwell-Cotton Uprate); the installation of about 36.8 miles of pipeline loop (Southern Trunk Loop); and the construction of measurement facilities at the Empire Electric Power Plant (Empire Facilities). This EA will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether the project is in the public convenience and necessity.

If you are a landowner receiving this notice, you may be contacted by a pipeline company representative about the acquisition of an easement to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed facilities. The pipeline company would seek to negotiate a mutually acceptable agreement. However, if the project is approved by the Commission, that approval conveys with it the right of eminent domain. Therefore, if easement negotiations fail to produce an agreement, the pipeline company could initiate condemnation proceedings in accordance with state law. A fact sheet addressing a number of typically asked questions, including the use of eminent domain, is attached to this notice as appendix 1.²

Summary of the Proposed Project

Williams wants to expand the capacity of its facilities in Oklahoma, Kansas, and Missouri to transport an additional 55,000 decatherms per day of natural gas to Empire District Electric Company's (Empire) State Line Plant. (This would result in a total of 83,800 decatherms per day of natural gas to the State Line Plant.) Williams seeks authority to:

- Reclaim three mainline valves and two mainline drips, replace fine mainline valves and one mainline drip, replace 11 road crossings, and install a 16-inch-diameter pig launcher and appurtenant piping along the existing 16-inch-diameter, 85-mile-long Blackwell-Cotton Valley pipeline in Kay, Osage, and Washington Counties, Oklahoma;
- Upgrade 14 domestic meters, which would include upgrading/replacing regulators and valves as needed, along with Blackwell-Cotton Valley pipeline in Kay, Osage, and Washington Counties, Oklahoma;
- Increase the maximum allowable pressure along the Blackwell-Cotton Valley pipeline from 500 psig to 690

psig in Kay, Osage, and Washington Counties, Oklahoma;

- Extend the existing 20-inch-diameter Southern Trunk Loop an additional 36.8 miles in Labette and Cherokee Counties, Kansas;
- Relocate the existing 20-inch-diameter pig receiver to the end of the 36.8-mile Southern Trunk Loop and install two mainline valves in Cherokee County, Kansas;
- Install a dual 6-inch regulator setting, a dual 8-inch turbine meter setting, an 8-inch flow control setting, and about 450 feet of 16-inch-diameter pipeline at a new location within the existing Empire property area in Jasper County, Missouri; and
- Install a 4-inch flow control setting at Empire's existing site in Jasper County, Missouri.

The general location of the project facilities as well as a detailed version of the Southern Trunk Loop are shown in appendix 2.

Land Requirements for Construction

Construction of the proposed Blackwell-Cotton Uprate, Southern Trunk Loop, and Empire Facilities would require a total construction area of about 3.5, 401.5, and 1.2 acres of land respectively. The Blackwell-Cotton Uprate and the Southern Trunk Loop have no aboveground facilities associated with them. Construction of the Blackwell-Cotton Uprate would temporarily effect 3.5 acres. No new right-of-way would be created. Construction of the Southern Trunk Loop would disturb about 401.5 acres. Of this, only about 111.5 acres would convert to permanent right-of-way. Following construction, about 0.9 acre of the Empire Facilities would be maintained as new aboveground facility sites. The remaining 0.35 acre of the Empire Facilities land would be restored and allowed to revert to its former use.

The EA Process

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires the Commission to take into account the environmental impacts that could result from an action whenever it considers the issuance of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity. NEPA also requires us to discover and address concerns the public may have about proposals. We call this "scoping". The main goal of the scoping process is to focus the analysis in the EA on the important environmental issues. By this Notice of Intent, the Commission requests public comments on the scope of the issues it will address in the EA. All comments received are considered during the

preparation of the EA. State and local government representatives are encouraged to notify their constituents of this proposed action and encourage them to comment on their areas of concern.

The EA will discuss impacts that could occur as a result of the construction and operation of the proposed project under these general headings:

- Geology and soils
- Water resources, fisheries, and wetlands
- Vegetation and wildlife
- Endangered and threatened species
- Public safety
- Land use
- Cultural resources
- Air quality and noise
- Hazardous waste

We will also evaluate possible alternatives to the proposed or portions of the project, and make recommendations on how to lessen or avoid impacts on the various resource areas.

Our independent analysis of the issues will be in the EA. Depending on the comments received during the scoping process, the EA may be published and mailed to Federal, state, and local agencies, public interest groups, interested individuals, affected landowners, newspapers, libraries, and the Commission's official service list for this proceeding. A comment period will be allotted for review if the EA is published. We will consider all comments on the EA before we make our recommendations to the Commission.

To ensure your comments are considered, please carefully follow the instructions in the public participation section beginning on page 5.

Currently Identified Environmental Issues

We have already identified several issues that we think deserve attention based on a preliminary review of the proposed facilities and the environmental information provided by Williams. This preliminary list of issues may be changed based on your comments and our analysis.

- Five streams would be crossed (using either horizontal directional drill or horizontal boring methods) by the Southern Trunk Loop; and
- One federally listed species may be present in the Neosho River. Among the five streams to be crossed, the Neosho River is designated as critical habitat for the federally threatened Neosho madtom.

² The appendices referenced in this notice are not being printed in the **Federal Register**. Copies are available from the Commission's Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, or call (202) 208-1371. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.

Public Participation

You can make a difference by providing us with your specific comments or concerns about the project. By becoming a commentator, your concerns will be addressed in the EA and considered by the Commission. You should focus on the potential environmental effects of the proposal, alternatives to the proposal (including alternative locations/routes), and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impact. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. Please carefully follow these instructions to ensure that your comments are received in time and properly recorded:

- Send two copies of your letter to: David P. Boergers, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., NE., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426;
- Label one copy of the comments for the attention of the Environmental Review and Compliance Branch, PR-11.1;
- Reference Docket No. CP99-576-000; and
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before September 7, 1999.

Becoming an Intervenor

In addition to involvement in the EA scoping process, you may want to become an official party to the proceeding known as an "intervenor". Intervenor status plays a more formal role in the process. Among other things, intervenors have the right to receive copies of case-related Commission documents and filings by other intervenors. Likewise, each intervenor must provide 14 copies of its filings to the Secretary of the Commission and must send a copy of its filings to all other parties on the Commission's service list for this proceeding. If you want to become an intervenor you must file a motion to intervene according to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures (18 CFR 385.214) (see appendix 3). Only intervenors have the right to seek rehearing of the Commission's decision.

You do not need intervenor status to have your environmental comments considered. Additional information about the proposed project is available from Mr. Paul McKee of the Commission's Office of External Affairs at (202) 208-1088 or on the FERC website (www.ferc.fed.us) using the "RIMS" link to information in this docket number. Click on the "RIMS" links, select "Docket #" from the RIMS Menu, and follow the instructions. For

assistance with access to RIMS, the RIMS helpline can be reached at (202) 208-2222.

Similarly, the "CIPS" link on the FERC Internet website provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings. From the FERC Internet website, click on the "CIPS" link, select "Docket #" from the CIPS menu, and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to CIPS, the CIPS helpline can be reached at (202) 208-2474.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-20759 Filed 8-10-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Notice of Scoping Meetings, Site Visit, and Soliciting Scoping Comments

August 5, 1999.

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection:

- a. *Type of Application:* New Major License.
- b. *Project No:* 2055-010.
- c. *Date filed:* November 24, 1998.
- d. *Applicant:* Idaho Power Company.
- e. *Name of Project:* C.J. Strike.
- f. *Location:* On the Snake River in Owyhee County, Idaho, between the towns of Grandview and Bruneau. This project utilizes about 3,000 acres of federal lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management.
- g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act, 16 U.S.C. §§ 791(a)-825(r).
- h. *Applicant Contact:* Lewis Wardle, Hydro Relicensing Department, Idaho Power Company, P.O. Box 70, Boise, ID 83707, (208) 388-2964.
- i. *FERC Contact:* John Blair, john.blair@ferc.fed.us, (202) 219-2845.
- j. *Deadline for filing scoping comments:* October 15, 1999.

All documents (original and eight copies) should be filed with: David P. Boergers, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426.

The Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure require all intervenors filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person whose name appears on the official service lists for the projects. Further, if an intervenor files comments

or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, they must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency.

k. *Status of environmental analysis:* This application is not ready for environmental analysis at this time.

1. Description of the Project:

The project consists of the following existing facilities: (1) A 3,220-foot-long earthfill dam with a maximum height of 115 feet, which includes a 340-foot-wide and 78-foot-high reinforced concrete spillway consisting of eight 34-foot-wide bays; (2) a 55-foot-wide, 158-foot-long, and 65-foot-high reinforced concrete intake structure located at the left abutment of the same, consisting of three intakes; (3) three riveted steel penstocks connecting the intakes to the generating units; (4) a 198-foot-long, 64-foot-wide, and 68-foot-high reinforced concrete powerhouse, located at the left abutment of the dam, containing 3 vertical fixed-blade turbines with a total nameplate capacity of 82.8 megawatts; (5) a reservoir extending about 32 miles upstream on the Snake River and about 12 miles upstream on the Bruneau River, with a surface area of about 7,500 acres at normal water surface elevation of 2,455 feet above mean sea level; and (6) two 138-kilovolt (kV) transmission lines extending from the project 65 miles northwesterly to the Caldwell terminal substation and about 25 miles northeasterly to the 138-kV lines near Mountain Home.

m. *Locations of the Application:* A copy of the application is available for inspection and reproduction at the Commission's Public Reference Room, located at 888 First Street, NE, Room 2A, Washington, D.C. 20426, or by calling (202) 208-1371. This filing may be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call 202-208-2222 for assistance). A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in item h. above.

n. *Scoping Process:* The Commission has determined that issuance of a new license for the C.J. Strike Project would constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment; therefore, the Commission intends to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) on the project, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

Scoping Meetings

The Commission will hold two scoping meetings, one in the morning and one in the evening, to help us