

agency's comments must also be sent to the Applicant's representatives.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2928]

Merrimac Paper Company Inc.; Notice of Authorization for Continued Project Operation

December 3, 1999.

On September 29, 1997, Merrimac Paper Company Inc., licensee for the Merrimac Project No. 2928, filed an application for a new or subsequent license pursuant to the Federal Power Act (FPA) and the Commission's regulations thereunder. Project No. 2928 is located along the South Canal on the Merrimack River within the City of Lawrence, Essex County, Massachusetts.

The license for Project No. 2928 was issued for a period ending November 30, 1999. Section 15(a)(1) of the FPA, 16 U.S.C. 808(a)(1), requires the Commission, at the expiration of a license term, to issue from year to year an annual license to the then licensee under the terms and conditions of the prior license until a new license is issued, or the project is otherwise disposed of as provided in section 15 or any other applicable section of the FPA. If the project's prior license waived the applicability of Section 15 of the FPA, then, based on section 9(b) of the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. 558(c), and as set forth at 18 CFR 16.21(a), if the licensee of such project has filed an application for a subsequent license, the licensee may continue to operate the project in accordance with the terms and conditions of the license after the minor or minor part license expires, until the Commission acts on its application. If the licensee of such a project has not filed an application for a subsequent license, then it may be required, pursuant to 18 CFR 16.21(b), to continue project operations until the Commission issues someone else a license for the project or otherwise orders disposition of the project.

If the project is subject to section 15 of the FPA, notice is hereby given that an annual license for Project No. 2928 is issued to Merrimac Paper Company Inc. for a period effective December 1, 1999, through November 30, 2000, or until the issuance of a new license for the project or other disposition under

the FPA, whichever comes first. If issuance of a new license (or other disposition) does not take place on or before November 30, 2000, notice is hereby given that, pursuant to 18 CFR 16.18(c), an annual license under section 15(a)(1) of the FPA is renewed automatically without further order or notice by the Commission, unless the Commission orders otherwise.

If the project is not subject to Section 15 of the FPA, notice is hereby given that Merrimac Paper Company Inc. is authorized to continue operation of the Merrimac Project No. 2928 until such time as the Commission acts on its application for subsequent license.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RM98-1-000]

Regulations Governing Off-the-Record Communications; Public Notice

December 3, 1999.

This constitutes notice, in accordance with 18 CFR 385.2201(h), of the receipt of exempt and prohibited off-the-record communications.

Order No. 607 (64 FR 51222, September 22, 1999) requires Commission decisional employees, who make or receive an exempt or a prohibited off-the-record communication relevant to the merits of a contested on-the-record proceeding, to deliver a copy of the communication, if written, or a summary of the substance of any oral communication, to the Secretary.

Prohibited communications will be included in a public, non-decisional file associated with, but not part of, the decisional record of the proceeding. Unless the Commission determines that the prohibited communication and any responses thereto should become part of the decisional record, the prohibited off-the-record communication will not be considered by the Commission in reaching its decision. Parties to a proceeding may seek the opportunity to respond to any facts or contentions made in a prohibited off-the-record communication, and may request that the Commission place the prohibited communication and responses thereto in the decisional record. The Commission will grant such requests only when it determines that fairness so requires.

Exempt off-the-record communications will be included in the decisional record of the proceeding, unless the communication was with a cooperating agency as described by 40 CFR 1501.6, made under 18 CFR 385.2201(e)(1)(v).

The following is a list of exempt and prohibited off-the-record communications received in the Office of the Secretary within the preceding 14 days. The documents may be viewed on the Internet at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

Exempt

1. CP98-150-000 and CP98-151-000: 11/23/99, Jeff Shenot.

2. Project Nos. 2699 and 2019: 11/22/99, Don L. Klima.

3. Project No. 1962: 11/29/99, Robert J. Baiocchi.

4. CP99-94-000: 11/22/99, Carol Ann Reed.

5. CP98-150-000: 11/22/99, John Lacey.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-31866 Filed 12-8-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Western Area Power Administration

Applications for the 2005 Resource Pool Power Allocations, Central Valley Project

AGENCY: Western Area Power Administration, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of Extension.

SUMMARY: The Western Area Power Administration (Western), a Federal power marketing administration of DOE, published a Call for 2005 Resource Pool Applications in the **Federal Register** pursuant to the 2004 Power Marketing Plan (Marketing Plan) for the Sierra Nevada Customer Service Region (Sierra Nevada Region). This notice extends the filing date for applications for a percentage of the Sierra Nevada Region's 2005 Resource Pool by 30 days.

DATES: Entities interested in applying for an allocation of Western power must submit applications to Western's Sierra Nevada Customer Service Regional Office at the address below.

Applications must be received by 4 p.m., PST, on January 19, 2000. Applicants are encouraged to hand-deliver or use certified mail to deliver applications. Applications will be accepted via regular mail through the United States Postal Service if

postmarked at least 3 days before January 19, 2000, and received no later than January 21, 2000. Western will not consider applications that are not received by the prescribed dates. Western will publish a Notice of Proposed Allocations in the **Federal Register** after evaluating all applications.

Application dates and procedures applicable to first preference customers/entities are provided in the Marketing Plan.

ADDRESSES: Applications must be submitted to the Power Marketing Manager, Western Area Power Administration, Sierra Nevada Customer Service Region, 114 Parkshore Drive, Folsom, CA 95630.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Howard Hirahara, Power Marketing Manager, at (916) 353-4421 or by electronic mail at hirahara@wapa.gov. Optional application forms are available.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authorities

The Marketing Plan for marketing power by the Sierra Nevada Region after 2004, published in the **Federal Register** (64 FR 34417) on June 25, 1999, including the subsequent Call for 2005 Resource Pool Applications, published in the **Federal Register** (64 FR 56343) on October 19, 1999, was established pursuant to the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101-7352); the Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902 (ch. 1093, 32 Stat. 388) as amended and supplemented by subsequent enactments, particularly section 9(c) of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 (43 U.S.C. 485(c)); and other acts specifically applicable to the projects involved.

Background

This notice provides an extension of time to file an application for the 2005 Resource Pool from December 20, 1999, to January 19, 2000.

The Marketing Plan describes how the Sierra Nevada Region will market its power resources from the Central Valley Project, Washoe Project, and other sources beginning January 1, 2005, through December 31, 2024. The 2005 Resource Pool is available for new power allocations to qualified entities. Preference entities who wish to apply for a new allocation of power from Western's Sierra Nevada Region must submit formal applications conforming to the procedures in the Dates Section above. Eligibility and allocation criteria are defined in the Marketing Plan and the Call for 2005 Resource Pool

Applications. Procedures for applying for power from the Sierra Nevada Region are also provided in the Call for 2005 Resource Pool Applications.

Existing customers' conditional resource extension percentages are listed in the Marketing Plan. Existing customers do not need to submit applications for resource extensions. However, if an existing customer wishes to apply for a new allocation of power in addition to its resource extension, it must meet the eligibility criteria and submit an application.

Dated: November 22, 1999.

Michael S. Hacsakaylo,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 99-31948 Filed 12-8-99; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6504-7]

Notice of Availability of Letter from EPA to the State of Illinois Pursuant to Section 118 of the Clean Water Act and the Water Quality Guidance for the Great Lakes System

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of a letter written from Region 5 of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to the State of Illinois finding that certain provisions adopted as part of the State's water quality standards and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits programs are inconsistent with section 118(c) of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and 40 CFR part 132. EPA's findings are described in a letter dated November 12, 1999. EPA invites public comment on all aspects of this letter, particularly on the findings in the letter and on the course of action that EPA proposes to take if the State fails to adequately address EPA's findings.

DATES: Comments must be received in writing by January 24, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on EPA's findings as described in the November 12, 1999 letters may be submitted to Mery Jackson-Willis, Standards and Applied Sciences Branch (WT-15J), Water Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, 77 West Jackson Boulevard., Chicago, Illinois, 60604. In the alternative, EPA will accept comments electronically. Comments should be sent to the following Internet E-mail address:

jackson-willis.mery@epamail.epa.gov. Electronic comments must be submitted in an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. EPA will print electronic comments in hard-copy paper form for the official administrative record. EPA will attempt to clarify electronic comments if there is an apparent error in transmission. Comments provided electronically will be considered timely if they are submitted electronically by 11:59 p.m. (Eastern time) January 24, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mery Jackson-Willis, Standards and Applied Sciences Branch (WT-15J), Water Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604, or telephone her at (312) 886-3717.

Copies of the November 12, 1999 letter described above are available upon request by contacting Ms. Jackson-Willis. Those letters and materials submitted by the State in support of their submission that EPA relied upon in preparing this letter (i.e., the docket) are available for review by appointment at: EPA, Region 5, 77 W Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois (telephone 312-886-3717); the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, 1021 North Grand Avenue East, Springfield, Illinois (telephone 217-782-1654). To access the docket material in Chicago, call Ms. Mery Jackson-Willis at (312) 886-3717 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. (central time) (Monday-Friday); in Illinois, call Mr. Toby Frevert at (217) 782-1654 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. (central time).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On March 23, 1995, EPA published the Final Water Quality Guidance for the Great Lakes System (Guidance) pursuant to section 118(c)(2) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1268(c)(2). (March 23, 1995, 60 FR 15366). The Guidance, which was codified at 40 CFR part 132, requires the Great Lakes States to adopt and submit to EPA for approval water quality criteria, methodologies, policies and procedures that are consistent with the Guidance. 40 CFR 132.4 and 132.5. EPA is required to approve of the State's submission within 90 days or notify the State that EPA has determined that all or part of the submission is inconsistent with the Clean Water Act or the Guidance and identify any necessary changes to obtain EPA approval. If the State fails to make the necessary changes within 90 days, EPA must publish a notice in the **Federal Register** identifying the approved and disapproved elements of the submission