

inspection in the Public Reference Room. This filing may be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-5691 Filed 3-8-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2336-041 Georgia]

Georgia Power Company; Notice of Availability of Final Environmental Assessment

March 2, 2000.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's regulations, 18 CFR Part 380 (Order No. 486, 52 FR 47910), the Office of Hydropower Licensing has prepared a final environmental assessment (FEA) for Georgia Power Company's proposal to permit Lambert Sand and Gravel Company to remove sediments by mechanical dredging from the Yellow and South River sections of the project reservoir (Lake Jackson). The Lloyd Shoals Project is located on the Ocumulgee River and its tributaries in Henry, Butts, Jasper, and Newton Counties, Georgia.

The FEA is attached to a Commission order issued on February 15, 2000 for the above application. Copies of the FEA can be obtained by calling the Commission's Public Reference Room at (202) 208-1371. The FEA may also be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (please call (202) 208-2222 for assistance). In the FEA, staff concludes that approval of the licensee's proposal would not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

David P. Boergers,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-5555 Filed 3-8-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2230-028]

City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska; Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment

March 3, 2000.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission's) regulations, the Office of Hydropower Licensing has reviewed the City and Borough of Sitka's application filed on November 1, 1999, requesting the Commission's authorization to permit the Global Water Corporation to construct and operate a new, buried, raw water pipeline across project lands, and has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed action.

The proposed project would include the following specific elements: (1) a tap into the City's existing Pulp Mill Feeder Unit powerhouse tailrace structure (diffusion chamber); and (2) a new 20-inch-diameter, raw water pipeline that would affect approximately 200 feet of City-owned project land located adjacent to the existing powerhouse access road. The proposed pipeline then would extend across non-project lands owned by the State of Alaska situated adjacent to Sawmill Creek Road, and would terminate at Silver Bay where a new mooring facility for loading bulk water into tanker ships would be constructed.

After completion, the pipeline would be used to transport approximately 11,800 acre-feet per year (10.6 million gallons per day) of water from the Blue Lake reservoir to tankers for shipment to purchasers. Blue Lake Project, which was licensed in April 1958, includes a 205-foot-high, concrete arch dam, 1,225-acre reservoir, three powerhouses, and appurtenant facilities, all of which are located within the Borough of Sitka, Alaska.

In the EA, staff indicates that construction of the subject raw water pipeline would result in some minor, short-term adverse impacts to area soils and wildlife. Further, the document indicates that licensee's proposed water withdrawals from Blue Lake reservoir would not result in any major, long-term adverse environmental impacts provided that the order approving the proposed project prohibits water withdrawals when: (1) the elevation of Blue Lake reservoir is at or below the licensee's established rule curve values;

and (2) the withdrawals would interfere with the provision of minimum flows in Sawmill Creek, which are required by Article 401 of the existing license. The EA concludes that approval of the proposed amendment of license with the aforementioned conditions does not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

The EA has been attached to and made part of an Order Approving Non-Project Use of Project Lands and Waters, issued February 23, 2000, for the Blue Lake Hydroelectric Project, FERC No. 2230-028. See 90 FERC ¶ 62,132. Also, the EA is available for inspection at the Commission's Public Reference Room, Room 2A, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426, or by calling (202) 208-1371. Further, the document may be viewed on the Web at www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm. Call (202) 208-2222 for assistance.

For further information, please contact Jim Haimes at (202) 219-2780.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-5685 Filed 3-8-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP00-82-000]

Williams Gas Pipelines Central, Inc.; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Pleasant Hill Power Plant Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

March 2, 2000.

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 Pleasant Hill Power Plant Project involving the construction and operation of natural gas transmission facilities by Williams Gas Pipelines Central, Inc. (Williams) in Franklin County, Kansas and Cass and Johnson Counties, Missouri.¹ These proposed facilities would consist of about 1.5 miles of 24-inch-diameter pipeline and 2,890 horsepower (hp) of compression. This EA will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether the

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

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 provide 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 Kansas and Missouri to provide an additional 44,200 Dekatherms per day (Dth/d) of natural gas in the winter and an additional 88,200 Dth/d of natural gas in the summer to the UtiliCorp United, Inc. (Utilicorp) Pleasant Hill power plant in Cass County, Missouri; to various Utilicorp local distribution systems in western Missouri; and to U.S. Energy Services in Pettis County, Missouri. Williams seeks authority to:

- Construct and operate about 1.5 miles of 24-inch-diameter pipeline, check measurement, and regulation from Williams' Ottawa crossover to the Ottawa Compressor Station in Franklin County, Kansas;
- Upgrade two existing compressor units from 1,350-hp each to 2,000-hp each and add clean-burn technology at its existing Peculiar Compressor Station in Cass County, Missouri; and
- Install an additional 1,590-hp turbine compressor at its existing Peculiar Compressor Station in Cass County, Missouri.

In addition, Williams requests Commission authorization to convert the regulatory authority of an 800-hp compressor unit at its existing Concordia Compressor Station in Johnson County, Missouri, from NGPA Section 311 to Part 284.

The location of the project facilities is shown in appendix 2.

Land Requirements for Construction

Construction of the proposed pipeline would disturb about 13.6 acres of land in Franklin County, Kansas. Following construction, about 12.1 acres would be maintained as permanent right-of-way. This figure includes 5.0 acres of newly disturbed land and 7.1 acres of existing Williams' right-of-way. The remaining 1.5 acres of land would be restored and allowed to revert to its former use. An additional 4.9 acres would be necessary for extra work space, which would be restored to its prior condition following construction. All construction at Williams' Peculiar Compressor Station in Cass County, Missouri would occur within the existing site.

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
- Land use
- Cultural resources
- Air quality and noise

We will also evaluate possible alternatives to the proposed project 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 4.

Public Participation

You can make a difference by providing us with your specific comments or concerns about the project. By becoming a commentor, 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 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. CP00-082-000; and
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before April 3, 2000.

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 play 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 Procedure (18 CFR 385.214) (see appendix 3). Only intervenors have the right to seek rehearing of the Commission's decision.

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, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, or call (202) 208-1371. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.

Affected landowners and parties with environmental concerns may be granted intervenor status upon showing good cause by stating that they have a clear and direct interest in the proceeding which would not be adequately represented by any other parties. 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" link, 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.

David P. Boergers,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-5547 Filed 3-8-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Intent Not To File Application for a New License

MARCH 2, 2000. Take notice that the following notice of intent has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection:

- a. *Type of filing:* Notice of Intent Not to File an Application for New License.
- b. *Project No.:* 477.
- c. *Date filed:* November 12, 1999.
- d. *Submitted By:* Portland General Electric Company, current licensee.
- e. *Name of Project:* Bull Run.
- f. *Location:* On the Sandy, Little Sandy, and Bull Run Rivers in Clackamas County, Oregon.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Section 15 of the Federal Power Act, 18 CFR 16.6.

h. Pursuant to Section 16.19 of the Commission's regulations, the licensee is required to make available the information described in Section 16.7 of the regulations. Such information is available from the licensee at 121 SW Salmon Street, Portland, Oregon 97204.

Interested parties can contact Julie A. Keil, Director, Hydro Licensing, Portland General Electric Company, on (503) 464-8864.

i. *FERC Contact:* Hector Pérez, (202) 219-2843, hector.perez@ferc.fed.us.

j. *Effective Date of Current License:* May 1, 1980.

k. *Expiration Date of Current License:* November 16, 2004.

l. *The project consists of the following existing facilities:* (1) The 40-foot-high and 345-foot-long roller compacted concrete Marmot Diversion Dam, on the Sandy River, with a concrete diversion structure at the right abutment; (2) a 16,280-foot-long flowline consisting of concrete-lined canals, tunnel sections, and a concrete flume; (3) the Little Sandy Dam; (4) a 16,810-foot-long flow line consisting of a treated wood-box flume, concrete-lined canals, and a tunnel section; (5) Roslyn Lake, with a usable storage capacity of 928 acre-feet at elevation 655.27 feet USGS, formed by approximately 8,000 feet of homogeneous earth fill dikes with a maximum height of 45 feet; (6) two 1,400-foot-long penstocks from the outlet structure of Roslyn Lake; (7) a powerhouse containing four units with a rated capacity of 5,250 kW each; (8) a transformer building adjacent to the powerhouse; (9) a 2.8-mile-long transmission line; and (10) appurtenant facilities.

m. The licensee states its unequivocal intent not to submit an application for a new license for Project No. 477, and instead to cause the project to be decommissioned and removed as expeditiously as possible. If the licensee files an application to surrender the current project license and remove the project works, and if the Commission grants such application, there will be no relicense proceeding. Any surrender application filed by the licensee will be the subject of public notice and opportunity for hearing. If the licensee does not, by two years prior to the expiration of the current license, file an application to surrender the current license, the Commission will apply the relicense competition procedures set forth in its regulations at 18 CFR 16.25 (1999).

n. A copy of the notice of intent 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. The notice may be viewed on <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.

David P. Boergers,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-5550 Filed 3-8-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Intent To File an Application for a New License

March 2, 2000.

a. *Type of Filing:* Notice of Intent to File An Application for a New License.

b. *Project No.:* 2181.

c. *Date Filed:* January 27, 2000.

d. *Submitted By:* Northern States Power Company—current licensee.

e. *Name of Project:* Menomonie Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location:* On the Red Cedar River near the City of Menomonie, in Dunn County, Wisconsin.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Section 15 of the Federal Power Act.

h. *Licensee Contact:* Lloyd Everhart, Northern States Power Company, 100 North Barstow Street, P.O. Box 8, Eau Claire, WI 54702 (715) 839-2692.

i. *FERC Contact:* Tom Dean, thomas.dean@ferc.fed.us, (202) 219-2778.

j. *Effective date of current license:* April 1, 1955.

k. *Expiration date of current license:* March 31, 2005.

l. *Description of the Project:* The project consists of the following existing facilities: (1) a 642-foot-long dam comprised of a gated spillway section; (2) a 1,400-acre reservoir at a normal pool elevation of 814 feet msl; (3) a powerhouse containing two generating units with a total installed capacity of 5,400 kW, (4) a short 4.16-kV transmission line; and (5) other appurtenances.

m. Each application for a new license and any competing license applications must be filed with the Commission at least 24 months prior to the expiration of the existing license. All applications for license for this project must be filed by March 31, 2003.

David P. Boergers,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-5551 Filed 3-08-00; 8:45 am]

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