

would have limited adverse environmental impact. The final EIS evaluates alternatives to the proposal, including system alternatives, alternative sites for the LNG import terminal, and pipeline alternatives. The final EIS also contains our final General Conformity Determination.

The purpose of the Port Arthur LNG Project is to allow access to LNG supplies and thus provide a new, stable source of between 1.5 and 3.0 billion cubic feet per day of natural gas to supplement the diminishing supplies while utilizing, to the extent practicable, the existing natural gas pipeline infrastructure within the Gulf of Mexico region of the U.S.; and allow natural gas delivery to markets in the Midwestern and Northeastern markets by use of existing interstate natural gas pipeline systems. Sempra's proposed facilities would be constructed in two phases and would ultimately provide an average of 3.0 billion cubic feet per day of natural gas to the existing pipeline infrastructure in Texas and Louisiana, and to potential other end-users in the Midwestern and Northeastern natural gas markets.

The final EIS addresses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the following facilities in Jefferson and Orange Counties, Texas, and Cameron, Calcasieu, and Beauregard Parishes, Louisiana:

- A protected LNG unloading slip with ship maneuvering area (turning basin);
- LNG ship unloading system consisting of two berths each consisting of four 16-inch unloading arms and one 16-inch vapor return arm, mooring and breasting dolphins, gangway tower, firewater monitors, service utilities and associated valves and piping. LNG transfer from the ship to the on-shore storage system would be through two 36-inch-diameter unloading lines, one per berth. Each berth would be sized for an unloading rate of 17,500 cubic meters per hour ( $\text{m}^3/\text{hr}$ ); although, only one ship would be unloaded at a time during Phase I;
- LNG storage system consisting of a total of six full-containment LNG storage tanks each with a nominal capacity of 160,000 cubic meters ( $\text{m}^3$ ) (1,006,000 barrels). Each tank would be equipped with three can-type, fully submerged LNG in-tank pumps sized for 2,976 gallons per minute (gpm) each;
- Boil-off gas (BOG) recovery system consisting of 4 reciprocating BOG compressors each sized for 13,887 pounds per hour (lb/hr), four integrally geared return gas blowers, each sized for

32,228 lb/hr, and one direct-contact recondenser;

- LNG transfer system to transfer LNG from the recondenser to the send-out LNG vaporizers. The transfer system would consist of 16 pot-mounted LNG booster pumps (two being spares) each sized for 1,964 gpm;

- LNG vaporization system consisting of 12 shell-and-tube LNG vaporizers (two being spares) each sized for 0.305 Bcf/d. The heat source to the vaporizers would be heated water;

- Hot water heating system consisting of 8 gas-fired hot water heaters each sized for 348 million British thermal units per hour (MMBtu/hr) and 6 centrifugal hot water circulation pumps (two being spares) each sized for 11,727 gpm;

- Emergency vent system; LNG spill containment system; fire water system; fuel gas, nitrogen, instrument/plant air and service water utility systems; various hazard detection, control, and prevention systems; and cryogenic piping, electrical, and instrumentation systems;

- Utilities, buildings and support facilities; facilities for pig launchers and receivers; and metering facilities; and

- Approximately 73 miles of 36-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline and associated ancillary pipeline facilities.

The final EIS has been placed in the public files of the FERC and is available for public inspection at: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street, NE., Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426. (202) 502-8371.

A limited number of copies of the final EIS are available from the Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch identified above. In addition, copies of the final EIS have been mailed to Federal, state, and local agencies; elected officials; public interest groups; individuals and affected landowners who requested a copy of the final EIS; and parties to these proceedings.

In accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) regulations implementing the NEPA, no agency decision on a proposed action may be made until 30 days after the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency publishes a notice of availability of the final EIS. However, the CEQ regulations provide an exception to this rule when an agency decision is subject to a formal internal appeal process that allows other agencies or the public to make their views known. In such cases, the agency decision may be made at the same time as the notice of the final EIS is published, allowing both periods to run concurrently. Should the Commission

authorize the proposed Project, it would be subject to a 30-day rehearing period.

Additional information about the Project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at 1-866-208-FERC or on the FERC Internet Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>) using the eLibrary link. Click on the "eLibrary" link, click on "General Search" and enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the Docket Number field. Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at: [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY at (202) 502-8659. The eLibrary link on the FERC Internet Web site also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

**Magalie R. Salas,**  
*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2174-012-California]

#### Southern California Edison; Notice of Availability of Final Environmental Assessment

April 27, 2006.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission or FERC) regulations (18 CFR part 380), Commission staff has reviewed the application for license for the Portal Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2174-012) and has prepared a final environmental assessment (EA). The project is located on Camp 61 Creek and Rancheria Creek in Fresno County, California.

The final EA contains the staff's analysis of the potential environmental effects of the project and concludes that licensing the project, with appropriate environmental protective measures, would not constitute a major federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

Before the Commission makes a licensing decision, it will take into account all concerns relevant to the public interest. The final EA will be part of the record from which the Commission will make its decision. Copies of the final EA are available for

review in Public Reference Room 2-A of the Commission's offices at 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC. The final EA also may be viewed on the Commission's Internet Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>) using the "eLibrary" link. Additional information about the project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at (202) 502-6088, or on the Commission's Web site using the eLibrary link.

Magalie R. Salas,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. E6-6826 Filed 5-4-06; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

#### Notice of Application Accepted for Filing and Soliciting Motions To Intervene, Protests, and Comments

April 27, 2006.

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

a. *Type of Application:* Preliminary Permit.

b. *Project No.:* 12661-000.

c. *Date filed:* March 31, 2006.

d. *Applicant:* Alaska Power & Telephone Company.

e. *Name of Project:* Lake 3160 Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location:* On the Lace River, within the Juneau Borough, Alaska. The proposed project would occupy lands with the Tongass National Forest.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act, 16 U.S.C. 791(a)—825(r).

h. *Applicant Contact:* Mr. Robert S. Grimm, President, Alaska Power & Telephone Company, P.O. Box 3222, Port Townsend, WA 98368 (360) 385-1733 Ext. 120.

i. *FERC Contact:* Patricia W. Gillis at (202) 502-8735.

j. *Deadline for filing comments, protests, and motions to intervene:* 60 days from the issuance date of this notice.

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 in the official service list for the project. 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. *Description of Project:* The proposed project would consist of: (1) Either a siphon intake, directional bore or a 20-foot-high timber buttress dam, (2) an existing reservoir having a surface area of 384 acres and a storage capacity of 7,600 acre-feet with a normal water surface elevation of 3,160 feet mean sea level, (3) a proposed 7,600-foot-long, 21-inch-diameter penstock, (4) a proposed powerhouse having a total installed capacity of 4,000-kilowatts, (5) a proposed 6-mile-long, 14.4/24.9-kilovolt transmission line, and (6) appurtenant facilities. The proposed project would have an average annual generation of 34.1 gigawatt-hours, which would be sold to a local utility.

l. *Locations of Applications:* A copy of the application is available for inspection and reproduction at the Commission in the Public Reference Room, located at 888 First Street NE., Room 2A, Washington DC 20426, or by calling (202) 502-8371. This filing may also be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, call toll-free 1-866-208-3676 or e-mail [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov). For TTY, call (202) 502-8659. A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in item h above.

m. Individuals desiring to be included on the Commission's mailing list should so indicate by writing to the Secretary of the Commission.

n. *Competing Preliminary Permit:* Anyone desiring to file a competing application for preliminary permit for a proposed project must submit the competing application itself, or a notice of intent to file such an application, to the Commission on or before the specified comment date for the particular application (see 18 CFR 4.36). Submission of a timely notice of intent allows an interested person to file the competing preliminary permit application no later than 30 days after the specified comment date for the particular application. A competing preliminary permit application must conform with 18 CFR 4.30(b) and 4.36.

o. *Competing Development Application:* Any qualified development applicant desiring to file a competing development application must submit to the Commission, on or before a specified comment date for the particular application, either a competing development application or a notice of intent to file such an application. Submission of a timely notice of intent to file a development

application allows an interested person to file the competing application no later than 120 days after the specified comment date for the particular application. A competing license application must conform with 18 CFR 4.30(b) and 4.36.

p. *Notice of Intent:* A notice of intent must specify the exact name, business address, and telephone number of the prospective applicant, and must include an unequivocal statement of intent to submit, if such an application may be filed, either a preliminary permit application or a development application (specify which type of application). A notice of intent must be served on the applicant(s) named in this public notice.

q. *Proposed Scope of Studies under Permit:* A preliminary permit, if issued, does not authorize construction. The term of the proposed preliminary permit would be 36 months. The work proposed under the preliminary permit would include economic analysis, preparation of preliminary engineering plans, and a study of environmental impacts. Based on the results of these studies, the Applicant would decide whether to proceed with the preparation of a development application to construct and operate the project.

r. *Comments, Protests, or Motions to Intervene:* Anyone may submit comments, a protest, or a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.210, .211, .214. In determining the appropriate action to take, the Commission will consider all protests or other comments filed, but only those who file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules may become a party to the proceeding. Any comments, protests, or motions to intervene must be received on or before the specified comment date for the particular application.

Comments, protests and interventions may be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper; See 18 CFR 385.2001 (a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site under "e-filing" link. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing.

s. *Filing and Service of Responsive Documents:* Any filings must bear in all capital letters the title "COMMENTS", "RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TERMS AND CONDITIONS", "PROTEST", OR "MOTION TO INTERVENE", as applicable, and the Project Number of the particular application to which the filing refers. Any of the above-named documents must be filed by providing the original and the number of copies provided by the Commission's