

actions. The East and West Fork and Dillsboro projects are located on the Tuckasegee River in Jackson County, North Carolina. The Bryson Project is located on the Oconaluftee River (a tributary to the Tuckasegee River) in Swain County, North Carolina.

In this final EA, Commission staff analyze the probable environmental effects of implementing the projects and conclude that approval of the projects, with appropriate staff-recommended environmental measures, would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

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 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. For assistance with eLibrary, contact FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or call toll-free at (866) 208-3676; for TTY call (202) 502-8659.

For further information, please contact Carolyn Holsopple at (202) 502-6407 or at carolyn.holsopple@ferc.gov.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

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BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2216-066]

Niagara Project; Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Niagara Project and Intention To Hold Public Meetings

July 14, 2006.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) regulations contained in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) (18 CFR part 380 [FERC Order No. 486, 52 FR 47897]), the Office of Energy Projects staff (staff) reviewed the application for a New Major License for the Niagara Project, and have prepared a draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) for the project which is located on the

Niagara River in Niagara County, New York.

The DEIS contains staff's analysis of the applicant's proposal and the alternatives for relicensing the Niagara Project. The DEIS documents the views of governmental agencies, non-governmental organizations, affected Indian tribes, the public, the license applicant, and Commission staff.

A copy of the DEIS is available for review at the Commission or may be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov>, using the "e-Library" link. Enter the docket number, excluding the last three digits, to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll-free at (866) 208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659.

You may also register online at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp> to be notified via e-mail of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

Comments should be filed with Magalie R. Salas, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. All Comments must be filed by September 19, 2006, and should reference the Niagara Project, Project No. 2216-066. Comments may be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and instructions on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the eLibrary link.

Anyone may intervene in this proceeding based on this DEIS (18 CFR 380.10). You must file your request to intervene as specified above.¹ You do not need intervenor status to have your comments considered.

In addition to or in lieu of sending written comments, you are invited to attend a public meeting that will be held to receive comments on the DEIS. The exact time and place of the meeting will be determined soon and announced in a separate notice. At this time, Commission staff intend to hold the meeting in either Niagara Falls or Lewiston near the middle of August.

For further information, please contact Steve Kartalia at (202) 502-6131 or at Stephen.Kartalia@ferc.gov.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E6-11655 Filed 7-21-06; 8:45 am]

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¹ Interventions may also be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. See the previous discussion on filing comments electronically.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2216-066]

Niagara Project; Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Niagara Project and Intention To Hold Public Meetings

July 14, 2006.

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In addition to or in lieu of sending written comments, you are invited to attend a public meeting that will be held to receive comments on the DEIS. The exact time and place of the meeting will be determined soon and announced in a separate notice. At this time, Commission staff intend to hold the meeting in either Niagara Falls or Lewiston near the middle of August.

For further information, please contact Steve Kartalia at (202) 502-6131 or at Stephen.Kartalia@ferc.gov.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

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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

July 14, 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.:* 12677-000.
- c. *Date filed:* May 26, 2006.
- d. *Applicant:* Lake Shannon Hydroelectric Company, LLC.
- e. *Name of Project:* Scoggins Dam Hydroelectric Project.
- f. *Location:* On the Scoggins Creek in Washington County, Oregon. Dam is owned by the Bureau of Reclamation.
- g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act, 16 U.S.C. 791(a)—825(r).
- h. *Applicant Contact:* Mr. Richard W. Rosenberg, P.E., 4141 State Hwy. 508 Cinebar, WA 98533, (360) 985-7195.
- 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 use the existing Bureau of Reclamation's Scoggins Dam and would consist of: (1) A proposed powerhouse containing one to two turbine/generating units having a total installed capacity of 1,000 kilowatts, (2) a proposed 1,000 foot-long transmission line, and (3) appurtenant facilities. The proposed project would have an average annual generation of 6 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. 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, 385.211, 385.214. 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

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