

Company (LG&E), tendered for filing a copy of a Service Agreement between LG&E and SCANA Energy Marketing, Inc. under Rate Schedule GSS—Generation Sales Service.

Comment date: October 3, 1996, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

11. Louisville Gas and Electric Company

[Docket No. ER96-3009-000]

Take notice that on September 16, 1996, Louisville Gas and Electric Company (LG&E), tendered for filing a copy of a service agreement between LG&E and Entergy Services, Inc. under Rate Schedule GSS—Generation Sales Service.

Comment date: October 3, 1996, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

12. Louisville Gas and Electric Company

[Docket No. ER96-3010-000]

Take notice that on September 16, 1996, Louisville Gas and Electric Company (LG&E), tendered for filing a copy of a Purchase and Sales Agreement between LG&E and Williams Energy Services Company under Rate Schedule GSS—Generation Sales Service.

Comment date: October 3, 1996, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

13. Northeast Utilities Service Company

[Docket No. ER96-3011-000]

Take notice that on September 16, 1996, Northeast Utilities Service Company (NUSCO), tendered for filing a Service Agreement to provide Non-Firm Point-to-Point Transmission Service to AIG Trading Corporation under the NU System Companies' Open Access Transmission Service Tariff No. 8.

NUSCO states that a copy of this filing has been mailed to AIG Trading Corporation.

NUSCO requests that the Service Agreement become effective September 13, 1996.

Comment date: October 3, 1996, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

14. Northeast Utilities Service Company

[Docket No. ER96-3012-000]

Take notice that on September 16, 1996, Northeast Utilities Service Company (NUSCO), tendered for filing a Service Agreement to provide Non-Firm Point-to-Point Transmission Service to Federal Energy Sales, Inc. under the NU System Companies' Open Access Transmission Service Tariff No. 8.

NUSCO states that a copy of this filing has been mailed to Federal Energy Sales, Inc.

NUSCO requests that the Service Agreement become effective September 13, 1996.

Comment date: October 3, 1996, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

15. Incorporated County of Los Alamos

[Docket No. OA96-230-000]

Take notice that on September 16, 1996, the Incorporated county of Los Alamos, New Mexico tendered for filing pursuant to 18 CFR 35.28(e)(2) a Request for Waiver of Reciprocity Requirement under FERC Order No. 888, including waiver of any obligation to establish and maintain an OASIS and to separate its merchant and transmission personnel pursuant to FERC Order No. 889.

Comment date: October 3, 1996, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

16. EcoElectrica, L.P.

[Docket No. QF95-328-001]

On September 18, 1996, EcoElectrica, L.P. supplemented its May 28, 1996, filing in this docket. No determination has been made that the submittal constitutes a complete filing.

Comment date: October 3, 1996, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

Standard Paragraph

E. Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said 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 18 CFR 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 this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-24719 Filed 9-25-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

[Docket No. RM95-9-000]

Order Granting Request for Extension of Time for Commencing Phase 1 Oasis Operations and Complying with Standards of Conduct

Issued September 20, 1996.

Open Access Same-time Information System (OASIS) and Standards of Conduct.

Introduction

As discussed below, we will grant a request from the How Working Group for a two-step extension of time of the implementation schedule for compliance with the Phase 1 OASIS requirements and Standards of Conduct (from November 1, 1996), with OASIS operations to begin on a test basis starting on December 2, 1996, and with full commercial operations and compliance with the Standards of Conduct to begin by January 3, 1997.

Background

In Order No. 889, we promulgated regulations that require transmission providers to establish and operate OASIS sites and to comply with Standards of Conduct. The regulations require, among other matters, the posting on an OASIS of transmission-related information and the separation of transmission operation functions and generation marketing functions.¹ Order No. 889 requires OASIS sites, in conformance with the regulations, to be in operation by November 1, 1996.

On September 9, 1996, the How Working Group,² on behalf of the electric industry, filed a letter presenting the above-mentioned request for a two-month, two-step time extension to comply with the Commission's requirements established in Order No. 889. The How Working Group's letter delineates the industry's progress in developing Phase 1 OASIS nodes and in meeting the Commission's November 1, 1996 deadline for compliance. The letter concludes that, despite best efforts, industry members require additional time to meet the Commission's Phase 1 OASIS requirements.³

On September 10, 1996, Siemens Power Systems Control (Siemens) and

¹ See Open Access Same-Time Information System and Standards of Conduct, Final Rule, Order No. 889, FERC Stats. & Regs. ¶ 31,037, 61 Fed. Reg. 21,737 (1996), *reh'g pending*.

² The How Working Group is an industry-led group, with the participation of diverse industry and customer representatives, working to reach consensus on OASIS-related issues.

³ We issued a notice given interested persons an opportunity (until September 16, 1996) to file comments in response to the How Working Group's letter.

ISSC, Inc. (ISSC) filed a letter stating that they expect to be ready to meet and/or exceed the Commission's Phase 1 OASIS requirements by November 1, 1996. They explain that they do not believe that any further delay in the OASIS compliance schedule is required or would be beneficial to the electric industry at large or to "solution providers" such as themselves.

On September 13, 1996, Public Service Company of New Mexico filed an answer in support of the How Working Group's request for a time extension. On September 16, 1996, Electric Clearinghouse Inc. (Electric Clearinghouse) and Enron Power Marketing, Inc. (Enron) filed comments supporting the request of the How Working Group for a two-step time extension, so long as the Commission does not delay implementation of the Standards of Conduct that, they claim, are not dependent on implementation of the OASIS for compliance.

On that same date, comments supporting the How Working Group's request for a time extension were filed by Centerior Energy Corporation, El Paso Electric Company, Jacksonville Electric Authority, Public Service Company of Colorado, Salt River Project Agricultural Improvement and Power District, and Tuscon Electric Power Company. These comments describe problems that have arisen in meeting the Commission's November 1, 1996 deadline and urge that we grant the How Working Group's request. Additionally, on September 17, 1996, a group of eight utilities⁴ filed an answer in support of the How Working Group's request. This group offers the Commission's September 10, 1996 order issuing a revised Standards and Protocols document⁵ as a reason why a short time extension is appropriate.

Also on September 17, 1996, comments were filed by Power System Engineering Inc. (PSE), a participant in the How Working Group. PSE supports a staged implementation schedule, as advanced by the How Working Group, but advocates additional stages, with operational OASIS test nodes publicly available on the Internet for all regions on November 1, 1996, followed by the incremental posting of transmission paths on successive dates, leading to

full commercial implementation by January 3, 1997.⁶

Discussion

After a review of the How Working Group's request and related comments, we agree that the How Working Group's suggested two-step modification to the timetable contained in Order No. 889 is appropriate. At the time that we issued Order No. 889, we did so with the knowledge that the schedule contained therein, for the development and implementation of a new information system, was ambitious. In our view, the How Working Group, and the industry at large, appear to be making best efforts to comply with these new requirements, but need additional time to complete their work.

While we do not believe that a longer extension would be warranted, we will grant the How Working Group's request for a two-step, two-month extension, with test operations to begin by December 2, 1996, and with full commercial operations to begin by January 3, 1997. We will not adopt the suggested alternative approach advocate by PSE, as it appears both vague and too complicated.

While we are pleased to learn that Siemens/ISSC will be ready to meet the Commission's OASIS requirements by November 1, 1996, we are persuaded by the How Working Group's letter and the responses to that letter that other affected entities may need more time to complete their preparations, and we are making our decision on this basis.

Under the How Working Group's proposal, all required OASIS nodes will be operational and available for public access on or before December 2, 1996. After that time, users will be able to access and download all required OASIS information and will be able to submit electronic forms and upload data, as required by the OASIS Standards and Protocols. However, all user interactions initially will be on a test basis only, with no transmission service reservations being executed on the OASIS and no OASIS transactions being binding on any party. This testing period will allow providers and users to develop and test their capabilities to use the system. We find this proposal acceptable and approve it. Our time extension for commercial operations until January 3, 1997 is based on the availability of the OASIS on a test basis, as outlined by the How Working Group's proposal, starting on December 2, 1996.

Notwithstanding the objections of Electric Clearinghouse and Enron, we also will extend the compliance date for the Standards of Conduct until January 3, 1997 because OASIS implementation is essential to compliance with the required separation for functions. In light of this extension of time, transmission providers need not comply with section 37.4(c) of our regulations, *Maintenance of Written Procedures*, until January 3, 1997, at which time they must file written procedures detailing their actions to implement the Standards of Conduct.

The Commission orders: The request of the How Working Group for a two-month, two-step extension of time before transmission providers are required to commence full commercial Phase 1 OASIS operations and comply with the Standards of Conduct is hereby granted, as discussed in the body of this order.

By the Commission.
Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,
Acting Secretary.
[FR Doc. 96-24718 Filed 9-25-96; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5614-8]

Acid Rain Program: Permit and Permit Modifications

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of permit and permit modifications.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is issuing, as a direct final action, a Phase I Acid Rain permit and permit modifications including nitrogen oxides (NO_x) compliance plans in accordance with the Acid Rain Program regulations (40 CFR parts 72 and 76). Because the Agency does not anticipate receiving adverse comments, the exemptions are being issued as a direct final action.

DATES: The permit and permit modifications issued in this direct final action will be final on November 5, 1996 or 40 days after publication of a similar notice in a local publication, whichever is later, unless significant, adverse comments are received by October 28, 1996 or 30 days after publication of a similar notice in a local publication, whichever is later. If significant, adverse comments are timely received on any permit or permit modification in this direct final action, that permit or permit modification will

⁴ This group is comprised of Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc., Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Boston Edison Company, Central Vermont Public Service Corporation, Montaup Electric Company, Vermont Electric Power Company, Virginia Electric and Power Company, and Wisconsin Public Service Corporation.

⁵ See Open Access Same-Time Information System and Standards of Conduct, Order Issuing Revised OASIS Standards and Protocols Document, 76 FERC ¶ __, __ (1996).

⁶ On this same date, Edison Electric Institutes also filed a letter supporting the How Working Group's request for an extension.