

principles for implementing BPA's Transmission System Vegetation Management Program. In accordance with the Federal Columbia River Transmission System Act of 1974, the Administrator "shall operate and maintain the Federal transmission system to * * * maintain the electrical stability and electrical reliability of the Federal (transmission) system * * *." In order to ensure safe and reliable power, BPA must control the vegetation on land around the electrical transmission facilities.

BPA has invited the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management to be cooperating agencies in this EIS process. They have been asked to participate in the formal scoping process; to review resource analysis; and to assist in developing alternative principles to guide the standards, techniques, and procedures used in BPA's Transmission System Vegetation Management Program. These agencies were invited because they manage some of the land where BPA transmission facilities are located.

BPA invites public comment on the range of actions, alternatives, and impacts to be addressed in the Transmission System Vegetation Management Program EIS.

DATES: BPA has established a scoping period during which affected landowners, concerned citizens, special interest groups, local governments, and any other interested parties are invited to comment on the scope of the EIS. BPA will hold one scoping meeting (possibly more depending on public interest) and will contact tribes, agencies, and groups interested in BPA's Vegetation Management Program. Written comments are due to the address below no later than July 23, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Send comment letters and requests to be placed on the project mailing list to Communications, Bonneville Power Administration—ACS-7, P.O. Box 12999, Portland, Oregon, 97212. The phone number of the Communications office is 503-230-3478 in Portland (toll-free 1-800-622-4519 outside of Portland); or comment at our internet address at: comment@bpa.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Tammie Vincent at (503) 230-3469, Bonneville Power Administration—ECN-4, P.O. Box 3621, Portland, Oregon, 97208-3621.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: BPA owns and operates a high-voltage transmission system throughout Washington and Oregon, and in parts of Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, and

California. To ensure safe, reliable service, vegetation is managed as part of the normal operation of the transmission system.

Proposed Action

BPA proposes to review its Transmission System Vegetation Management Program and set principles to guide the planning and implementation of vegetation management techniques used in the program. The objective of the proposed action is to provide the most cost-effective, efficient, and environmentally acceptable means of controlling vegetation that may threaten transmission system safety and reliability. General issues the EIS may address include the following: vegetation management, land management, water quality management, fish and wildlife management, threatened and endangered species management, cultural resources management, and economic effects. Additional issues may be identified by the public scoping process; scoping may also eliminate some issues from in-depth analysis. The EIS will develop broad, program-wide standards and practices for planning and implementing vegetation management. Site-specific analysis would then be tiered to the Program EIS, when needed.

Information developed from other environmental reviews, especially concerning vegetation management in the Pacific Northwest, may be included in the BPA Transmission System Vegetation Management Program EIS, as appropriate.

Current Practice

BPA currently manages vegetation with a mix of techniques on a project-by-project basis. This approach does not foster consistency across projects, jurisdictions, BPA's regions, or over time. BPA needs to find a way to ensure consistency.

Alternatives Proposed for Consideration

Alternatives to be considered in the BPA Transmission System Vegetation Management Program EIS would include alternative vegetation management planning and implementation principles for each management issue addressed. The EIS will also consider a No Action alternative, i.e., continuing project-by-project vegetation management without defined program-or region-wide standards and guidelines.

Identification of Environmental Issues

The environmental issues associated with transmission system vegetation management include potential effects on land use, vegetation communities, water quality, human health and safety, and wildlife populations.

Issued in Portland, Oregon, on June 6, 1997.

Randall W. Hardy,

Administrator and Chief Executive Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-15711 Filed 6-13-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6540-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. ER97-1546-001]

Illinova Energy Partners, Inc.; Notice of Filing

June 10, 1997.

Take notice that on May 5, 1997, Illinova Energy Partners, Inc. tendered for filing its compliance filing in the above-referenced docket.

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, NE., Washington, DC 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 June 20, 1997. 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. 97-15657 Filed 6-13-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP97-558-000]

Northern Natural Gas Company; Notice of Request Under Blanket Authorization

June 10, 1997.

Take notice that on June 2, 1997, Northern Natural Gas Company

(Northern), 1111 South 103rd Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68124-1000, filed in Docket No. CP97-558-000 a request pursuant to Sections 157.205, 157.212 and 157.216 of the Commission's Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.205, 157.212 and 157.216) for authorization to upgrade the Baldwin #1 TBS and to retire the existing meter and appurtenant facilities associated with the proposed upgrade, under Northern's blanket certificate issued in Docket No. CP82-401-000 pursuant to Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act, all as more fully set forth in request on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Northern proposes to upgrade the Baldwin #1 TBS, an existing delivery point located in St. Croix County, Wisconsin, to accommodate increased natural gas deliveries to Wisconsin Gas Company (WGC) under Northern's currently effective throughput service agreement(s). Northern states that WGC requested that the Baldwin #1 TBS be upgraded due to a growth of natural gas requirements in that area. The proposed increase in volumes to be delivered to WGC at the Baldwin #1 TBS are 60 MMBtu on a peak day and 5,414 MMBtu on an annual basis. The total estimated upgrade is \$90,000 and all construction will be completed within the existing station yard with minimal ground disturbance.

Northern states that the proposed activity is not prohibited by its existing tariff, that it has sufficient capacity for deliveries without detriment or disadvantage to other customers and that the total volumes delivered will not exceed total volumes authorized prior to this request.

Any person or the Commission's staff may, within 45 days after issuance of the instant notice by the Commission, file pursuant to Rule 214 of the Commission's Procedural Rules (18 CFR 385.214) a motion to intervene or notice of intervention and pursuant to Section 157.205 of the Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.205) a protest to the request. If no protest is filed within the time allowed therefore, the proposed activity shall be deemed to be authorized effective the day after the time allowed for filing a protest. If a protest is filed and not withdrawn within 30 days after the time allowed for filing a protest, the instant request shall be treated as an application for authorization pursuant to Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-15655 Filed 6-13-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. EC97-37-000]

Tucson Electric Power Company; Notice of Filing

June 10, 1997.

Take notice that on June 2, 1997, Tucson Electric Power Company (TEP) submitted an application pursuant to Section 203 of the Federal Power Act for authority to effect a "disposition of facilities" that would be deemed to occur as a result of the implementation of a proposed holding company structure.

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 July 7, 1997. 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 proceedings. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-15656 Filed 6-13-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. ER97-2936-000]

Wisconsin Power & Light Company; Notice of Filing

June 10, 1997.

Take notice that on May 14, 1997, Wisconsin Power & Light Company tendered for filing a temporary revision to its Emergency Energy Service Schedules in its Bulk Power Sales Tariff and its Interconnection/Interchange Agreements with Wisconsin Electric Power Company, Madison Gas and Electric, and Wisconsin Public Power Inc. System. This change will allow WP&L to recover costs incurred in the Share the Pain program. WP&L is requesting an effective date of May 15, 1997, and a termination date of September 30, 1997.

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 305.214). All such motions or protests should be filed on or before June 20, 1997. 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. 97-15658 Filed 6-13-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. ER97-3060-000, et al.]

Southern Company Services, Inc., et al. Electric Rate and Corporate Regulation Filings

June 9, 1997.

Take notice that the following filings have been made with the Commission:

1. Southern Company Services, Inc.

[Docket No. ER97-3060-000]

Take notice that on May 27, 1997, Southern Company Services, Inc. ("SCS"), acting on behalf of Alabama Power Company, Georgia Power Company, Gulf Power Company, Mississippi Power Company, and Savannah Electric and Power Company (collectively referred to as "Southern Companies") filed one (1) service agreement between SCS, as agent for Southern Companies, and the City of Tallahassee, Florida for firm point-to-point transmission service and one (1) service agreement between SCS, as agent for Southern Companies, and Kentucky Utilities Company for non-firm point-to-point transmission service under Part II of the Open Access Transmission Tariff of Southern Companies.

Comment date: June 23, 1997, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

2. Central Illinois Public Service Company

[Docket No. ER97-3065-000]

Take notice that on May 27, 1997, Central Illinois Public Service Company