

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* 18 CFR 4.200.

h. *Applicant Contact:* Sara S. Bell, Bath County Pumped Storage Station, HRC-01, Box 280, Warm Springs, VA 24484-9714, (540) 279-3068.

i. *FERC Contact:* Robert Fletcher, robert.fletcher@ferc.fed.us, 202-219-1206.

j. *Deadline for Filing Comments, Motions to Intervene and Protest:* 14 days from the issuance date of this notice. Please include the project number (2716-033) on any comments or motions filed. All documents (original and eight copies) should be filed with: David P. Boergers, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426.

k. *Description of Application:* On June 15, 1999, the Commission approved a short-term variance (which will expire on August 12, 1999) to reduce the minimum flow requirements of article 42 to conserve the conservation pool at the project. The licensee continues to consult with the various resource agencies. The current situation is similar to that which existed last year for the project whereby the conservation pool was depleted, then the minimum flow was reduced. The license proposes to begin reducing flow releases proportional to the depleted volume of the conservation pool. Normal operating discharges will resume once the conservation pool is refilled.

l. *Locations of the Application:* A copy of the application is available for inspection and reproduction at the Commission's Public Reference Room, located at 888 First Street, N.E., Room 2A, Washington, D.C. 20426, or by calling (202) 208-1371. This filing 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.

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

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.

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 regulations to: The Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426. A copy of any motion to intervene must also be served upon each representative of the Applicant specified in the particular application.

Agency Comments—Federal, state, and local agencies are invited to file comments on the described application. A copy of the application may be obtained by agencies directly from the Applicant. If an agency does not file comments within the time specified for filing comments, it will be presumed to have no comments. One copy of an agency's comments must also be sent to the Applicant's representatives.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-19388 Filed 7-28-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project Nos. 2364-000; 2365-000]

Madison Paper Industries Maine; Madison Paper Industries' Request To use Alternative Procedures in Filing Hydroelectric License Applications

July 23, 1999.

By letter dated July 12, 1999, Madison Paper Industries (Madison), asked for Commission approval to use an alternative procedures in a filing application for the 9-megawatt (MW) Anson Project, No. 2365, and the 17-MW Abenaki Project, No. 2364.¹ Madison has demonstrated that it made a reasonable effort to contact the resource agencies, Indian tribes, non-

¹ The projects are located on the Kennebec River in the towns of Anson and Madison, Somerset County, Maine. The Anson impoundment encompasses about 7 miles of the Kennebec River and 0.5 mile of the Carrabassett River. The Abenaki impoundment encompasses about 0.5 mile of the Kennebec River immediately below the Anson Project.

governmental organizations (NGOs), and others who may be affected by their proposal, and has submitted a communication protocol governing how participants in the proposed process communicate with each other. Madison believes there is a consensus on using the alternative process, and it appears that the use of an alternative procedure may be appropriate in this case.

The purpose of this notice is to invited comments on Madison's request to use the alternative procedure, as required by section 4.34(i)(5) of the Commission's regulations. Additional notices seeking comments on specific project proposals, interventions and protests, and recommended terms and conditions will be issued at a later date.

The alternative procedure combines the prefiling consultation process with the environmental review process and allows the applicant to file an Applicant-Prepared Environmental Assessment (APEA) in lieu of Exhibit E of the license applications. This differs from the traditional process, in which the applicant consults with agencies, Indian tribes, and NGOs during preparation of the application for the license and before filing it, but the Commission staff performs the environmental review after the application is filed. The alternative procedure is intended to simplify and expedite the licensing process by combining the prefiling consultation and environmental review processes into a single process, to facilitate greater participation, and to improve communication and cooperation among the participants. The alternative procedure can be tailored to the project under consideration.

Alternative Process and the Anson and Abenaki Projects

Madison intends on preparing an APEA for the projects to: consolidate and streamline the licensing process; provide for the early identification of environmental impacts; take into account cumulative project impacts and evaluate alternatives for addressing those impacts; and promote early, comprehensive settlement discussions.

On February 12, 1999, Madison distributed an Initial Stage Consultation Document for the projects to state and federal resource agencies, Indian tribes, and NGOs. Madison scheduled a meeting for all interested parties on February 24 and 25, 1999, respectively. During spring 1999, Madison developed and consulted on survey plans for ambient water quality, benthic macroinvertebrates, and fisheries. These surveys are being conducted during summer and early fall, 1999. Public

scoping meetings and a site visit are planned for Fall 1999, when additional study requests will be requested. The applications, including the applicant-prepared EA, would be filed with the Commission before May 1, 2002, the expiration date of Madison's current licenses. Each application would include a common multi-project APEA, adapted, as necessary, to the individual application.

Comments

Interested parties have 30 days from the date of this notice to file with the Commission, any comments on Madison's proposal to use the alternative procedures to file applications for the Anson and Abenaki Projects.

Filing Requirements

The comments must be filed by providing an original and 8 copies as required by the Commission's regulations to: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Office of the Secretary, Dockets—Room 1A, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426.

All comments filings must bear the heading "Comments on the Alternative Procedure," and include the names and numbers of the projects:

Abenaki Hydro Project, No. 2364

Anson Hydro Project, No. 2365

For further information, please contact Nan Allen of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission at 202-219-2938, or E-mail at Nan.Allen@ferc.fed.us.

Lindwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-19389 Filed 7-28-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Amendment to License and Soliciting Comments, Motions To Intervene, and Protests

July 23, 1999.

Take notice that the following application to amend the project license has been filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and is available for public inspection.

a. *Type of Application:* Amendment to License.

b. *Project Name:* Catawba-Wateree Project.

c. *Project No.:* FERC Project No. 2232-393.

d. *Date Filed:* May 28, 1999.

e. *Applicant:* Duke Energy Corporation.

f. *Location:* Counties and lakes affected in North Carolina: *Counties:* Alexander, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, McDowell, and Mecklenburg. *Lakes:* James, Rhodiss, Hickory, Lookout Shoals, Norman, and Mountain Island. Counties and Lakes affected in South Carolina: *Counties:* Chester, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lancaster, and York. *Lakes:* Wylie, Fishing Creek, Great Falls, Rocky Creek, and Wateree.

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

h. *Applicant Contact:* Mr. E.M. Oakley, Duke Energy Corporation, P.O. Box 1006 (EC12Y), Charlotte, NC 28201-1006, (704) 382-5778.

i. *FERC Contact:* Brian Romanek, brian.romanek@ferc.fed.us, (202) 219-3076.

j. *Deadline for filing motions to intervene, protest and comments:* September 7, 1999.

k. *Description of the filing:* Pursuant to Commission's Order Approving and Modifying Shoreline Management Plan for the Catawba-Wateree Hydroelectric Project, the licensee filed, for Commission approval, revised Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) Maps on September 30, 1998 (based, in part, on results of a Shallow Water Fish Habitat Study). Subsequently, the licensee requested additional time to conduct field verification of the maps and additional consultation with the resource agencies and other interested parties to refine and modify these maps. On May 28, 1999, the licensee filed the updated version of the Shoreline Management Plan maps and associated information.

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.

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 regulations to: The Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426. A copy of any motion to intervene must also be served upon each representative of the Applicant specified in the particular application.

Agency Comments—Federal, state, and local agencies are invited to file comments on the described application. A copy of the application may be obtained by agencies directly from the Applicant. If an agency does not file comments within the time specified for filing comments, it will be presumed to have no comments. One copy of an agency's comments must also be sent to the Applicant's representatives.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-19390 Filed 7-28-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

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

July 24, 1999.

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.:* 1786-000.

c. *Date Filed:* July 2, 1999.

d. *Applicant:* Universal Electric Power Corporation.

e. *Name of Project:* Independence Dam Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location:* On the Maumee River near the towns of Defiance and Independence, in Defiance County, Ohio. The dam is owned by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act, 16 USC 791(a)-825(r).

h. *Applicant Contact:* Gregory S. Feltenberger, Universal Electric Power Corporation, 1145 Highbrook Street, Akron, Ohio 44301, (330) 535-7115.

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

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

All documents (original and eight copies) should be filed with: David P.