

is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection. Additionally, Southern Star requests a determination that the project qualifies for market based rates pursuant to section 4(f) of the NGA. 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 (866) 208-3676 or TTY, (202) 502-8659.

Any questions regarding this application should be directed to David N. Roberts, Manager, Regulatory Affairs, Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc., 4700 Highway 56, Owensboro, Kentucky 42301, or by calling (270) 852-4654 (telephone) or (270) 852-5010 (fax).

Pursuant to section 157.9 of the Commission's rules, 18 CFR 157.9, within 90 days of this Notice the Commission staff will either: complete its environmental assessment (EA) and place it into the Commission's public record (eLibrary) for this proceeding, or issue a Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review. If a Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review is issued, it will indicate, among other milestones, the anticipated date for the Commission staff's issuance of the final environmental impact statement (FEIS) or EA for this proposal. The filing of the EA in the Commission's public record for this proceeding or the issuance of a Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review will serve to notify federal and state agencies of the timing for the completion of all necessary reviews, and the subsequent need to complete all federal authorizations within 90 days of the date of issuance of the Commission staff's FEIS or EA.

There are two ways to become involved in the Commission's review of this project. First, any person wishing to obtain legal status by becoming a party to the proceedings for this project should, on or before the comment date stated below, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC., 20426, a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214 or 385.211) and the Regulations under the NGA (18 CFR 157.10). A person obtaining party status will be placed on the service list maintained by the Secretary of the Commission and will receive copies of all documents filed by the applicant and by all other parties. A party must submit 14 copies of filings made with the Commission and must mail a copy to the applicant and to every other party in

the proceeding. Only parties to the proceeding can ask for court review of Commission orders in the proceeding.

However, a person does not have to intervene in order to have comments considered. The second way to participate is by filing with the Secretary of the Commission, as soon as possible, an original and two copies of comments in support of or in opposition to this project. The Commission will consider these comments in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but the filing of a comment alone will not serve to make the filer a party to the proceeding. The Commission's rules require that persons filing comments in opposition to the project provide copies of their protests only to the party or parties directly involved in the protest.

Persons who wish to comment only on the environmental review of this project should submit an original and two copies of their comments to the Secretary of the Commission. Environmental commenters will be placed on the Commission's environmental mailing list, will receive copies of the environmental documents, and will be notified of meetings associated with the Commission's environmental review process. Environmental commenters will not be required to serve copies of filed documents on all other parties. However, the non-party commenters will not receive copies of all documents filed by other parties or issued by the Commission (except for the mailing of environmental documents issued by the Commission) and will not have the right to seek court review of the Commission's final order.

Motions to intervene, protests and comments 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 the "e-Filing" link. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings.

Comment Date: November 9, 2009.

Kimberly D. Bose,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. E9-25622 Filed 10-23-09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 13562-000]

Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation; Notice of Competing Preliminary Permit Application Accepted for Filing and Soliciting Comments and Motions To Intervene

October 19, 2009.

On July 31, 2009, the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (MDNRC) filed an application for a preliminary permit, pursuant to section 4(f) of the Federal Power Act, proposing to study the feasibility of the Ruby River Power Project, which would be located at the existing Ruby River Dam on the Ruby River, in Madison County, Montana. The sole purpose of a preliminary permit, if issued, is to grant the permit holder priority to file a license application during the permit term. A preliminary permit does not authorize the permit holder to perform any land disturbing activities or otherwise enter upon lands or waters owned by others without the owners' express permission.

The proposed project would use the existing 111-foot-high, 846-foot-long earthen dam with spillway, and the existing 635-foot-long, 90-inch horseshoe-shaped tunnel conduit. MDNRC proposes to construct and install: (1) A new 60-inch-diameter, 635-foot-long steel liner in the existing dam outlet conduit; (2) a new 60-inch-diameter, 100-foot-long steel penstock extending to a bifurcation; (3) a new 60-inch-diameter, 50-foot-long steel penstock extending from the bifurcation to the powerhouse; (4) a new 60-inch-diameter, 50-foot-long steel conduit extending from the bifurcation to an energy dissipation structure for excess flows and bypass during turbine outages; (5) a new powerhouse containing two generating units with a combined installed capacity of 1,800 kilowatts, discharging flows into the Ruby River; (6) a new substation next to the powerhouse; (7) a new 25-kilovolt, 6,000-foot-long transmission line; (8) a new switchyard at the interconnection point with the local grid; (9) a new approximately 650-foot-long access road and bridge across the river channel; (10) a new 50-foot by 60-foot parking area; and (11) appurtenant facilities. The proposed project would have an average annual generation of 7.6 gigawatt-hours.

Applicant Contact: Kevin Smith, State Water Projects Bureau, Montana Department of Natural Resources and

Conservation, 1424 9th Ave., P.O. Box 201601, Helena, MT 59620-1601; phone: (406) 444-6646.

FERC Contact: Dianne Rodman, (202) 502-6077.

Competing Application: This application competes with Project No. 13360-000 filed January 29, 2009. The May 8, 2009 notice for Project No. 13360-000 established a July 7, 2009 deadline for filing competing applications and notices of intent to file a competing application. MDNRC's notice of intent to file a competing application was timely filed on June 3, 2009, and its competing application was timely filed on July 31, 2009.

Deadline for filing comments and motions to intervene: 60 days from the issuance of this notice. Comments and motions to intervene may be filed electronically via the Internet. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ferconline.asp>) under the "eFiling" link. For a simpler method of submitting text only comments, click on "Quick Comment." For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov; call toll-free at (866) 208-3676; or, for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659. Although the Commission strongly encourages electronic filing, documents may also be paper-filed. To paper-file, mail an original and eight copies to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426.

More information about this project, including a copy of the application, can be viewed or printed on the "eLibrary" link of Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/elibrary.asp>. Enter the docket number (P-13562) in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

Kimberly D. Bose,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. E9-25620 Filed 10-23-09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 13556-000]

Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation; Notice of Competing Preliminary Permit Application Accepted for Filing and Soliciting Comments and Motions To Intervene

October 19, 2009.

On July 16, 2009, the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (MDNRC) filed an application for a preliminary permit, pursuant to section 4(f) of the Federal Power Act, proposing to study the feasibility of the Tongue River Power Project, which would be located at the existing Tongue River Reservoir Dam on the Tongue River, in Big Horn County, Montana. The sole purpose of a preliminary permit, if issued, is to grant the permit holder priority to file a license application during the permit term. A preliminary permit does not authorize the permit holder to perform any land disturbing activities or otherwise enter upon lands or waters owned by others without the owners' express permission.

The proposed project would use the existing 93-foot-high, 1,824-foot-long earthen dam with spillway, and the existing 765-foot-long, 16-foot-diameter horseshoe-shaped auxiliary outlet conduit. MDNRC proposes to construct and install: (1) A new 8-foot-diameter, 765-foot-long steel liner in the existing auxiliary outlet conduit; (2) a new 8-foot-diameter, 400-foot-long steel penstock extending to a bifurcation; (3) a new 8-foot-diameter, 60-foot-long steel penstock extending from the bifurcation to the powerhouse; (4) a new 8-foot-diameter, 60-foot-long steel conduit extending from the bifurcation to an energy dissipation structure for excess flows and bypass during turbine outages; (5) a new powerhouse containing two generating units with a combined installed capacity of 3,000 kilowatts, discharging flows into the Tongue River; (6) a new substation next to the powerhouse; (7) a new 25-kilovolt, 0.75-mile-long transmission line; (8) a new switchyard at the interconnection point with the local grid; and (9) appurtenant facilities. The proposed project would have an average annual generation of 11.5 gigawatt-hours.

Applicant Contact: Kevin Smith, State Water Projects Bureau, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, 1424 9th Ave., P.O. Box

201601, Helena, MT 59620-1601; phone: (406) 444-6646.

FERC Contact: Dianne Rodman, (202) 502-6077.

Competing Application: This application competes with Project No. 13372-000 filed February 12, 2009. The April 23, 2009 notice for Project No. 13372-000 established a June 22, 2009 deadline for filing competing applications and notices of intent to file a competing application. MDNRC's notice of intent to file a competing application was timely filed on June 2, 2009, and its competing application was timely filed on July 16, 2009.

Deadline for filing comments and motions to intervene: 60 days from the issuance of this notice. Comments and motions to intervene may be filed electronically via the Internet. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ferconline.asp>) under the "eFiling" link. For a simpler method of submitting text only comments, click on "Quick Comment." For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov; call toll-free at (866) 208-3676; or, for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659. Although the Commission strongly encourages electronic filing, documents may also be paper-filed. To paper-file, mail an original and eight copies to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426.

More information about this project, including a copy of the application, can be viewed or printed on the "eLibrary" link of Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/elibrary.asp>. Enter the docket number (P-13556) in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

Kimberly D. Bose,

Secretary.

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