

p.m. to 10:00 p.m. The Department had earlier announced (60 FR 19899, April 21, 1995) that this meeting would be held in the Carolina Power and Light Visitors Center, Southport, North Carolina.

Issued in Washington, DC on May 3, 1995.

**Jill E. Lytle,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Waste Management, Environmental Management.*

[FR Doc. 95-11558 Filed 5-10-95; 8:45 am]

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### Notice of Noncompetitive Financial Assistance for Cooperative Agreement Award

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Energy (DOE), announces that pursuant to the DOE Financial Assistance Rules 10 CFR 600.7(b)(2), it is pursuing a noncompetitive financial assistance award to Stone & Webster Engineering Corporation for the continuation of Phase II of the High Pressure Heat Exchange Project.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Susan Borthwick, U.S. Department of Energy, Chicago Operations Office, 9800 South Cass Avenue, Argonne, IL 60439, (708) 252-2377.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The objective of Stone and Webster Engineering Corporation's High Pressure Heat Exchange System (HiPHES) project is to develop an advanced high pressure heat exchanger using ceramic tubes for a convective steam/methane reformer. Under this continuation of Phase II of the Cooperative Agreement the Participant will conduct the research necessary to resolve key R&D issues identified and prioritized in Phase I, participate in the testing of candidate ceramic material and candidate joints under simulated reformer conditions, bring the technology and design to the point where a prototype unit can be built and operated in Phase III, if funded, and temporarily redirect the project toward the use of ceramic tubes for ethylene production.

DOE's purpose for continuing the cooperative agreement is to enable Stone & Webster to satisfactorily complete an activity presently being funded by DOE. There are significant engineering and design challenges associated with the development of a 30 foot long ceramic-tubed steam/methane reformer. Since ethylene cracking at higher temperatures is similar to the present work in some respects, and is an easier development problem to solve, the information generated during this intermediate step will be used to help

guide the development of a steam/methane reformer.

Stone & Webster is an integrated provider of ethylene technology for the world's ethylene market. Because of Stone & Webster's leading position in the ethylene industry, new technology development, such as a more efficient furnace design, and advanced ceramic reactors, can expeditiously be incorporated into new and/or revamped ethylene plants in the U.S. and worldwide. The Stone & Webster effort is supported by a complex team of Participants (including various monolithic and ceramic composite manufacturers and consultants) with the necessary expertise, and the company has been working with DOE in the development of a higher temperature ceramic-tubed steam/methane reformer since 1988.

Eligibility for continuation of the cooperative agreement award is being restricted to Stone & Webster Engineering Corporation because of its past experience with the DOE and its unique institutional ties and expertise. The estimated cost to complete Phase II is \$1.8 million dollars. The award date is on or about May 15, 1995.

Issued in Chicago, Illinois on April 21, 1995.

**Timothy S. Crawford,**

*Assistant Manager for Human Resources and Administration.*

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### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 1962-000-CA]

#### Pacific Gas and Electric Company; Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment and to Conduct a Site Visit and Two Scoping Meetings for the Rock Creek—Cresta Project

May 5, 1995.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) has received an application for a new license (relicense) from the Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E or applicant) for the constructed and operating Rock Creek—Cresta Project, located on the North Fork Feather River near the towns of Quincy and Oroville, in Butte, Plumas, Sutter, and Yuba Counties, California.

Upon review of the application and supplemental filings, the Commission staff has concluded that relicensing the two developments that comprise the existing project would not constitute a

major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. Consequently, staff will prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) that describes and evaluates the probable impacts of implementing the applicant's proposed and alternative; operational and maintenance procedures; environmental enhancement measures; and improved public recreational access and facilities at the Rock Creek and Cresta Developments.

The staff's EA: will consider both site specific and cumulative environmental impacts of relicensing the project; and will include economic and financial analyses of applicant's proposed and alternative environmental enhancement measures and sediment management procedures.

A Draft EA will be issued and circulated for review by all interested parties. All comments filed on the Draft EA will be analyzed by the FERC staff and considered in a final EA.

One element of the EA process is scoping and a site visit. These activities are initiated early to:

- Identify reasonable alternative operational procedures and environmental enhancement measures that should be evaluated in the EA;
- Identify significant environmental issues related to the operation of the existing project;
- Determine the depth of analysis for issues that will be discussed in the EA; and
- Identify resource issues that are of lesser importance and, consequently, do not require detailed analysis in the EA.

#### Site Visit

A site visit to the Rock Creek and Cresta Developments will be held on Wednesday, June 14, 1995, starting at 9:00 A.M. at PG&E's Rodgers Flat operational headquarters, located off Highway 70 in Storrer, California. The purpose of the visit is for interested persons to observe existing area resources and site conditions, learn the locations of proposed new recreational facilities, and discuss project operational procedures with representatives of PG&E and the Commission.

For details concerning the site visit, please contact Bill Zemke of PG&E in San Francisco, California at (415) 973-1646.

#### Scoping Meetings

The FERC staff will conduct two scoping meetings: the evening meeting is designed to obtain input from the general public, while the morning meeting will focus on resource agency

concerns. All interested individuals, organizations, agencies, and Indian Tribes are invited to attend either or both meetings in order to assist staff in identifying the scope of environmental issues that should be analyzed in the EA.

To help focus discussions, an EA scoping document will be distributed by mail to all persons and entities on the FERC mailing list for the Rock Creek—Cresta Project. Copies of the scoping document also will be made available at the scoping meetings.

The evening meeting for the general public will be held from 7:00 P.M. until 10:00 P.M. on Wednesday, June 14, 1995, in the conference room at the Oroville Public Library, located at 1820 Mitchell Avenue, Oroville, CA 95966. (From Highway 70 take Oroville Dam Boulevard east to Lincoln Avenue; then, north (left) onto Lincoln. The library is situated at the corner of Lincoln and Mitchell Avenues.)

The agency meeting will be held from 9:30 A.M. until 12:00 Noon on Thursday, June 15, 1995, in the conference room at the Oroville-La Porte Forest Service Ranger Station, located at 875 Mitchell Avenue, Oroville, CA 95965. (From Highway 70 take Oroville Dam Boulevard east; north (left) onto Fifth Avenue; then, east (right) on Mitchell Avenue.)

#### Scoping Meeting Procedures

Both meetings will be recorded by a stenographer and will become part of the formal record of the Commission's proceeding on the Rock Creek—Cresta Project. Individuals presenting statements at the meetings will be asked to sign in before the meetings start and identify themselves for the record.

Concerned parties are encouraged to offer us verbal guidance during the public meetings. Speaking time allowed for individuals at the evening public meeting will be determined before that meeting, based on the number of persons wishing to speak and the approximate amount of time available for the session, but all speakers will be provided at least five minutes to present their views.

#### Scoping Meeting Objectives

At the scoping meetings, the staff will:

- Summarize the environmental issues tentatively identified for analysis in the EA;

- Identify resource issues that are of lesser importance and, therefore, do not require detailed analysis;

- Solicit from the meeting participants all available information, especially quantifiable data, concerning significant local resources; and

- Encourage statement from experts and the public on issues that should be analyzed in the EA.

#### Information Requested

Federal and state resources agencies, local government officials, interested groups, area residents, and concerned individuals are requested to provide any information they believe will assist the Commission staff to evaluate the environmental impacts associated with relicensing the project. The types of information sought included the following:

- Data, reports, and resource plans that characterize the physical, biological or social environments in the vicinity of the projects; and

- Information and data that help staff identify or evaluate significant environmental issues.

Scoping information and associated comments should be submitted to the Commission no later than July 16, 1995. Written comments should be provided at the scoping meeting or mailed to the Commission, as follows: Lois Cashell, Secretary, Energy Federal Regulatory Commission, 825 North Capitol St., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426.

All filings sent to the Secretary of the Commission should contain an original and 8 copies. Failure to file an original and 8 copies may result in appropriate staff not receiving the benefit of your comments in a timely manner. See 18 CFR 4.34(h).

All correspondence should show the following caption on the first page: FERC No. 1962-000—CA; Rock Creek—Cresta Project.

Intervenors and interceders (as defined in 18 CFR 385.2010) who file documents with the Commission are reminded of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure requiring them to serve a copy of all documents filed with the Commission on each person whose name is listed on the official service list for this proceeding.

For further information, please contact Jim Haimes in Washington, D.C. at (202) 219-2780.

**Lois D. Cashell,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 95-11611 Filed 5-10-95; 8:45 am]

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[Docket No. CP95-143-000]

#### Southern Natural Gas Company; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for Southern Natural Gas Company's Proposed Graniteville Line Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

May 5, 1995.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) that will discuss environmental impacts of the construction and operation of the facilities proposed in the Graniteville Line Project. This EA will be used by the Commission in its decisionmaking process to determine whether an environmental impact statement is necessary and whether to approve the project.<sup>1</sup>

#### Summary of the Proposed Projects

Southern Natural Gas Company (Southern) proposes to:

- Construct approximately 3.5 miles of 8-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline in Aiken County, South Carolina, which would replace approximately 3.5 miles of 4-inch-diameter pipeline. This proposed pipeline, referred to as the "Graniteville Line", would commence at a tie-in at milepost (MP) 501.0 on Southern's existing South Main Line and proceed in a northwesterly direction to a proposed interconnection with Southern's new Graniteville Mills Meter Station;

- Construct a new meter station at the Graniteville Mills interconnect to replace the existing Graniteville Mills meter station in Aiken County, South Carolina. The proposed meter station would consist of two 4-inch-diameter meter runs, a pressure regulator, and approximately 125 feet of miscellaneous buried piping. This facility would require a site approximately 150 feet by 150 feet for construction and operation. This construction would occur on the Graniteville Company's plant site in Graniteville, South Carolina;

- Construct a regulator station near MP 2.6 approximately 100 feet by 100 feet and an odorization facility at the take-off point on an approximate area of 50 feet by 50 feet; and

- Abandon in place the existing 4-inch-diameter Graniteville Line, except for approximately 0.5 mile of pipeline between MP 2.810 and MP 2.317, which

<sup>1</sup> Southern Natural Gas Company's application was filed with the Commission pursuant to section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations.