

The Plutonium Vulnerability Study, identified 15 environmental, safety, and health vulnerabilities at the PFP Facility. These included storage of unstable forms of plutonium, a potential for criticality accidents, and seismic weaknesses. DOE has determined that a feasible alternative for resolution of the safety issues is removal of readily retrievable plutonium-bearing material in hold-up at the PFP Facility and stabilization of these and other plutonium-bearing materials at the PFP Facility through the following four treatment processes: (1) Ion exchange, vertical calcination and thermal stabilization of plutonium-bearing solutions; (2) thermal stabilization of oxides, fluorides, and process residues in a continuous furnace; (3) repackaging of metals and alloys; and (4) pyrolysis of polycubes and combustibles.

Environmental Impact Statement Preparation

The Draft EIS has been prepared in accordance with Section 102(2)(C) of the NEPA, as implemented in regulations promulgated by the Council on Environmental Quality (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Parts 1500-1508) and by DOE's Implementing Procedures (10 CFR Part 1021). The Draft EIS has been prepared to assess the potential impacts of both the proposed action, and reasonable alternatives to the proposed action, on the human and natural environment.

A Notice of Intent (Notice) to prepare the PFP EIS and hold public scoping meetings in Spokane, Richland, and Bellevue, Washington, and Hood River and Portland, Oregon, was published by DOE in the Federal Register on October 27, 1994. A subsequent Notice was published by DOE in the Federal Register on November 23, 1994, announcing additional meetings in Portland, Oregon and Seattle, Washington. The Notice invited oral and written comments and suggestions on the proposed scope of the EIS, including environmental issues and alternatives, and invited public participation in the NEPA process. Overall, scoping comments were received that assisted in identifying major issues for subsequent in-depth analysis in the Draft EIS. As a result of the scoping process, an Implementation Plan for the PFP Stabilization EIS was developed to define the scope and provide further guidance for preparing the Draft EIS.

The Draft EIS considers the proposed action, other reasonable alternatives, and the no action alternative.

Comment Procedures

Availability of Draft EIS

Copies of the Draft PFP Stabilization EIS are being distributed to federal, state, tribal and local officials and agencies, as well as organizations and individuals known to be interested in or affected by the proposed project. Additional copies may be obtained by contacting Mr. Burton as provided in the section of this notice entitled **ADDRESSES**. Copies of the Draft PFP Stabilization EIS, including appendices and reference material will be available for public review at the locations listed below.

- (1) U.S. Department of Energy, Headquarters, Freedom of Information Reading Room, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington D.C. 20585, (202) 586-3142
- (2) U.S. DOE Public Reading Room, 100 Sprout Road, Room 130 West, Richland, WA 99352, (509) 376-8583
- (3) Government Publications, University of Washington Library, Box 352900, Seattle, WA 98185-2900, (206) 543-1937
- (4) Gonzaga University, Foley Center, East 502 Boone Avenue, Spokane, WA 99258, (509) 328-4220
- (5) Portland State University, Branford Price Millar Library, SW Harrison and Park, Portland, OR 97207, (503) 725-3690

You may also receive a copy of the Draft EIS by calling the PFP Stabilization EIS toll-free line at 1-800-249-8181.

Written Comment

Interested parties are invited to provide comments to DOE on the content of the Draft EIS as indicated in the section of this notice entitled **ADDRESSES**. Comments submitted (postmarked) after January 16, 1996, will be considered to the extent practicable.

Public Hearing

Procedures

The public is invited to provide oral comments to DOE on the Draft EIS at the scheduled public hearing. Advance registration for the presentation of oral comments at the hearing will be accepted up to the day prior to the scheduled meeting by calling 1-800-249-8181 (prior to 3:00 p.m. Pacific Time). Requests to speak at a specific time will be honored, if possible. Registrants are only allowed to register themselves to speak and must confirm

the time they are scheduled to speak at the registration desk the day of the hearing. Persons who have not registered in advance may register to speak when they arrive at the hearing to the extent that time is available. To ensure that as many persons as possible have the opportunity to present comments, five minutes will be allotted to each speaker. Persons presenting comments at the hearing are requested to provide DOE with written copies of their comments at the hearing, if possible. Written comments sent by mail to the office listed in the **ADDRESSES** section above, must be submitted (postmarked) no later than January 16, 1996.

Hearing Schedule and Location

A public hearing will be held at the following location, date and time: Red Lion Inn—Pasco, 2525 N. 20th, Pasco, Washington 99301, (509) 547-0701
Thursday, January 11, 1996, 6:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.

Conduct of Hearing

DOE's rules and procedures for the orderly conduct of the hearing will be announced by the presiding officer at the start of the hearing. The hearing will not be of an adjudicatory or evidentiary nature. Speakers will not be cross-examined, although the presiding officer and the DOE hearing panel members will respond to comments and questions from the public. In addition, DOE representatives will be available to discuss the project in informal conversations. A transcript of the hearing will be prepared, and the entire record of the hearing, including the transcript, will be placed on file by DOE for inspection at the public locations given above in the "COMMENT PROCEDURES" section.

Signed in Richland, WA this 21st day of November 1995, for the United States Department of Energy.

John D. Wagoner,

*Manager, U.S. Department of Energy,
Richland Operations Office.*

[FR Doc. 95-29578 Filed 12-4-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP96-79-000]

Texas Gas Transmission Corporation; Notice of Request Under Blanket Authorization

November 29, 1995.

Take notice that on November 20, 1995, Texas Gas Transmission

Corporation (Texas Gas), P.O. Box 20008, Owensboro, Kentucky 42304, filed in Docket No. CP96-79-000, a request pursuant to Section 157.205 and 157.211 of the Commission's Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.205 and 157.211) for authorization to construct and operate a delivery point for Gibbs Die Casting Corporation (Gibbs) in Henderson County, Kentucky. Texas Gas makes such request, under its blanket certificate issued in Docket No. CP82-407-000 pursuant to Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act, all as more fully set forth in the request on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Texas Gas indicates that Gibbs' natural gas requirements for its plant in Henderson County, Kentucky, are presently supplied on an interruptible sales basis by the Henderson Municipal Gas Department (City of Henderson, Kentucky), a municipal customer of Texas Gas. It is stated that Gibbs has requested that Texas Gas construct a new delivery point in Henderson County to enable Gibbs to receive natural gas transportation service directly from Texas Gas. The proposed new delivery point for Gibbs will be known as the Gibbs-Henderson Meter Station. The estimated cost to construct said facilities is \$66,850, and it is stated that Gibbs will reimburse Texas Gas in full for the cost of the facilities to be installed by Texas Gas.

It is stated that Gibbs is requesting up to 2,300 MMBtu of natural gas per day to be supplied by a combination of firm transportation, interruptible transportation and released capacity for plant usage at its Henderson plants. It is further stated that this service will be provided by Texas Gas pursuant to the authority of its blanket certificate issued in Docket No. CP88-686-000 and Sections 248.223 of the Commission's Regulations. The rate schedules applicable to the proposed service will be Texas Gas' FT and IT Rate Schedules, as contained in First Revised Volume No. 1 of Texas Gas' FERC Gas Tariff.

It is indicated that because of the relatively small amount of firm natural gas service involved, that this proposal will have no significant impact on Texas Gas' peak day and annual deliveries.

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 therefor, 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. 95-29522 Filed 12-4-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

[Docket Nos. RP95-197-000 and RP95-197-001]

Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation; Notice of Informal Settlement Conference

November 29, 1995.

Take notice that an informal settlement conference will be convened in this proceeding on Monday, December 11, 1995, at 11:00 a.m., for the purpose of exploring the possible settlement of the above-referenced proceeding. The conference will be held at the offices of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC.

Any party, as defined by 18 CFR 385.102(c), or any participant, as defined by 18 CFR 385.102(b), is invited to attend. Persons wishing to become a party must move to intervene and receive intervenor status pursuant to the Commission's Regulations. See 18 CFR 385.214.

For additional information, please contact Warren C. Wood at (202) 208-2091 or Donald A. Heydt at (202) 208-0740.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 95-29523 Filed 12-4-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

[Docket No. EG96-16-000]

West Allegheny Biomass Energy Corp.; Notice of Application for Determination of Exempt Wholesale Generator Status

November 29, 1995.

On November 16, 1995, West Allegheny Biomass Energy Corp. (Applicant), of 327 Winding Way, King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406, filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission an application for a determination of exempt wholesale generator status pursuant to 18 CFR Part 365 of the Commission's Regulations.

Applicant, a Pennsylvania corporation, states that it intends to own and operate a generating facility (Facility), to be located in Butler County, Pennsylvania, that will consist of a 12 mw biomass-fueled combustion turbine and related interconnection facilities. The facility will be located in a new industrial park being developed in Allegheny Township, Pennsylvania.

Any person desiring to be heard concerning this application for exempt wholesale generator status should file a motion to intervene or comments with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426 in accordance with Sections 385.211 and 385.214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. The Commission will limit its consideration of comments to those that concern the adequacy or accuracy of the application. All such motions and comments should be filed on or before December 11, 1995 and must be served on the Applicant. 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. 95-29524 Filed 12-4-95; 8:45 am]

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Office of Energy Research

Energy Research Financial Assistance Program Notice 96-02; Enhanced Research Capabilities at DOE User Facilities

AGENCY: Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notice inviting grant applications.

SUMMARY: The Office of Basic Energy Sciences (BES) of the Office of Energy Research (ER), U.S. Department of Energy, hereby announces its interest in receiving grant applications for new capabilities or for upgrading existing research capabilities for innovative *fundamental* research at DOE-supported synchrotron light sources and neutron sources, and the Combustion Research Facility. Such instrumentation should employ state-of-the-art technology so that the photon and neutron beams are utilized more effectively. Applications for the development of new capabilities, as well as upgrading of existing capabilities are encouraged.

DATES: Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to submit a brief preapplication. All preapplications, referencing Program Notice 96-02, should be received by DOE by 4:30 p.m.