

are on file with the Commission and available for public inspection.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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[Docket No. ES96-25-000]

Semass Partnership; Notice of Application

May 2, 1996.

Take notice that on April 30, 1996, Semass Partnership (Semass) filed an application, under § 204 of the Federal Power Act, seeking authorization to reallocate partnership interests among the existing partners of Semass in connection with the proposed sale by certain partners of Semass of eighty percent (80%) of the partnership interests in Semass.

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 385.214). All such motions or protests should be filed on or before May 28, 1996. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make the 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.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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[Project No. 2000-010]

Power Authority of the State of New York; Notice of Memorandum of Understanding, Formation of Cooperative Consultation Process Team, and Initiation of Scoping Process Associated With Relicensing the St. Lawrence-FDR Power Project

May 2, 1996.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

On February 15, 1996, the New York Power Authority (NYPA), New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), entered into an MOU. Under the MOU, the NYSDEC and the FERC will cooperate and use the services of a

Third Party Contractor to prepare a single Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to more efficiently meet the requirements for water quality certification and relicensing of the 912-megawatt St. Lawrence-FDR Power Project. The hydroelectric project was originally licensed in 1953 and the license will expire in 2003. NYPA has elected to use a Third Party Contractor under the provisions of the Energy Policy Act of 1992.

The project, which includes the Long Sault Dam and the portions of the Iroquois Dam and the Robert Moses-Robert H. Saunders Power Dam within the U.S., located on the St. Lawrence River near Massena, New York. While the project is licensed by the FERC, its operation as well as Ontario's Hydro's portion of the international project, is governed by the International Joint Commission (IJC) and the International St. Lawrence River Board of Control (ISLRBC), who direct NYPA and Ontario Hydro to release flows to maintain water levels in Lake Ontario and downstream flows in accordance with criteria set forth. The IJC was established by the 1909 Boundary Water Treaty between the U.S. and Canada.

Cooperative Consultation Process (CCP) Team

NYPA has contacted and invited members of numerous federal, state, and local governmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe, and the general public the U.S. The FERC has also invited federal and provincial agencies in Canada, as well as the IJC and ISLRBC to participate and discuss the cooperative process for relicensing the project. As a result of a series of three meetings conducted in February, March and April 1996, the participants (see list below) along with NYSDEC and FERC have agreed to form a Cooperative Consultation Process (CCP) Team. The CCP Team will assist in identifying areas of interests, issues, required studies and also prepare for NYSDEC and FERC a Scoping Document (See Scoping Process).

The CCP Team is still in the process of identifying potential members and active participants. As of April 16, 1996, the following 39 organizations attended meetings of the CCP Team and have indicated an interest in participating in the Team and relicensing process. Those persons interested in joining the CCP Team or learning more about the CCP Team and process, as well as the relicensing process should call any one of the following three individuals:

Mr. Thomas R. Tatham, New York Power Authority, 212-468-6747, 212-468-6272 (fax)
 Mr. Keith Silliman, New York Dept. of Environmental Conservation, 518-457-0986, 518-457-3978 (fax)
 Mr. Thomas Russo, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 202-219-2792, 202-219-0125 (fax)

The following organizations have sent representatives to the CCP Team meetings: the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe, Environment Canada, St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corp., Ontario Hydro, Alcoa, NY State Assembly, St. Lawrence Development Commission, Massena Electric, St. Lawrence County, Town of Louisville, Development Authority of N. County, Empire State Dept. of Economic Development, GM Power Train, I.B.E.W. Local 2032, Vincent Kirsch, LCE Environ. Mgmt. Council, League of Women Voters, Massena Industrial Dev. Corp., Village of Massena, Village Potsdam, Mass. Municipal Wholesale Electric Co., Municipal Electricity Assoc. of NY, New York Power Authority, New York Rivers United, Audubon Society of NY State, NYS Dept. of Parks Rec. & Historic Preservation, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation, NYS Dept. of State (Coastal Resources), St. Lawrence Aquarium & Ecological Center, Public Power Assoc. of NJ, Reynolds Metals, Robert Moses State Park, St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce, St. Lawrence Gas, United Auto Workers/GM Power Train, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Waddington Town Planning Board, IBEW 450 ABGWIU, and WYBG Radio.

Scoping Process

The Scoping Process will satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The objective of the Scoping Process is to assist the FERC and NYSDEC in identifying resource issues and reasonable alternatives that should be addressed in the EIS analysis and the level to which they should be addressed. The Scoping Process will also identify the geographic and temporal range of the EIS analysis, those resources requiring a cumulative impact analysis and the level of analysis as well. The CCP Team will prepare a Draft Scoping Document I (SDI) for FERC's and NYSDEC's use.

The Scoping Process will entail a series of public workshops/meetings within the CCP Team over the next seven months. During this time period, the CCP Team will use NYPA's Initial Consultation Document distributed on April 16, 1996 to initiate scoping the issues. Members of the Team and the general public will be given the