

construction (FY 1999–2004); and hold at approximately 225 for operation (FY 2004 and beyond). The estimated total project cost from conceptual design through commissioning is approximately \$1 billion.

### Preliminary Environmental Analysis

DOE plans to analyze potential impacts of the NSNS project on the following parameters. This list is neither intended to be all-inclusive, nor is it a predetermination of potential impacts. Additions to or deletions from this list may occur as a result of the scoping process.

- Earth Resources: physiography, topography, geology, and soil characteristics.
- Land Use: plans, policies and controls.
- Water Resources: surface and groundwater hydrology, use, and quality.
- Air Quality: Meteorological basis, ambient background, pollutant sources, and potential degradation.
- Radiation Background: Cosmic, rock, soil, water, and air.
- Hazardous Materials: Handling, storage, and use; waste management both near- and long-term.
- Noise: Ambient, sources, and sensitive receptors.
- Ecological Resources: Aquatic, terrestrial, economically/recreationally important species, threatened and endangered species.
- Socioeconomics: Demography, economic base, labor pool, housing, transportation, utilities, public services/facilities, education, recreation, and cultural resources.
- Historical and Archaeological Resources: Paleontological and archaeological sites, Native American resources, historic and prehistoric sites.
- Scenic and Visual Resources.
- Wetlands: Protection and remediation.
- Health and Safety: Public and occupational impacts from routine operation and credible accident scenarios.
- Natural Disasters: Floods, tornadoes, and seismic events.
- Unavoidable Adverse Impacts.
- Natural and Depletable Resources: Requirements and conservation potential.
- Environmental Justice: Disproportionately high and adverse impacts to minority and low income populations.

The preliminary identification of reasonable alternatives and environmental issues presented in this NOI is not meant to be exhaustive or final. Alternatives other than those

presented in this document may warrant examination, and new issues may be identified for evaluation.

Relevant issues related to decommissioning of the NSNS will be addressed to the extent possible. Additional NEPA review may be necessary in the future when decommissioning plans are proposed.

### Scoping Meetings

The purpose of this NOI is to encourage early public involvement in the EIS process and to solicit public comments on the proposed scope and content of the EIS. DOE plans to hold formal public scoping meetings in the vicinity of the proposed and alternative sites to solicit both oral and written comments from interested parties.

DOE will designate a presiding officer for the scoping meetings. The scoping meetings will not be conducted as evidentiary hearings, and there will be no questioning of the commentators. However, the presiding officer may ask for clarification of statements to ensure that DOE fully understands the comments and suggestions. The presiding officer will establish the order of speakers. At the opening of each meeting, the presiding officer will announce any additional procedures necessary for the conduct of the meetings. To ensure that all persons wishing to make a presentation are given the opportunity, a five-minute limit may be enforced for each speaker, with the exception of public officials and representatives of groups who will be allotted ten minutes each. Comment cards will also be available for those who would prefer to submit their comments in written form.

DOE will make transcripts of the scoping meetings and other environmental and project-related materials available for public review in the following reading rooms:

1. U.S. Department of Energy, Freedom of Information Public Reading Room, Forrestal Building, Room 1E-190, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585, Telephone: (202) 586-3142
2. U.S. Department of Energy Reading Room, Oak Ridge Operations Office, 200 Administration Road, Room G-217, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831, Telephone: (423) 241-4780
3. Argonne National Laboratory, Documents Department, University Library, Third Floor Center, University of Illinois at Chicago, 801 South Morgan Street, Chicago, Illinois 60439, Telephone: (312) 996-2738
4. BNL Research Library, Bldg. 477A Brookhaven Ave., Upton, NY 11973, Telephone: (516) 344-3483

5. Longwood Public Library, 800 Middle Country Rd., Middle Island, NY 11953, Telephone: (516) 924-6400
6. Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Community Library, 301 William Floyd Parkway, Shirley, NY 11967, Telephone: (516) 399-1511
7. Los Alamos National Laboratory Public Outreach and Reading Room, Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544, Telephone: (505) 665-2127

### NEPA Process

The EIS for the proposed facility will be prepared according to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500–1508) and DOE's NEPA Regulations (10 CFR part 1021).

The draft EIS is scheduled to be published by March 1998. A 45-day comment period on the draft EIS is planned, and public hearings to receive comments will be held approximately one month after distribution of the draft EIS. Availability of the draft EIS, the dates of the public comment period, and information about the public hearings will be announced in the **Federal Register** and in the local news media when the draft EIS is distributed.

The final EIS, which will incorporate public comments received on the draft EIS, is expected in July 1998. No sooner than 30 days after a notice of availability of the final EIS is published in the **Federal Register**, DOE will issue its Record of Decision and publish it in the **Federal Register**.

Signed in Washington, DC this 21st day of July, 1997.

**Peter N. Brush,**

*Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary,  
Environment, Safety and Health.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 11175-002 Minnesota]

### Crown Hydro Company; Notice Modifying and Establishing a Restricted Service List for Comments on a Programmatic Agreement for Managing Properties Included in or Eligible for Inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places

July 21, 1997.

On April 20, 1997, the Commission issued a notice for Project No. 10455 proposing to establish a restricted

service list for the purpose of developing and executing a programmatic agreement for managing properties included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

On April 14, 1997, in commenting on the Commission's Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) for the project, the City of Minneapolis and the Minneapolis Community Development Agency stated their concern that the proposed project may not be financially feasible and could pose a long-term threat to the historic resources of Minneapolis' Central Riverfront because the applicant, Crown Hydro Company (Crown Hydro), may not have the financial resources for long-term maintenance of historic project features. The April 14, 1997, comment letter identified Guy Fischer of the Minneapolis Department of Operations and Regulatory Services as the party to whom communications should be sent.

In comments on the DEA for the project filed on May 1, 1997, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (Park Board) stated that it owns part of the proposed project lands, and that the land had been acquired by the Park Board for its historic significance. The Park Board is also concerned that Crown Hydro may not be able to adequately insure against potential damage to archaeological and historic features if the water is mishandled or historic features such as century-old canals and trailraces are unable to deal with the flow of water.

On May 7, 1997, Northern States Power Company (NSPC) filed a request to be added to the restricted service list established pursuant to the Commission notice of April 20, 1997. In support of the request, NSPC notes that it is a party to the proceeding and owns facilities in the immediate location of the proposed project.

On May 9, 1997, the St. Anthony Falls Heritage Board (SAFHB) filed a request to be added to the restricted service list. In support of the request, the SAFHB notes that it has particular concern about historic properties that are involved in the project; as a board established by Minnesota State Law in the 1988, the SAFHB represents interests of historic preservation, interpretation, and recreation and renewal of the St. Anthony Falls Heritage Zone, a zone designed with boundaries identical to those of the St. Anthony Falls Historic District.

On June 2, 1997, the U.S. Department of the Army, St. Paul District, Corps of Engineers (Corps) filed a request to be added to the restricted service list. In support of the request, the Corps notes

that it must comply with its responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The proposed project would be located on approximately 0.5 acre of Corps land.

The Crown Roller Mill building, in which the proposed project powerhouse would be located, is owned by Canal Street Associates, and managed by Welsh Companies. Construction, operation, and maintenance of the proposed project would directly affect the Crown Roller Mill building.

Rule 2010 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure provides that, to eliminate unnecessary expense or improve administrative efficiency, the Secretary may establish a restricted service list for a particular phase or issue in a proceeding.<sup>1</sup> The restricted service list should contain the names of persons on the service list who, in the judgment of the decisional authority establishing the list, are active participants with respect to the phase or issue in the proceeding for which the list is established.

The following additions are made to the proposed restricted service list notice on April 20, 1997, for Project No. 11175:

Guy Fischer, Minneapolis Department of Operations and Regulatory Service, 250 South 4th Street, Room 300, Minneapolis, MN 55415-1316

Robert Mattson, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, 200 Grain Exchange, 400 South 4th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55415-1400

Mark Holmberg, Northern States Power Company, 512 Nicolet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55402

Elizabeth Doermann, St. Anthony Falls Heritage Board, 240 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55102

John Blackstone, St. Paul District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 190 Fifth Street East, St. Paul, MN 55101-1638

Larry Emond, Welsh Companies, 105 Fifth Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55401

Any person on the official service list for the above-captioned proceedings may request inclusion on the restricted service list, or may request that a restricted service list not be established, by filing a motion to the effect within 15 days of this notice date.

An original and 8 copies of any such motion must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission (888 First Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20426) and must be served on each person whose name appears on the official service list. If no such motions are filed, the restricted service list will be effective at the end

of the 15-day period. Otherwise, a further notice will be issued ruling on the motion.

**Lois D. Cashell,**

Secretary.

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP97-633-000]

#### El Paso Natural Gas Company; Notice of Request Under Blanket Authorization

July 21, 1997.

Take notice that on July 11, 1997, El Paso Natural Gas Company (El Paso), Post Office Box 1492, El Paso, Texas 79978, filed in Docket No. CP97-633-000 a request pursuant to §§ 157.205 and 157.212 of the Commission's Regulations (18 CFR 157.205, 157.212) under the Natural Gas Act (NGA) for authorization to operate existing delivery point facilities constructed under the authorization of Section 311 of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978 (NGPA) in Maricopa County, Arizona, for Part 284 transportation services by El Paso, under El Paso's blanket certificate issued in Docket No. CP82-435-000, pursuant to Section 7 of the NGA, all as more fully set forth in the request that is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

El Paso proposes to operate the existing 2-inch tap, meter and appurtenant facilities to serve Pimalco Inc. for use as fuel in the manufacture of aerospace aluminum on behalf of Oasis Pipeline Company. It is stated that El Paso was fully reimbursed for the \$51,451 cost of installing the tap by Pimalco. It is estimated that the peak day and annual requirements for this delivery point are 400 Mcf and 146,000 Mcf, respectively. It is asserted that the volume of gas delivered to Pimalco after the request will not exceed the volume of gas authorized prior to the request. It is further asserted that the proposal is not prohibited by El Paso's existing tariff and that El Paso has sufficient capacity to accomplish the deliveries without detriment or disadvantage to its other customers.

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

<sup>1</sup> 18 CFR 385.2010.