Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426. Please affix Project No. 1984–056 to all comments on the Petenwell-Castle Rock Project, and Project No. 11162–002 to all comments on the Prairie du Sac Project. For further information, please contact Peter A. Leitzke at (202) 219–2803.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98–17185 Filed 6–26–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Commission

[Docket No. CP98–363–000]

Etowah LNG Company, L.L.C.; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Etowah LNG Project; Request for Comments on Environmental Issues; and Notice of Site Visit, Public Scoping Meeting, and Technical Conference

June 23, 1998.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) that will discuss the environmental impacts of the construction and operation of the liquefied natural gas (LNG) storage plant and associated pipeline facilities proposed in the Etowah LNG Project.[1] This EA will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether the project is in the public convenience and necessity.

If you are a landowner receiving this notice, you may be contacted by an Etowah LNG Company, L.L.C. (Etowah) representative about the acquisition of an easement to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed facilities. Etowah would seek to negotiate a mutually acceptable agreement. However, if the project is approved by the Commission, that approval conveys with it the right of eminent domain. Therefore, if easement negotiations fail to produce an agreement, Etowah could initiate condemnation proceedings in accordance with state law. A fact sheet addressing a number of typically asked questions, including the use of eminent domain, is attached to this notice as appendix 1.[2]

Summary of the Proposed Project

Etowah seeks authority to construct and operate an LNG storage plant and associated pipeline facilities in Polk County, Georgia. The proposed LNG plant would be located approximately 4.5 miles northeast of Rockmart, Georgia and 40 miles northwest of Atlanta, Georgia. The purpose of the facilities is to meet winter peak shaving requirements, including those of Atlanta Gas Light Company (AGLC) and the City of Austell Gas System.

The primary components of the LNG plant would include:

- A 750,000-barrel double-wall metal LNG storage tank with a gas-equivalent capacity of 2.5 billion cubic feet;
- A pretreatment and liquefaction system with a capacity of 15 million cubic feet per day (MMcfd);
- A boil-off recompression system;
- A vaporization and sendout system with a design capacity of 300 MMcfd with standby vaporization capacity of up to 200 MMcfd;
- Measurement facilities;
- Associated control and hazard-protection sustems; and
- A trucking system capable of loading 20,000 gallons per hour..

Etowah also proposes to construct:

- Approximately 12.5 miles of 12.75-inch-diameter pipeline (Etowah pipeline) in Polk County, Georgia. The Etowah pipeline would be adjacent to and overlap an existing utility right-of-way for 83 percent of its route; and
- A 1.3-mile-long permanent access road and new bridge extending from the plant site northward to Davis Town Road.

The LNG storage tank would be approximately 149 feet in height and 250 in diameter. The LNG tank area would be surrounded by an earthen berm that would slope towards an impoundment basin that together form the spill containment system. The proposed project facilities would be designed, constructed, operated, and maintained to comply with the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Safety Standards for Liquefied Natural Gas Facilities (49 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Part 193). The facilities constructed at the site would also meet the National Fire Protection Association 59A LNG standards.

The following related nonjurisdictional facilities would be constructed:

- AGLC would construct and operate approximately 16.8 miles of 24-inch-diameter pipeline (Etowah-Mars Hill Road pipeline) in Polk, Paulding, and Cobb Counties, Georgia connecting the LNG plant to AGLC's distribution system. The Etowah-Mars Hill Road pipeline would be adjacent to and overlap an existing utility right-of-way for 95 percent of its route; and
- Georgia Power would construct and operate an approximately 0.9-mile-long 115 kilovolt (kV) overhead electric powerline collocated with AGLC's pipeline, and a 0.4-acre 115 kV to 4,160 volt substation connecting the LNG plant to the new Georgia Power electric powerline in Polk County, Georgia.

All natural gas received at the LNG facility for liquefaction and storage would be shipped from Southern Natural Gas Company's (Southern) system through the Etowah pipeline. Vaporized natural gas would be transported from the LNG facility either through the Etowah pipeline to Southern's system or through the Etowah-Mars Hill Road pipeline to AGLC's system.

The location of the project facilities is shown in appendix 2.[2] If you are interested in obtaining procedural information, please write to the Secretary of the Commission.

Land Requirements for Construction

Construction of the LNG plant would affect approximately 50 acres of an 833-acre site owned by Etowah. An additional 7.8 acres would be disturbed during construction of the permanent access road to the site. The 57.8 acres of land for the plant site and access road would be permanently affected by the project.

Construction of the proposed Etowah pipeline would affect approximately 132.3 acres of land, including temporary extra work areas. Following construction, about 50.5 acres of land would be maintained as new permanent right-of-way.

Construction of the related nonjurisdictional facilities would affect approximately 106.4 acres of land. Of this, about 0.4 acre would be required for the substation, 4.2 acres would be required for the powerline, and 101.8 acres would be required for the Etowah-Mars Hill Road pipeline. Following construction, about 4.6 acres would be required for the substation and permanent right-of-way for the powerline and 61.1 acres would be required for the permanent right-of-way for the Etowah-Mars Hill Road pipeline.

The EA Process/Environmental Issues

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires the Commission to take into account the environmental

[1] Etowah LNG Company, L.L.C.'s application was filed with the Commission under Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations.

[2] The appendices referenced in this notice are not being printed in the **Federal Register**. Copies are available from the Commission's Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, DC 20426, or call (202) 208–1371. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.

impacts that could result from an action whenever it considers the issuance of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity. NEPA also requires us to discover and address concerns the public may have about proposals. We call this ''scoping''. The main goal of the scoping process is to focus the analysis in the EA on the important environmental issues. By this Notice of Intent, the Commission requests public comments on the scope of the issues it will address in the EA. All comments received are considered during the preparation of the EA. State and local government representatives are encouraged to notify their constituents of this proposed action and encourage them to comment on their areas of concern.

The EA will discuss impacts that could occur as a result of the construction and operation of the proposed project under the general headings listed below. We have already identified several issues that we think deserve attention based on a preliminary review of the proposed facilities and the environmental information provided by Etowah. This preliminary list of issues may be changed based on your comments and our analysis.

- Geology and Soils:

—Effect of blasting and disposal of blast rock.
—Landslide potential (moderate incidence with high susceptibility).
—Erosion control.
—Facility site and right-of-way restoration.

- Water Resources and Fisheries:

—Groundwater withdrawal and discharge to surrounding surface waters.
—Effect of blasting on potable water sources.
—Effect of permanent access road and bridge on Hills Creek.
—Crossings of 35 perennial waterbodies.
—Impact on Silver Creek, a secondary trout stream.
—Hydrostatic test water rates and discharge locations.

- Vegetation and Wildlife:

Effect of facility construction and operation on wildlife and fisheries habitat, including federally and state-listed threatened and endangered, or sensitive animal and plant species and their habitats.
—Impact on forested wetlands.
—Clearing of upland forest.

- Cultural Resources:

—Effect on historic and prehistoric sites.
—Native American and tribal concerns.

- Socioeconomics:

—Impact of a peak workforce of about 300 workers on housing and demands for services in the surrounding area.
—Impact of timber removal on landowners.
—Long-term effects of increased employment and tax benefits on the local economy.

- Land Use and Transportation:

—Crossing of one recreation area leased by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.
—Effect on 18 residences within 50 feet of the construction work area.
—Visual effect of the storage tank on the surrounding area.
—Impact on future county plans (e.g., schools, roads).
—Consistency with local land use plans and zoning
—Impact of construction and operation traffic

- Air Quality and Noise:

—Air quality and noise impacts associated with construction and operation.

- Public Safety:

—Compliance with 49 CFR 193 for exclusion zones (thermal and vapor gas dispersion), siting criteria, seismic criteria, and cryogenic criteria.
—Consequences of a major spill.
—Design and operation of the firewater system.
—Assessment of hazards associated with natural gas pipelines.

- Cummulative Impact:

—Assessment of the combined effect of the proposed project with other projects which have been or may be proposed in the same region and similar time frame.

We will also evaluate possible site, routing, and system alternatives to the proposed project or portions of the project, and make recommendations on how to lessen or avoid impacts on the various resource areas.

Our independent analysis of the issues will be in the EA. Depending on the comments received during the scoping process, the EA may be published and mailed to Federal, state, and local agencies, public interest groups, interested individuals, affected landowners, newspapers, libraries, and the Commission's official service list for this proceeding. A comment period will be allotted for review if the EA is published. We will consider all comments on the EA before we make our recommendations to the Commission.

To ensure your comments are considered, please carefully follow the instructions in the public participation section of this notice.

Public Participation

You can make a difference by providing us with your specific comments or concerns about the project. By becoming a commentor, your concerns will be addressed in the EA and considered by the Commission. You should focus on the potential environmental effects of the proposal, alternatives to the proposal (including alternative sites and routes, and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impact). The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. Please carefully follow these instructions to ensure that your comments are received in time and properly recorded:

- Send two copies of your letter to: David P, Boergers, Acting Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., N.E., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426.
- Label one copy of the comments for the attention of the Environmental Review and Compliance Branch, PR–11.1;
- Reference Docket No. CP98–363–999; and
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before July 24, 1998.

Beyond asking for written comments, we invite you to attend our public scoping meeting that will be held on July 13, 1998, at 7:00 p.m. at the Rockmart Community Center, 604 Goodyear Street, Rockmart, Georgia. This public meeting will be designed to provide you with more detailed information and another opportunity to offer your comments on the proposed project. The staff will also visit the proposed LNG plant site and pipeline routes on July 13, 1998.

On July 14, 1998, at 8:30 a.m., the FERC staff will meet with representatives of Etowah to conduct a cryogenic design and engineering review of the proposed LNG facilities. This technical conference will be held at the Northwest Atlanta Hilton, 2055 South Park Place, Atlanta, Georgia. The discussion will initially be limited to the staff and members of the applicant's staff who have expertise in the given topics. Other attendees will be given the opportunity to ask questions on the above issues after the initial discussions have concluded.

Becoming an Intervenor

In addition to involvement in the EA scoping process, you may want to become an official party to the proceeding known as an ''intervenor''.

Intervenors play a more formal role in the process. Among other things, intervenors have the right to receive copies of case-related Commission documents and filings by other intervenors. Likewise, each intervenor must provide 14 copies of its filings to the Secretary of the Commission and must send a copy of its filings to all other parties on the Commission's services list for this proceeding. If you want to become an intervenor you must file a motion to intervene According to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214) (see appendix 3). Only intervenors have the right to seek rehearing of the Commission's decision.

The date for filing timely motions to intervene in this proceeding has passed. Therefore, parties now seeking to file late interventions must show good cause, as required by section 385.214(b)(3), why this time limitation should be waived. Environmental issues have been viewed as good cause for late internvention. You do not need intervenor status to have your environmental comments considered.

Additional information about the proposed project, site visit, and technical conference is available from Mr. Paul McKee of the Commission's Office of External Affairs at (202) 208–1088.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98–17183 Filed 6–26–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice Tendered for Filing With the Commission

June 23, 1998.

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection:

a. *Type of Application:* Major New License (Tendered Notice).

b. *Project No.:* 372–008.

c. *Date filed:* June 12, 1998.

d. *Applicant:* Southern California Edison Company.

e. *Name of Project:* Lower Tule River Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location:* On the North and South Forks of the Middle Fork Tule River in Tulare County, California, partially within the boundaries of the Sequoia National Forest.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act 16 USC 791(a)–825(r).

h. *Applicant Contact:* Mr. C. Edward Miller, Manager, Hydro Generation, Southern California Edison Company, 2244 Walnut Grove Avenue, P.O. Box 800, Rosemead, California 91770, (626) 302–1564.

i. *FERC Contact:* Nan Allen at (202) 219–2938.

j. *Description of Project:* The existing project consists of: (1) a 15-foot-high, concrete dam; (2) a 5-foot-high, rubble masonry dam; (3) a 31,802-foot-long flow line; (4) a 2,815-foot-long steel penstock; (5) a 3.37 acre-foot forebay; (6) a powerhouse containing two turbine-generator units with a total installed capacity of 2,520 kilowatts (kW); and (7) a 2,352-foot-long tailrace.

k. Under Section 4.32(b)(7) of the Commission's regulations (18 CFR), if any resource agency, Indian Tribe, or person believes that the applicant should conduct an additional scientific study to form an adequate factual basis for a complete analysis of the application on its merits, they must file a request for the study with the Commission, not later than 60 days after the application is filed, and must serve a copy of the request on the applicant.

l. With this notice, we are initiating consultation with the California State Historic Preservation Officer, as required by Section 106, National Historic Preservation Act, and the regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, 36 CFR 800.4.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98–17188 Filed 6–26–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Sunshine Act Meeting

FEDERAL REGISTER CITATION OF PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENT: June 22, 1998, 63 FR 33924.

PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED TIME AND DATE OF MEETING: June 24, 1998, 10:00 a.m.

CHANGE IN THE MEETING: The following Docket Numbers and Companies have been added on the Agenda scheduled for the June 24, 1998 meeting.

Item No.	Docket No. and company
CAE–19	EC96–19–007 and ER96–1663–008, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Southern California Edison Company and San Diego Gas & Electric Company.
	ER98–441–000 and 001, Southern California Edison Company.
	ER98–495–000 and 001, Pacific Gas and Electric Company.
	ER98–496–000 and 001, San Diego Gas & Electric Company.

David P. Boergers,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98–17324 Filed 6–25–98; 11:39 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. GT98–57–000]

Algonquin Gas Transmission Company; Notice of Refund Report

June 23, 1998.

Take notice that on June 19, 1998, Algonquin Gas Transmission Company (Algonquin) tendered for filing a refund report pursuant to Ordering Paragraph (C) of the Commission's February 22, 1995 order in Gas Research Institute (GRI), Docket No. RP95–124–000.

Algonquin states that on May 29, 1998, Algonquin received its share of the GRI refund totaling $866,955.00.

Algonquin states that on June 6, 1998, each eligible firm customer was redited its pro rata share of the GRI refund.

Algonquin states that copies of the filing were served on each of its affected customers and interested state commissions.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest this filing should file a motion to intervene or a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with Sections 385.214 and 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such motions or protests must be filed on or before June 30, 1998. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceedings. 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 in the Public Reference Room.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98–17193 Filed 6–26–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–M