

Commenters will not be required to serve copies of filed documents on all other parties. However, commenters will not receive copies of all documents filed by other parties or issued by the Commission and will not have the right to seek rehearing or appeal the Commission's final order to a federal court.

The Commission will consider all comments and concerns equally, whether filed by commenters or those requesting intervenor status.

Take further notice that, pursuant to the authority contained in and subject to jurisdiction conferred upon the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by Sections 7 and 15 of the Natural Gas Act and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, a hearing will be held without further notice before the Commission or its designee on this application if no motion to intervene is filed within the time required herein, if the Commission on its own review of the matter finds that a grant of the certificate is required by the public convenience and necessity. If a motion for leave to intervene is timely filed, or if the Commission on its own motion believes that a formal hearing is required, further notice of such hearing will be duly given.

Under the procedure herein provided for, unless otherwise advised, it will be unnecessary for Petal to appear or be represented at the hearing.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-29349 Filed 11-2-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2169, TN]

Tapoco, Inc.; Notice of Tapoco, Inc.'s Request to Use Alternative Procedures in Preparing a License Application

October 28, 1998.

On October 1, 1998, the existing licensee, Tapoco, Inc. (Tapoco), filed a request to use alternative procedures for submitting an application for new license for the existing Tapoco Project No. 2169.¹ Tapoco has demonstrated that they have made an effort to contact resource agencies, Indian tribes,

¹ The 326.5-megawatt Tapoco (originally known as the Tallasee project) project is located on the Little Tennessee and its tributary, the Cheoah River, in Blount and Monroe Counties, Tennessee, and Graham and Swain Counties, North Carolina. The project consists of four developments, Chilhowee, Cheoah, Santeetlah, and Calderwood.

nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and others affected by their proposal, and that a consensus exists that the use of an alternative procedure is appropriate in this case.

The purpose of this notice is to invite comments on GPC's request to use the alternative procedure, pursuant to Section 4.34(i) of the Commission's regulations.² Additional notices seeking comments on the specific project proposal, interventions and protests, and recommended terms and conditions will be issued at a later date.

The alternative procedures being requested here combine the prefiling consultation process with the environmental review process, allowing the applicant to complete and file an environmental document (NEPA document) in lieu of Exhibit E of the license application. This differs from the traditional process, in which the applicant consults with agencies, Indian tribes, and NGOs during preparation of the application for the license and before filing it, but the Commission staff performs the environmental review after the application is filed. The alternative procedures are intended to simplify and expedite the licensing process by combining the prefiling consultation and environmental review processes into a single process, to facilitate greater participation, and to improve communication and cooperation among the participants.

Comments

Interested parties have 30 days from the date of this notice to file with the Commission, any comments on GPC's proposal to use the alternative procedure to prepare an application to relicense the Middle Chattahoochee Project.

Filing Requirements

The comments must be filed by providing an original and 8 copies as required by the Commission's regulations to: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Office of the Secretary, Dockets—Room 1A, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426.

All comment filings must bear the heading "Comments on the Alternative Procedure," and include the project name and number (Tapoco Project, No. 2169).

For further information, please contact Ronald McKittrick of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission at 770-

² Order No. 596, Regulations for the Licensing of Hydroelectric Projects, 81 FERC ¶ 61,103 (1997).

452-2363 ext. 44 or E-mail at ronald.mckittrick@FERC.Fed.US.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP99-32-000]

Williams Gas Pipelines Central, Inc.; Notice of Request Under Blanket Authorization

October 28, 1998.

Take notice that on October 21, 1998, Williams Gas Pipelines Central, Inc. (Williams), P.O. Box 3288, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74101, filed in Docket No. CP99-32-000 a request pursuant to Sections 157.205 and 157.216 of the Commission's Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.205, 157.216) for authorization to abandon in place by sale to Missouri Gas Energy, a division of Southern Union Company (MGE), approximately 1.05 miles of the Alba and the Purcell 3-inch lateral pipelines and appurtenant facilities located in Jasper County, Missouri, under Williams' blanket certificate issued in Docket No. CP82-479-000, pursuant to Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act, all as more fully set forth in the request that is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Specifically, Williams seeks authorization to abandon in place by sale to MGE approximately 0.9 miles of the Alba 3-inch lateral pipeline (Line FN-5) and approximately 0.15 miles of the Purcell 3-inch lateral pipeline (Line FN-18) all located in Sections 16 & 17, Township 29 North, Range 32 West, Jasper County, Missouri, including without limitation, all gas lines, meters, records and other equipment, personal property, and fixtures located thereon and/or used in conjunction with the operation of the pipelines. Williams states that the Alba 3-inch lateral pipeline was originally installed in 1939 and Purcell 3-inch lateral pipeline was originally installed in 1939. Williams states that MGE will incorporate the pipelines into its existing distribution system. Williams states the sales price for these lateral lines is \$10.

Williams states that the proposed lateral pipelines are downstream of its existing metering and regulating facilities and, therefore, no changes are being proposed to Williams' metering facilities serving the Alba and Purcell