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Program Authority: 22 U.S.C. 2452(b)(6).

Dated: July 30, 1999.

Claudio R. Prieto,

Acting Assistant Secretary, Office of Postsecondary Education.

[FR Doc. 99-20155 Filed 8-4-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Stockpile Stewardship and Management

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Amended notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE) is announcing a revised schedule for its preparation of a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the National Ignition Facility portion (Volume III, Appendix I) of the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Stockpile Stewardship and Management (DOE/EIS-0236; September, 1997). This Draft SEIS is being prepared pursuant to a Joint Stipulation and Order approved and entered as an order of the court on October 27, 1997, in partial settlement of the lawsuit *NRDC v. Richardson*, Civ. No. 97-936 (SS) (D.D.C.).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information about this SEIS or to be placed on the document distribution list, please call, toll-free, (877) 388-4930, or call or write to Richard A. Scott, Document Manager, U.S. Department of Energy, L-293, P.O. Box 808, Livermore, CA 94550, Phone (925) 423-3022, Facsimile (925) 424-3755.

For information about the DOE National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, please contact: Carol Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Assistance (EH-42), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Ave, SW, Washington, DC 20585-0119, Phone: (202) 586-4600, Messages: (800) 472-2756, Facsimile: (202) 586-7031.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In a September 25, 1998, **Federal Register** notice (63 FR 51341), DOE announced that it expected to publish a Notice of Availability for the Draft SEIS in the **Federal Register** in December 1998.

DOE now intends to publish the Notice of Availability no later than November 30, 1999. DOE has delayed the issuance of the Draft SEIS pending completion of a new investigation that was initiated in December 1998, in response to the discovery of contamination by polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in soil that had been excavated from the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's East Traffic Circle, which is one of the areas covered by the Joint Stipulation and Order. After the discovery of the contaminated soil, DOE on December 23, 1998, notified the court and the plaintiffs in *NRDC v. Richardson* of the discovery; stated that the contaminated soil was being removed in accordance with applicable laws and regulations; and explained that a new investigation would be conducted into the extent of the contamination, and that DOE would delay issuance of the Draft SEIS pending the results of the new investigation.

Since then, DOE has filed two Quarterly Reports with the court, on March 24 and June 22, 1999, describing the progress that it has made in conducting the investigation and in analyzing its results for incorporation into the environmental impact analyses that will be included in the Draft SEIS. Copies of those Quarterly Reports, and of DOE's December 23, 1998 notice mentioned above, are available at the DOE Oakland Operations Office Public Reading Room on the first floor of the Federal Building, 1301 Clay Street, Oakland, CA; at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Environmental Repository Public Reading Room, East Gate Visitors Center, Greenville Road, Livermore, CA; at the DOE Freedom of Information Act Public Reading Room, 1000 Independence Ave, SW, Washington, DC; or by calling Richard A. Scott at the telephone number provided above.

Issued in Washington, DC on July 30, 1999.

Jonathan S. Ventura,

Acting Executive Assistant, Office of Defense Programs.

[FR Doc. 99-20143 Filed 8-4-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

[Docket No. EG99-206-000]

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Astoria Generating Company, L.P.; Notice of Application for Commission Determination of Exempt Wholesale Generator Status

July 30, 1999.

Take notice that on July 28, 1999, Astoria Generating Company, L.P. (Applicant), with its principal office at c/o Orion Holdings, Inc., 7 E. Redwood Street, 10th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21201, filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) an application for determination of exempt wholesale generator status pursuant to Part 365 of the Commission's regulations.

Applicant will be engaged in owning and operating certain facilities located in New York State. The eligible facilities consist of approximately of the Astoria Bundle sold by Consolidated Edison of New York, with a total summer net capacity of 1,855 MW. The Applicant will sell electric energy exclusively at wholesale. Electric energy produced by the eligible facilities is sold exclusively at wholesale.

Any person desiring to be heard concerning the application for exempt

wholesale generator status should file a motion to intervene or comments with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214). 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 August 12, 1999, 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 or on the Internet at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (please call (202) 208-2222 for assistance).

David P. Boergers,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-20104 Filed 8-4-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP99-590-000]

McDay Energy Partners, Ltd.; Notice of Petition for Declaratory Order

July 30, 1999.

Take notice that on July 22, 1999, McDay Energy Partners, Ltd. (McDay Energy), filed in Docket No. CP99-590-000 an application pursuant to Section 16 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA) and Rule 207(a)(2) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.207 (a)(2)), for a declaratory order disclaiming Commission jurisdiction under Section 1(b) of the NGA over certain facilities to be acquired from Northern Natural Gas Company (Northern) in a companion filing in Docket No. CP99-552-000, all as more fully set forth in the application on file with the Commission and open to public inspection. This filing may be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

Specifically, McDay Energy seeks a declaratory order from the Commission finding that the approximately 26 miles of 12-inch pipeline and appurtenant facilities located in Zavala and Dimmitt Counties, Texas, once acquired and integrated into McDay Energy's existing gathering lines, will perform a gathering function as defined under the Commission's modified primary function test, and therefore, should be

exempt from Commission jurisdiction under Section 1(b) of the NGA.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said petition should on or before August 20, 1999, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Washington, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, a motion to intervene or a protest in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 384.214 or 385.211) and the Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.10). All protests filed with the Commission will be considered by it 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 to a proceeding or to participate as a party in any hearing therein must file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules.

David P. Boergers,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-20105 Filed 8-4-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP99-589-000]

National Fuel Gas Supply Corporation; Notice of Application

July 30, 1999.

Take notice that on July 22, 1999, National Fuel Gas Supply Corporation (National Fuel), 10 Lafayette Square, Buffalo, New York 14203 filed, in Docket No. CP99-589-000, an application pursuant to Section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's Regulations for an order permitting and approving the abandonment of certain facilities in Venango, Clarion, and Forest Counties, Pennsylvania, in connection with the sale of certain nonjurisdictional facilities to Van Hampton Gas & Oil Company, Inc. (Van Hampton), as more fully set forth in the application which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection. The application may be viewed on the web at www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm. Call (202) 208-2222 for assistance.

Specifically, National Fuel proposes to abandon by sale to Van Hampton approximately 31 miles of 2-inch to 8-inch diameter gathering pipelines, including five receipt points and seven points of delivery located along the gathering pipelines. National Fuel states that the gathering pipelines, receipt

points and points of delivery will perform a gathering function for Van Hampton and requests that the Commission determine that such facilities will not be subject to the Commission's jurisdiction after the sale.

National Fuel's application states that it has agreed to sell the nonjurisdictional gathering pipelines and metering facilities located at the receipt points, to Van Hampton for \$1.00. National Fuel indicates that service will not be terminated to any of its shippers.

Any questions regarding this application should be directed to David W. Reitz, Assistant General Counsel for National Fuel, 10 Lafayette Square, Buffalo, New York 14203 at (716) 857-7949, or George L. Weber, Esq., Weber & Associates, P.C., 727 Fifteenth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005 at (202) 628-0200.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before August 20, 1999, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426, a motion to intervene or a protest in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214 and 385.211) and the regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.10). All protests filed with the Commission will be considered by it 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 in any proceeding herein must file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's rules.

Take further notice that, pursuant to the authority contained in and subject to the jurisdiction conferred upon the 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 protest or motion to intervene is filed within the time required herein. At that time, the Commission on its own review of the matter will determine whether granting permission and approval for the proposed abandonment 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 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