

online/rims.htm (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. PR00-8-000]

PG&E Texas Pipeline, L.P.; Notice of Petition for Rate Approval

December 23, 1999.

Take notice that on December 20, 1999, PG&E Texas Pipeline, L.P. (PG&E TPLP) filed a Petition for Approval of Contract Storage Rates under Section 311 of the NGPA. PG&E TPLP states that its petition is filed pursuant to Section 284.123(b)(2)(i) of the Commission's regulations. In its petition, PG&E TPLP proposes initial rates for firm and interruptible contract storage services. PG&E TPLP proposes that the contract storage rates be made effective December 20, 1999.

Pursuant to Section 284.123(b)(2)(ii), if the Commission does not act within 150 days of the filing date of PG&E TPLP's Petition, PG&E TPLP's rates for firm and interruptible contract storage services will be deemed to be fair and equitable. The Commission may within such 150 day period extend the time for action or institute a proceeding in which all interested parties will be afforded an opportunity for written comments and the oral presentation of views, data and arguments.

Any person desiring to participate in this rate proceeding must 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 motions must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission on or before January 6, 2000. This petition for rate approval is on file with the Commission and is available for 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).

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project Nos. 67; 120; 2085; 2175]

Southern California Edison; Notice of Southern California Edison's Request to use Alternative Procedures in Filing License Applications

December 23, 1999.

On December 10, 1999, the existing licensee, Southern California Edison (SCE) filed a request to use the Commission's alternative procedures in submitting applications to relicense four existing hydroelectric projects—Big Creek No. 2A, 8, and Eastwood (FERC No. 67); Big Creek No. 3 (FERC No. 120); Mammoth Pool (FERC No. 2085); and Big Creek No. 1 and 2 (FERC No. 2175). The projects are located in the San Joaquin River Basin of California, and have a combined capacity of about 871.6 megawatts. This notice invites comments on SCE's request, pursuant to Section 4.34(i) of the Commission's regulations. 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 procedure being requested here would combine the prefiling consultation process with the environmental review process, allowing the applicants to file an applicant-prepared Environmental Assessment in lieu of Exhibit E of the license applications. 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 all of the environmental review after the application is filed. The alternative procedures are intended to reduce redundancies in 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. The alternative procedures can be tailored to the particular project under consideration.

Alternative Procedures and the Big Creek Projects

In this instance, SCE is proposing a consolidated relicensing of our projects within what is known as the Big Creek System. An applicant-prepared environmental assessment would be filed on all four projects with their applications. SCE also intends on

negotiating an agreement on the relicensing of the projects by December, 2004. The application on the Mammoth Pool project is due to be filed in 2005, while the other three applications are due in 2007.

Comments

SCE has demonstrated that it has made an effort to contact resource agencies, Indian tribes, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and others affected by the proposal, and that a consensus likely exists that the use of the alternative procedures is appropriate in this case. SCE has also submitted a communications protocol that was developed in consultation with interested entities.

Interested parties have 30 days from the date of this notice to file with the Commission, any additional comments on the licensee's proposal to use the alternative procedures. The licensee's request may be viewed on the web at <http://rimsweb1.ferc.fed.us/rims/>. Call 202-208-2222 for assistance.

Filing Requirements

Any 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 names and numbers: Big Creek No. 2A, 8, and Eastwood (FERC No. 67); Big Creek No. 3 (FERC No. 120); Mammoth Pool (FERC No. 2085); and Big Creek No. 1 and 2 (FERC No. 2175). For further information, please contact Vince Yearick at (202) 219-3073 or e-mail at vince.yearick@ferc.fed.us.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. GT00-12-000]

Southern Natural Gas Company; Notice of Refund Report

December 23, 1999.

Take notice that on December 17, 1999, Southern Natural Gas Company (Southern) tendered for filing a Refund Report.

Southern states that pursuant to Section 23.3 of the General Terms and