

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 governments 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 these general headings:

- Geology and soils
- Vegetation and wildlife
- Water resources, fisheries, and wetlands
- Endangered and threatened species
- Public safety
- Cultural resources
- Land use
- Air quality and noise

We will also evaluate possible alternatives to the proposed 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 beginning on page 4.

Currently Identified Environmental Issues

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 DOMAC. This preliminary list of issues may be changed based on your comments and our analysis.

- Noise quality may be affected by the addition of the new warm water circulating pumps.
- Soils (possibly contaminated) may be affected by minor ground disturbance from foundation construction. The proposed project area is part of a site that has been identified as a "noticed site" pursuant to the Massachusetts Contingency Plan. The former site owner, Boston Gas Company, is

currently conducting environmental investigations to determine the need for soil remediation.

The Siting Board has reviewed environmental impacts associated with the Power Project and has approved construction of this facility. Therefore, the EA will not address impacts from this nonjurisdictional facility. We will briefly describe their location and status in the EA.

Public Participation

You can make a difference by providing us with your specific comments or concerns about the project. By becoming a commentator, 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, 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, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., NE, 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. CP00-55-000.
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before February 11, 2000.

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". Intervenor 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 service 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 2). 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 intervention.

You do not need intervenor status to have your environmental comments considered. Additional information about the proposed project is available from Mr. Paul McKee of the Commission's Office of External Affairs at (202) 208-1088 or on the FERC website (www.ferc.fed.us) using the "RIMS" link to information in this docket number. Click on the "RIMS" link, select "Docket #" from the RIMS Menu, and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to RIMS, the RIMS helpline can be reached at (202) 208-2222.

Similarly, the "CIPS" link on the FERC Internet website provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings. From the FERC Internet website, click on the "CIPS" link, select "Docket #" from the CIPS menu, and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to CIPS, the CIPS helpline can be reached at (202) 208-2474.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice Granting Limited Extension for Filing Comments, Final Terms and Conditions, Recommendations and Prescriptions

January 12, 2000.

Type of Application: New Major License.

Project Name & No.: Fifteen Mile Falls Project No. 2077-016.

Dated Filed: July 29, 1999.

Applicant: USGen New England, Inc.

Location: The project is located on the Connecticut River, in Grafton and Coos Counties, New Hampshire, and Caledonia and Essex Counties, Vermont.

Applicant Contact: Mr. Cleve Kapala, USGen New England, Inc., 46 Centerra Parkway, Lebanon, NH 03766.

FERC Contact: Any questions on this notice should be addressed to William Guey-Lee, E-mail address william.gueylee@ferc.fed.us, or telephone (202) 219-2808.

Deadline for filing comments, final terms and conditions,

recommendations, and prescriptions:

The Appalachian Mountain Club, Connecticut River Joint Commission, Connecticut River Watershed Council, Conservation Law Foundation, New Hampshire Rivers Council, Trout Unlimited Vermont Chapter, and Trout Unlimited New Hampshire Chapter (NGOs), collectively, have requested an extension to June 1, 2000, for filing comments, final terms and conditions, and recommendations and prescriptions. The NGOs state the extension should allow the collaborative team to complete development of several draft management plans (including the Fisheries Management Plan, Forest and Wildlife Management Plan, Threatened and Endangered Species Management Plan, and the Recreation Resource Assessment and Management Plan), and have this information available before commenting. The NGOs state that this would provide greater efficacy and benefit to the process. Therefore, an extension to June 1, 2000, is granted for filing comments, final terms and conditions, and recommendations and prescriptions, but however, is limited to the draft management plans stated above. The deadline for filing other comments, final terms and conditions, and recommendations and prescriptions is January 31, 2000.

All documents (original and eight copies) should be filed with: David P. Boergers, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St. NE, Washington, DC 20426. The Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure require all intervenors filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person whose name appears on the official service list for the project. Further, if an intervenor files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, the intervenor must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency.

j. *All filings must:* (1) Bear in all capital letters the title "COMMENTS," "RECOMMENDATIONS," "TERMS AND CONDITIONS," "PRESCRIPTIONS," or "REPLY COMMENTS," (2) set forth in the heading the name of the applicant and the project number of the application and APEA to which the filing responds; (3) furnish the name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the filing; and (4) otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 385.2001 through 385.2005. All

comments, recommendations, terms and conditions or prescriptions must set forth their evidentiary basis and otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 4.34(b). Any of these documents must be filed by providing the original and the number of copies required by the Commission's regulations to: Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426. An additional copy must be sent to: Director, Division of Licensing & Compliance, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, at the above address. Each filing must be accompanied by proof of service on all persons listed on the service list prepared by the Commission in this proceeding, in accordance with 18 CFR 4.34(b) and 385.2010.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Surrender of Exemption and Soliciting Comments, Motions To Intervene, and Protests

January 12, 2000.

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

a. *Application Type:* Surrender of Exemption.

b. *Project No.:* 8282-015.

c. *Date Filed:* November 17, 1999.

d. *Applicant:* K & K Hydroelectric.

e. *Name of Project:* Steeles Mill.

f. *Location:* On Hitchcock Creek, In Richmond County, North Carolina. The project does not utilize federal or tribal lands.

g. *Filed pursuant to:* 18 CFR 4.102.

h. *Applicant Contact:* Mr. Kenneth G. Smith, K & K Hydroelectric, 2260 Quail Drive, Graham, NC 27253, (910) 227-2536.

i. *FERC Contact:* Any questions on this notice should be addressed to Tom Papsidero at (202) 291-2715, or e-mail address: Thomas.Papsidero@ferc.fed.us.

j. *Deadline for filing comments and/or motions:* February 28, 2000.

All documents (original and eight copies) should be filed with: David P. Boergers, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426.

Please include the project number (8282-015) on any comments or motions filed.

k. *Description of Surrender:* K & K Hydroelectric, a North Carolina corporation, requests to surrender the exemption for this constructed project for economic reasons.

l. *Locations of the application:* A copy of the application is available for inspection and reproduction at the Commission's Public Reference Room, located at 888 First Street, NE, Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426, or by calling (202) 208-1371. This filing may be viewed on <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call (202) 208-2222 for assistance). A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in item h above.

m. Individuals desiring to be included on the Commission's mailing list should so indicate by writing to the Secretary of the Commission.

Comments, Protests, or Motions to Intervene—Anyone may submit comments, a protest, or a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.210, 385.211, 385.214. In determining the appropriate action to take, the Commission will consider all protests or other comments filed, but only those who file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules may become a party to the proceeding. Any comments, protests, or motions to intervene must be received on or before the specified comment date for the particular application.

Filing and Service of Responsive Documents—Any filings must bear in all capital letters the title "COMMENTS", "RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TERMS AND CONDITIONS", "PROTEST", OR "MOTION TO INTERVENE", as applicable, and the Project Number of the particular application to which the filing refers. Any of the above-named documents must be filed by providing the original and the number of copies provided by the Commission's regulations to: The Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426. A copy of any motion to intervene must also be served upon each representative of the Applicant specified in the particular application.

Agency Comments—Federal, state, and local agencies are invited to file comments on the described application. A copy of the application may be obtained by agencies directly from the Applicant. If an agency does not file comments within the time specified for filing comments, it will be presumed to have no comments. One copy of an