

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission****Notice**

June 1, 2000.

Take notice that the format of the notice issued pursuant to section 3(a) of the Government in the Sunshine Act, Pub. L. 94-409, 5 U.S.C. 552b, is being revised to reflect the new organizational structure of the Commission's technical offices.

Consent agenda items from the Commission's Office of Markets, Tariffs, and Rates will be listed first as CAE- and CAG-items (for electric and gas, respectively) followed by consent agenda items from the Commission's Office of Projects listed as CAH- and CAC-items (for hydro and certificate, respectively). Regular agenda items will be listed in the following order: H-, C-, M-, E-, and G- (for hydro, certificate, miscellaneous, electric, and gas, and items, respectively).

The new format will be used for the first meeting in June. Accordingly, the Sunshine Act Notice will be issued under this format on June 7, 2000.

In addition, beginning on June 7, 2000, the Sunshine Act Notice will be available in the HTML format on the day of issuance to all interested persons on the Commission's Internet Web-Site at the following locations: Daily Notices, Commission Meeting Information, and Office of the Secretary.

David P. Boergers,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-14225 Filed 6-6-00; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Western Area Power Administration****Pacific Northwest-Pacific Southwest Intertie Project—Notice of Proposed Extension of Firm and Nonfirm Transmission Service Rates—Rate Order No. WAPA-91**

AGENCY: Western Area Power Administration, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of proposed extension.

SUMMARY: This action is a proposal to extend the existing Pacific Northwest-Pacific Southwest Intertie Project (AC Intertie) firm point-to-point transmission service rate for the 500-kV transmission system and the nonfirm point-to-point transmission service rate for the 230/345/500-kV transmission system, Rate Order No. WAPA-71, through December 31, 2003. Both rates

will expire September 30, 2000. This notice of proposed extension of rates is issued pursuant to 10 CFR part 903.23(a)(1). In accordance with 10 CFR part 903.23(a)(2), Western Area Power Administration (Western) will not have a consultation and comment period and will not hold public information and comment forums.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Maher Nasir, Rates Team Lead, Desert Southwest Customer Service Region, Western Area Power Administration, P.O. Box 6457, Phoenix, AZ 85005-6457, (602) 352-2768, or by e-mail: nasir@wapa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: By Amendment No. 3 to Delegation Order No. 0204-108, published November 10, 1993 (58 FR 59716), the Secretary of Energy delegated (1) the authority to develop long-term power and transmission rates on a nonexclusive basis to Western's Administrator; and (2) the authority to confirm, approve, and place into effect on a final basis, to remand, or to disapprove such rates to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). In Delegation Order No. 0204-172, effective November 24, 1999, the Secretary of Energy delegated the authority to confirm, approve, and place such rates into effect on an interim basis to the Deputy Secretary.

Pursuant with Delegation Order No. 0204-108 and existing Department of Energy procedures for public participation in power and transmission rate adjustments in 10 CFR part 903, Western's firm point-to-point transmission service rate for the AC Intertie 500-kV transmission system and nonfirm point-to-point transmission service rate for the AC Intertie 230/345/500-kV transmission system were submitted to FERC for confirmation and approval on January 31, 1996. On July 24, 1996, in Docket No. EF96-5191-000, at 76 FERC ¶ 62,061, FERC issued an order confirming, approving, and placing in effect on a final basis the firm point-to-point transmission service rate for the AC Intertie 500-kV transmission system and the nonfirm point-to-point transmission service rate for the AC Intertie 230/345/500-kV transmission system. The rates set forth in Rate Order No. WAPA-71 were approved for the 5-year period beginning February 1, 1996, and ending September 30, 2000.

The firm point-to-point transmission service rate for the AC Intertie 500-kV transmission system and the nonfirm point-to-point transmission service rate for the AC Intertie 230/345/500-kV transmission system will expire on September 30, 2000. This makes it

necessary to extend the current rates pursuant to 10 CFR part 903. Upon its approval, Rate Order No. WAPA-71 will be extended under Rate Order No. WAPA-91. Under Rate Order No. WAPA-71, the three types of transmission service rates approved were (1) a firm point-to-point transmission service rate for the AC Intertie 230/345-kV transmission system; (2) a firm point-to-point transmission service rate for the AC Intertie 500-kV transmission system; and (3) a nonfirm point-to-point transmission service rate for the AC Intertie 230/345/500-kV transmission system.

Western's firm point-to-point transmission service rate for the AC Intertie 230/345-kV transmission system was superseded through Rate Order No. WAPA-76 and submitted to FERC for confirmation and approval on February 8, 1999. On June 22, 1999, in Docket No. EF99-5191-000, at 87 FERC ¶ 61,346, FERC issued an order confirming, approving, and placing in effect on a final basis the firm point-to-point transmission service rate of \$12.00/kilowattyear for the AC Intertie 230/345-kV transmission system. The rate set forth in Rate Order No. WAPA-76 was approved for a 5-year period beginning January 1, 1999, and ending December 31, 2003.

Western is now proposing, through Rate Order No. WAPA-91, to extend the existing firm point-to-point transmission service rate of \$17.23/kilowattyear for the AC Intertie 500-kV transmission system and the nonfirm point-to-point transmission service rate of 2.00 mills/kilowatt-hour for the AC Intertie 230/345/500-kV transmission system through December 31, 2003. This proposed extension will synchronize the expiration dates for all firm and nonfirm point-to-point transmission service rates for the AC Intertie 230/345/500-kV transmission system.

During the firm point-to-point transmission service rate development for the AC Intertie 230/345-kV transmission system (Rate Order No. WAPA-76), Western determined that it will take approximately 10 years for the AC Intertie 500-kV transmission system to be subscribed to a level sufficient to meet its own revenue repayment requirements. The ratesetting Power Repayment Study (PRS), established for the AC Intertie 230/345/500-kV transmission system (Rate Order No. WAPA-76), reflected the phasing-in of AC Intertie 500-kV transmission system revenues starting in FY 1999 through FY 2008. This ratesetting PRS remains valid. The projected revenue levels through sales of firm and nonfirm point-