

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

[Docket No. EL01-47-000]

**Removing Obstacles To Increased Electric Generation and Natural Gas Supply in the Western United States; Notice of Intent To Convene a Conference To Consult With State Commissioners and Other State Representatives From Western States**<sup>1</sup>

March 23, 2001.

Take notice that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) will meet with state commissioners and other state representatives from Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming for the purpose of discussing price volatility in the West, as well as other FERC-related issues recently identified by the Governors of these states.<sup>2</sup> The Commission invites two participants from each state listed above, and asks that at least one of the participants from each state be from the state's utility regulatory commission.

The conference is scheduled for Tuesday, April 10, 2001 in Boise, Idaho, beginning at 8:00 a.m. All interested parties are permitted to attend, although seating will be limited. An additional notice will issue at a later time providing information about participants, content, and logistics. For additional information, please contact Saida Shaalan at (202) 208-0278.

**David P. Boergers,***Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 01-7750 Filed 3-28-01; 8:45 am]

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

[Docket No. RM98-1-000]

**Regulations Governing Off-the-Record Communications; Public Notice**

March 23, 2001.

This constitutes notice, in accordance with 18 CFR 385.2201(h), of the receipt

<sup>1</sup> This notice changes the date of the conference to April 10, 2001 and replaces the previous notice issued on March 16, 2001.

<sup>2</sup> See Western Governors' Association, "Suggested Action Plan to Meet the Western Electricity Crisis and Help Build the Foundation for a National Energy Policy" (March 2001). A copy of this document was filed in this docket. See also Western Governors' Association website at <http://www.westgov.org/wieb/power/index.htm>.

of exempt and prohibited off-the-record communications.

Order No. 607 (64 FR 51222, September 22, 1999) requires Commission decisional employees, who make or receive an exempt or a prohibited off-the-record communication relevant to the merits of a contested on-the-record proceeding, to deliver a copy of the communication, if written, or a summary of the substance of any oral communication, to the Secretary.

Prohibited communications will be included in a public, non-decisional file associated with, but not part of, the decisional record of the proceeding. Unless the Commission determines that the prohibited communication and any responses thereto should become part of the decisional record, the prohibited off-the-record communication will not be considered by the Commission in reaching its decision. Parties to a proceeding may seek the opportunity to respond to any facts or contentions made in a prohibited off-the-record communication, and may request that the Commission place the prohibited communication and responses thereto in the decisional record. The Commission will grant such requests only when it determines that fairness so requires. Any person identified below as having made a prohibited off-the-record communication should serve the document on all parties listed on the official service list for the applicable proceeding in accordance with Rule 2010, 18 CFR 385.2010.

Exempt off-the-record communications will be included in the decisional record of the proceeding, unless the communication was with a cooperating agency as described by 40 CFR 1501.6, made under 18 CFR 385.2201(e)(1)(v).

The following is a list of exempt and prohibited off-the-record communications received in the Office of the Secretary within the preceding 14 days. The documents may be viewed on the Internet at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

**Exempt**

1. CP00-6-000, 3-21-01, Jeff Shenot
2. Project No. 11243, 3-9-01, Jon Miyashiro
3. Project No. 11243, 3-9-01, David Ryland
4. Project No. 2401-007, 3-2-01, Susan Pengilly Neitzel
5. Project No. 10865 and 11495, 3-13-01, Carol Gleichman
6. Project No. 1962, 3-13-01, Nicholas Jayjack

7. Project Nos. 10865 and 11495, 3-15-01, Carol Gleichman
8. CP00-6-000, 3-20-01, Ken Huntington
9. Project No. 2661-000, 3-20-01, Daniel Abeyta

**David P. Boergers,***Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 01-7712 Filed 3-28-01; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY****Western Area Power Administration****Notice of Floodplain/Wetlands Involvement for the Charlie Creek-Williston Transmission Line Fiber Optic Overhead Ground Wire Installation Project****AGENCY:** Western Area Power Administration, DOE.**ACTION:** Notice of floodplain/wetlands involvement.

**SUMMARY:** The Western Area Power Administration (Western) intends to add new fiber optic communication capabilities to the existing Charlie Creek-Williston 115-kilovolt (kV) Transmission Line in west central North Dakota. This will require rebuilding many of the existing wood pole H-frame structures to carry the additional weight. The line crosses two major drainages in the area—the Little Missouri River on lands managed by the National Park Service, and the Missouri River south of Williston, North Dakota.

Following the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Floodplain/Wetland Review Requirements (10 CFR part 1022), Western will prepare a floodplain assessment and will perform the proposed actions in ways that avoid or minimize potential harm to or within the affected floodplain. The floodplain assessment will be included in an Environmental Assessment being prepared by Western, under the provisions of the DOE National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Procedures (10 CFR part 1021).

**DATES:** Comments on the proposed floodplain action are due to the address below by May 1, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be addressed to Mr. Theodore Anderson, Environmental Specialist, Upper Great Plains Region, Western Area Power Administration, P.O. Box 35800, Billings, Montana 59107-5800, e-mail [tanderso@wapa.gov](mailto:tanderso@wapa.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information on DOE Floodplain/Wetlands Environmental Review