

prescriptions, and terms and conditions on the Preliminary Draft Environmental Assessment (PDEA); and (2) preliminary comments on the Draft License Application.

k. *Deadline for filing preliminary comments, recommendations, prescriptions, and terms and conditions:* 60 days from the issuance date of this notice.

All comments on the PDEA and Draft License Application should be sent to the addresses noted above in Item (h), with one copy filed with FERC at the following address: David P. Boergers, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426. All comments must include the project name and number and bear the heading Preliminary Comments, Preliminary Recommendations, Preliminary Prescriptions, or Preliminary Terms and Conditions.

Comments, protests and interventions may be filed electronically via the internet in lieu of paper. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's web site at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/efi/doorbell.htm>.

l. A copy of the application is available for inspection and reproduction at the Commission's Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, located at 888 First Street, N.E., Room 2-A, Washington, D.C. 20426, or by calling (202) 219-1371. A copy of the application may also be viewed or printed by accessing the Commission's website on the Internet at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm>, or call (202) 208-2222 for assistance.

Minnesota Power Inc. has mailed notification to members of the collaborative team and interested parties of the filed PDEA and Draft License Application. Copies of these documents are also available by calling the applicant contact identified in Item (h) above.

m. With this notice, we are initiating consultation with the Minnesota STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER (SHPO), as required by Section 106, National Historic Preservation Act, and the regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, 36 CFR 800.4.

**David P. Boergers,**  
Secretary.

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BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

#### Notice of Scoping Meetings and Soliciting Scoping Comments

May 2, 2001.

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

a. *Type of Application:* New major license.

b. *Project No.:* P-2142-031.

c. *Date filed:* December 28, 1999.

d. *Applicant:* FPL Energy Maine Hydro, LLC.

e. *Name of Project:* Indian Pond Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location:* On the Kennebec River, near the town of The Forks, Somerset and Piscataquis counties, Maine. The project would not utilize federal lands.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act, 16 U.S.C. 791(a)-825(r).

h. *Applicant Contacts:* Kenneth P. Hoffman, Vice President; FPL Energy Maine Hydro, LLC; 700 Universe Boulevard Juno Beach, FL 33408; (561) 694-4000 and Robert C. Richter III; Senior Environmental Coordinator; FPL Energy Maine Hydro, LLC; 100 Middle Street; Portland, ME 04101; (207) 771-3536.

i. *FERC Contact:* Kevin Whalen (202) 219-2790; email: [kevin.whelen@ferc.fed.us](mailto:kevin.whelen@ferc.fed.us).

j. *Deadline for filing scoping comments:* July 9, 2001.

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.

Comments, protests and interventions may be filed electronically via the internet in lieu of paper. See, 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's web site at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/efi/doorbell.htm>.

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, they must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency.

Protests, comments on filings, comments on environmental assessments and environmental impact statements, and reply comments may be

filed electronically via the internet in lieu of paper. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's web site at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/efi/doorbell.htm>.

k. *Status of environmental analysis:* This application is not ready for environmental analysis at this time.

l. *Description of the Project:* The proposed peaking project consists of the following existing facilities: (1) A 2,000-foot-long dam, consisting of (a) a 270-foot-long, 175-foot-high concrete section, (b) a 200-foot-long attached powerhouse section, and (c) an earthen section in excess of 1,500 feet in length; (2) four steel penstocks ranging from 6 feet to 24 feet in diameter; (3) a concrete powerhouse containing four generating units, having a total rated hydraulic capacity of 7,140 cubic feet per second and installed generation capacity of 76.4 megawatts (4) a 3,746-acre impoundment varying in width from 0.9 to 1.5 miles, extending about 9 miles upstream, that has a usable storage capacity of 850 million cubic feet; and (5) appurtenant facilities. The applicant estimates the total average annual generation would be approximately 202 million kilowatt hours.

m. *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. The application may be viewed on the web at <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.

#### n. Scoping Process

The Commission intends to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) on the project in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act. The EA will consider both site-specific and cumulative environmental impacts and reasonable alternatives to the proposed action.

#### Scoping Meetings

The Commission will hold scoping meetings, one in the evening and one in the daytime, to help us identify the scope of issues to be addressed in the EA.

The evening scoping meeting is primarily for public input and the daytime scoping meeting will focus on resource agency concerns. All interested individuals, organizations, and agencies are invited to attend one or both of the meetings, and to assist the staff in identifying the scope of the

environmental issues that should be analyzed in the EA. The times and locations of these meetings are as follows:

*Evening Scoping Meeting*

*Date:* June 6, 2001

*Time:* 7:00 to 9:00 pm

*Place:* The Forks Town Hall, US Route 201, The Forks, Maine

*Daytime Scoping Meeting*

*Date:* June 7, 2001

*Time:* 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

*Place:* Best Western Senator Inn (Embassy Room), 284 Western Avenue at I-95, Augusta, Maine

Individuals needing directions to the scoping meetings should contact Mr. Robert Richter, FPL Energy Maine Hydro, LLC, at (207) 771-3536. Commission staff previously conducted a site visit of the Indian Pond Hydroelectric Project on September 28 and 29, 2000. No additional site visit is planned at this time.

To help focus discussions, we will distribute a Scoping Document (SD1) outlining the subject areas to be addressed in the EA to the parties on the Commission's mailing list. Copies of the SD1 also will be available at the scoping meeting.

**Objectives**

*At the scoping meetings, staff will:* (1) Summarize the environmental issues tentatively identified for analysis in the EA; (2) solicit from the meeting participants all available information, especially quantifiable data, on the resources at issue; (3) encourage statements from experts and the public on issues that should be analyzed in the EA, including view points in opposition to, or in support of, the staff's preliminary views; (4) determine the resource issues to be addressed in the EA; and (5) identify those issues that require a detailed analysis, as well as those issues that do not require a detailed analysis.

The meetings will be recorded by a stenographer and will become part of the formal record of the Commission proceeding on the project. Individuals presenting statements at the meetings will be asked to sign in before the meeting starts and to clearly identify themselves for the record.

Individuals, organizations, and agencies with environmental expertise and concerns are encouraged to attend the meetings and to assist staff in

defining and clarifying the issues to be addressed in the EA.

**David P. Boergers,**

*Secretary.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

**Notice of Amended License Application To Include Co-Applicant and Soliciting Motions To Intervene and Protests**

May 2, 2001.

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

a. *Type of Application:* New major license.

b. *Project No.:* P-2318-002.

c. *Date filed:* April 12, 2000.

d. *Applicants:* Erie Boulevard Hydropower, L.P. and Hudson River-Black River Regulating District.

e. *Name of Project:* E.J. West Hydro Project.

f. *Location:* On the Sacandaga River, 6 miles upstream from its confluence with the Hudson River, in the town of Hadley, Saratoga County, New York. The project would not utilize federal lands.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act, 16 U.S.C. 791(a)-825(r) and the Commission regulations, 18 CFR 385.215(a), 16.9(b)(3) and 16.9(c).

h. *Applicant Contacts:* Mr. Jerry L. Sabattis, Hydro Licensing Coordinator, 225 Greenfield Parkway, Suite 201, Liverpool, New York 13088, (315) 413-2787 (Erie); and Mr. Thomas E. Brewer, Chief Engineer, Hudson River-Black River Regulating District, 350 Northern Boulevard, Albany, New York 12204, (518) 465-3491 (District).

i. *FERC Contact:* Lee Emery, E-mail address at [Lee.Emery@ferc.fed.us](mailto:Lee.Emery@ferc.fed.us) or telephone (202) 219-2779.

j. *Deadline for filing motions to intervene and protests:* 60 days from the issuance date of this notice.

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. Comments, protests and interventions may be filed electronically via the internet in lieu of paper. See, 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's web site at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/efi/doorbell.htm>.

The Commission's Rules of Practice require all intervenors filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person 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, they must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency.

k. This application has been accepted, and is ready for environmental analysis at this time.

l. *Description of Amended Application:* Erie filed its relicense application for the E.J. West Project with the Commission on December 13, 1991. The Commission issued a Notice of Application Ready for Environmental Analysis (REA) for the project on July 14, 2000. The description of project facilities are described in the REA Notice. The District is a state agency that currently operates and maintains the Great Sacandaga Lake and the Conklingville Dam for flood control and low-flow augmentation purposes for the Lower Hudson River. Erie currently generates hydroelectric power using its own powerhouse and the District's facilities of the dam and reservoir (Great Sacandaga Lake).

The Applicants have requested waivers concerning any final amendment deadline to accommodate the filing of this amendment, and they have requested the Commission, in their future licensing action on this project, consider issuing (1) a separate license to Erie (existing licensee) for the project powerhouse and generating facilities; and (2) a separate license to the District (currently unlicensed) for the Conklingville Dam and Great Sacandaga Lake.

m. A copy of the amendment is available for inspection and reproduction at the Commission's Public Reference Room, located at 888 First Street, NE., Room 2-A, Washington, DC 20426, or by calling (202) 208-1371. The amendment 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.

n. Anyone may submit a protest or a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.210, 385.211, and 385.214. In determining the appropriate action to take, the Commission will consider all protests filed, but only those who file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules may become a