

Dated: May 17, 2001.

Blaine D. Stockton,

Assistant Administrator, Electric Program.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Georgia Transmission Corporation; Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of finding of no significant impact.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) has made a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) with respect to possible financing assistance to Georgia Transmission Corporation for the construction of a 500/230 kV Substation in Mitchell County, Georgia.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bob Quigel, Environmental Protection Specialist, Engineering and Environmental Staff, RUS, Stop 1571, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone (202) 720-0468, e-mail at bquigel@rus.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The project is to be named the Raccoon Creek Substation. It will provide for the interconnection of the existing 500 kV Farley to North Tipton and 230 kV Mitchell to Thomasville transmission lines. The site location for the substation is at the intersection of Jackson Dairy Road and Stagecoach Road in northwest Mitchell County. The size of the site is 110 acres. The fenced area for the substation will be approximately 25 acres. The land use at the site is agricultural field.

Copies of the FONSI are available for review at, or can be obtained from, RUS at the address provided herein or from Mr. John Lasseter, Georgia Transmission Corporation, 2100 East Exchange Place, Tucker, Georgia 30085-2088, telephone (770) 270-7710. Mr. Lasseter's e-mail address is john.lasseter@gatrans.com.

Dated: May 21, 2001.

Sylvia M. Green,

Acting Assistant Administrator, Electric Program.

[FR Doc. 01-13825 Filed 5-31-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Jackson County Lake Project

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of availability of final environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) is issuing a Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Jackson County Lake Project. The Final EIS was prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (U.S.C. 4231 *et seq.*) in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500-1508) and RUS regulations (7 CFR part 1940-G). RUS invites comments on the Final EIS.

The purpose of the EIS is to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of and alternatives to the Jackson County Empowerment Zone (EZ) Community, Incorporated and Jackson County Water Association's (JCWA) applications for financial assistance to provide water supply for the residents of Jackson County and parts of surrounding counties. A secondary purpose of the proposal is to provide recreational opportunities. The project, known as the Jackson County Lake Project, proposes to construct a roller-compacted concrete dam to create a reservoir within Jackson County, Kentucky, and to construct a raw water transmission main from the proposed reservoir to the JCWA Treatment Plant. A 300-foot buffer zone surrounding the reservoir horizontally from the normal pool level has been proposed to protect the water quality of the reservoir by restricting development and certain land uses in this area. Also included in the proposal is the construction of a water intake structure and a pump house to pump water out of the reservoir. Proposed recreational development around the reservoir may include a boat ramp, boat dock, public beach, hiking trails, picnic areas, and a primitive campground.

DATES: Written comments on this Final EIS will be accepted on or before July 2, 2001.

ADDRESSES FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

To send comments or for more information, contact: Mark S. Plank, Acting Director, USDA, Rural Utilities Service, Engineering and Environmental Staff, 1400 Independence Avenue, Mail Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250, telephone (202) 720-1649, fax (202) 720-0820, or e-mail: mplank@rus.usda.gov. Further

information can also be obtained from: Kenneth Slone, State Director, USDA, Rural Development State Office, 771 Corporate Drive, Suite 200, Lexington, KY 40503, telephone (606) 224-7300, or fax (606) 224-7340.

A copy of the Final EIS can be obtained or viewed online at <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/feis-jc.htm>. The files are in a portable document format (pdf); in order to review or print the document, users need to obtain a free copy of Acrobat Reader. The Acrobat Reader can be obtained from <http://www.adobe.com/prodindex/acrobat/readstep.html>.

Copies of the Final EIS will be available for public review during normal business hours at the following locations:

Jackson County Public Library,
Courthouse Square, P.O. Box 160,
McKee, KY 40447, (606) 287-8113
Natural Resources Conservation Service,
U.S. Highway 421 South, McKee, KY
40447, (606) 287-8311

Jackson County Extension Service 263
U.S. Highway 421, South, P.O. Box
188, McKee, KY 40447, (606) 287-
7693

Kentucky Highlands Investment
Corporation, 362 Old Whitley Road,
London, KY 40741, (606) 864-5175

Jackson County EZ Community,
Incorporated, McCammon Ridge
Road, P.O. Box 280, McKee, KY 4044,
(606) 287-8395

USDA Rural Development, 771
Corporate Drive, Suite 200, Lexington,
KY 40503, (606) 224-7300

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to Subchapter C, Part I (Empowerment Zones, Enterprise Communities and Rural Development Investment Areas) of Title XIII of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, Jackson County, Kentucky is located in an area designated as an Empowerment Zone/Enterprise Community (EZ/EC) (see 60 FR 6945, February 6, 1995). The purpose of the EZ/EC initiative is to empower rural communities and their residents to create opportunities for economic development as part of a Federal-State-local and private sector partnership. The proposed action is an integral component of the EZ/EC initiative as identified in the Kentucky Highland Empowerment Zone's Strategic Plan. The proposed action will improve the area's water supply necessary for promoting economic development in the area.

The Jackson County EZ Community, Inc. and the JCWA have applied for financial assistance for the Jackson County Lake Project from the following: RUS; Appalachian Regional