

reservoir, three generating units with an installed capacity of 5,200 kW, and a 0.39-mile-long transmission line. The existing Gantt Development consists of a 1,562-foot-long earthen dam, a 2,767-acre reservoir, and two generating units with an installed capacity of 3,050 Kw.

1. Alabama Electric Cooperative, Inc. (AEC) has demonstrated that it has made an effort to contact all federal and state resources agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGO), and others affected by the project. AEC has also demonstrated that a consensus exists that the use of alternative procedures is appropriate in this case. AEC has submitted a communications protocol that is supported by the stakeholders.

The purpose of this notice is to invite any additional comments on AEC's request to use the alternative procedures, pursuant to Section 4.34(i) of the Commission's regulations. Additional notices seeking comments on the specific project proposal, interventions and protests, and recommended terms and conditions will be issued at a later date. AEC will complete and file a preliminary Environmental Assessment, in lieu of Exhibit E of the license application. This differs from the traditional process, in which an applicant consults with agencies, Indian tribes, NGOs, and other parties during preparation of the license application and before filing the application, but the Commission staff performs the environmental review after the application is filed. The alternative procedures are intended to simplify and expedite the licensing process by combining the pre-filing consultation and environmental review processes into a single process, to facilitate greater participation, and to improve communication and cooperation among the participants.

AEC has had preliminary discussion with federal and state resources agencies, NGOs, county and local governments, homeowners, and members of the public regarding the Conecuh River Project. AEC intends to file 6-month progress reports during the alternative procedures process that leads to the filing of a license application by April 30, 2003.

David P. Boergers,

Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Draft License Application and Preliminary Draft Environmental Assessment and Request for Preliminary Recommendations, Prescriptions, and Terms and Conditions

July 11, 2001.

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

a. *Type of Application:* Subsequent License.

b. *Project No.:* 469.

c. *Date Filed:* July 5, 2001.

d. *Applicant:* Minnesota Power Inc.

e. *Name of Project:* Winton Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location:* On the Kawishiwi River near the City of Ely, in Lake and St. Louis Counties, MN. The project occupies federal lands within the Superior National Forest.

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

h. *Applicant Contact:* John Paulson, Minnesota Power, Inc., 30 West Superior Street, Duluth, MN 55802, jpaulson@mnpower.com, 218-722-5642, ext. 3569.

i. *FERC Contact:* Tom Dean, thomas.dean@ferc.fed.us, 202-219-2778.

j. *Status of Project:* With this notice the Commission is soliciting: (1) Preliminary recommendations, prescriptions, and terms and conditions on the Preliminary Draft Environmental Assessment (PDEA); and (2) 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 Preliminary DEA 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 under the "e-Filing" link.

1. 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, NE., Room 2-A, Washington, DC 20426, or by calling (202) 219-1371 and may also be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "RIMS" link, select "Docket#" and follow the instructions (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 from the internet at www.mnpower.com/wintonrelicensing or 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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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice Soliciting Additional Study Requests and Establishing Procedures for Relicensing

July 11, 2001.

Take notice that additional study requests are being solicited for the following hydroelectric applications.

a. *Type of Application:* Amendment of License Application.

b. *Project No.:* 2030-036.¹

c. *Date Filed:* June 29, 2001.

d. *Applicants:* Portland General Electric Company (PGE) and the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon (CTWS).

¹ On December 16 and 17, 1999, PGE and the CTWS, respectively, filed competing applications for license for the Pelton Round Butte Project. On June 29, 2001, PGE and the CTWS filed a joint, final amendment to their applications for license to become co-applicants for license, thereby eliminating any competition for a new license for the project. Based on footnote No. 19 of the Commission's Order Approving Settlement and Amending Application, issued November 21, 2000, we are merging both applications into one docket, 2030-036. Docket 11832-000, established for the CTWS license application, and docket 2030-031, established for PGE's application have been merged into docket P-2030-036.