

renewable sources such as wind power; and

- Meet the objective in the January 2000 Strategic Plan of BPA's Power Business Line to acquire at least 150 average megawatts of new renewable resources to meet customer demand by the end of fiscal year 2006.

Proposed Action

BPA proposes to execute one or more power purchase and transmission services agreements to acquire about 150 MW (up to 50 average MW) of electrical output from the proposed Horse Heaven Wind Project. The Project would be constructed and operated by Washington Winds. It would consist of the wind generation site and the transmission line that would connect the Project to an existing BPA transmission line. Construction on the Project would begin in 2002 and the Project would operate year-round for at least 20 years.

The privately owned wind generation site where wind turbines, a substation, and other Project elements would be located is in the Horse Heaven Hills. The wind generation site is located within portions of the following Sections within Township 7 North, Range 28 East, Willamette Meridian: Sections 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, and 18.

Land uses within and adjacent to the proposed wind generation site consist primarily of dryland wheat farming, with scattered rural residences. Farming activities could continue adjacent to Project elements during operation of the wind generation facility.

Within the wind generation portion of the Project, approximately 250 wind turbines would be arranged in rows called "strings," with approximately 250 to 450 feet between turbines in each string, depending upon the turbine size and topographical features. Washington Winds is considering using turbines ranging from 900-kilowatt (kW) to 2,000-kW output each. The proposed turbines would be upwind, dual-speed turbines (*i.e.*, the rotor always faces upwind and turns at one of two constant speeds), mounted on tubular steel towers installed on a reinforced concrete foundation. These turbines would operate during wind speeds of approximately 9 to 56 miles per hour (mph). At speeds greater than approximately 56 mph, the wind turbines automatically cease operating and remain stationary until the wind speeds become slower. The height of the turbines would range from approximately 246 feet to 380 feet, depending upon the type of turbine chosen for the site. Foundations would

be either caisson or pad style, ranging from approximately 15 to 50 feet in width and extending 15 to 50 feet underground, depending upon turbine size and ground conditions.

Other Project elements within the wind generation site include small pad-mounted transformers located at the base of each wind turbine tower, access roads, several meteorological towers, a substation, and an Operations and Maintenance (O&M) facility. Power from the turbines would be collected by an underground and overhead cable system that would run between turbines and turbine strings. This system would then feed into a proposed substation, located on the Project site. The fenced substation and O&M facility would each occupy approximately four acres.

A transmission line would lead from the wind generation site to an existing BPA transmission line located to the south, near the town of Plymouth, Washington. The proposed 13-mile long transmission line would be either a 230/287-kilovolt (kV) or 345-kV line, depending on which existing BPA transmission line BPA determines can accept the output of the Project.

The location of the proposed transmission line is currently under consideration. The proposed transmission line would run along or near Plymouth Road, a county road, for most of its length and would likely cross Plymouth Road several times to avoid homes, agricultural facilities, and other transmission lines. Just north of the town of Plymouth, the proposed line may veer to the west of Plymouth Road for several miles, crossing agricultural lands, before connecting to the BPA transmission line. A small tap (fenced area) would be built within the existing BPA right-of-way to connect the proposed transmission line to the existing BPA transmission line. The proposed line would be located within Townships 5, 6, and 7 North, on or near the boundary between Range 27 East and Range 28 East (located within various sections depending on the location of the line).

Process to Date

Washington Winds has applied for a conditional use permit from Benton County. Field surveys to identify bird species that utilize or fly over the site were initiated by Washington Winds in April of 2001 and are ongoing. Scoping will help identify any additional studies that should be conducted.

Proposed Alternatives for Consideration

The alternatives include the proposed action and a no-action alternative. The

proposed action alternative is to execute a power purchase agreement for approximately 150 MW (up to 50 average MW) of power from the Project and transmit up to the entire 225 MW output from the project to customers over existing BPA power lines, thereby enabling construction of the Project. The no-action alternative is for BPA to not purchase and transmit any power output from the Project site, thereby not enabling construction of the Project.

Public Participation and Identification of Environmental Issues

The environmental analyses for recent wind power projects in the region have addressed potential environmental issues, including visual issues, noise levels, impacts to cultural resources, socio-economic ramifications, effects on rare plant and animal species, and impacts to wildlife, including migratory birds. BPA has established a 30-day scoping period to enable affected tribes, landowners, concerned citizens, special interest groups, local governments, State and Federal agencies, and other interested parties to comment on the scope of the EIS. Comments will assist BPA in identifying the environmental issues that should be analyzed and addressed. After the public scoping meeting, the following activities are planned in order to satisfy the requirements of NEPA:

- A Draft EIS will be developed and circulated for public review and comment.
- BPA will hold at least one public comment meeting about the Draft EIS.
- Comments on the Draft EIS will be considered and responded to by BPA in the Final EIS.
- The Final EIS is scheduled for publication in 2002.
- BPA's subsequent decision will be documented in a Record of Decision.

Issued in Portland, Oregon, on October 5, 2001.

Stephen J. Wright,

Acting Administrator and Chief Executive Officer.

[FR Doc. 01-25832 Filed 10-12-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Application To Amend License, and Soliciting Comments, Motions To Intervene, and Protests

October 9, 2001.

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed

with the Commission and is available for public inspection:

a. *Application Type*: Request for Approval to replace turbines on two of the project's main generating units.

b. *Project No*: 459-113.

c. *Date Filed*: August 1, 2001.

d. *Applicant*: AmerenUE (dba Union Electric Company).

e. *Name of Project*: Osage Project.

f. *Location*: The Project is located on the Osage River In Benton, Camden, Miller, and Morgan Counties, Missouri. The project utilizes federal lands.

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

h. *Applicant Contact*: Mr. Alan Sullivan, Consulting Engineer, Osage Project, AmerenUE, One American Plaza, 1901 Chouteau Avenue, P.O. Box 66149, St. Louis, MO 63166-6149. Tel: (573) 365-9329.

i. *FERC Contact*: Any questions on this notice should be addressed to Mr. Allan Creamer at (202) 219-0365 or allan.creamer@ferc.fed.us, or, Mr. Mohamad Fayyad at (202) 219-2665 or mohamad.fayyad@ferc.fed.us.

j. *Deadline for filing comments and/or motions*: (October 25, 2001).

Please include the project number (P-459-113) on any comments or motions filed.

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.

k. *Description of Filing*: AmerenUE filed a letter proposing to replace turbines on two of the Osage Project's eight main generating units. Union states that the new turbines will be more efficient and will better utilize the resource potential of the Osage River. The project's maximum hydraulic capacity will increase by about 3,000 cfs. According to AmerenUE, it will not exceed the project's current maximum tailwater level obtained under the current license.

l. *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. This filing may also be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.gov.html> using the "RIMS" link, select "Docket #" and follow the instructions (call 202-208-2222 for assistance). A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in item (h) above.

m. Individuals desiring to be included on the Commission's mailing list should so indicate by writing to the Secretary of the Commission.

n. *Comments, Protests, or Motions to Intervene*—Anyone may submit comments, a protest, or a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.210, .211, .214. In determining the appropriate action to take, the Commission will consider all protests or other comments filed, but only those who file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules may become a party to the proceeding. Any comments, protests, or motions to intervene must be received on or before the specified comment date for the particular application.

o. *Filing and Service of Responsive Documents*—Any filings must bear in all capital letters the title "COMMENTS", "RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TERMS AND CONDITIONS", "PROTEST", OR "MOTION TO INTERVENE", as applicable, and the Project Number of the particular application to which the filing refers. A copy of any motion to intervene must also be served upon each representative of the Applicant specified in the particular application.

p. *Agency Comments*—Federal, state, and local agencies are invited to file comments on the described application. A copy of the application may be obtained by agencies directly from the Applicant. If an agency does not file comments within the time specified for filing comments, it will be presumed to have no comments. One copy of an agency's comments must also be sent to the Applicant's representatives.

q. *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.gov> under the "e-Filing" link.

David P. Boergers,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RM01-12-000]

Electricity Market Design and Structure; Notice of Workshop Organization and Agenda

October 5, 2001.

As announced in the Notice of Workshops issued on September 28, 2001, a series of commissioner-led

workshops is scheduled for October 15 through October 19, 2001. The workshops will begin at 10:00 a.m., in the Commission meeting room at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC. The purpose of the workshops is to discuss core issues related to the development of efficient electric markets in an era in which electric transmission systems will be operated by Regional Transmission Organizations.

The workshops are open for the public to attend. An agenda with workshop speakers is appended as Attachment A.

Although the Commission will specifically solicit public input in the rulemaking process that is likely to result from the workshops, those who wish to comment now may file written comments in this docket at any time before or within 15 days after the workshops are completed.

During the course of the workshops, it is possible that discussions may overlap with issues pending in the cases listed in Attachment B. The Commission will make every effort to prevent this from occurring. A transcript of the discussion will be placed in each of the listed dockets, if appropriate.

Filing Requirements for Paper and Electronic Filings

Comments, papers, or other documents related to this proceeding may be filed in paper format or electronically. Those filing electronically do not need to make a paper filing.

For paper filings, the original and 14 copies of the comments should be submitted to the Office of the Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington DC 20426 and should refer to Docket No. RM01-12-000.

Documents filed electronically via the Internet must be prepared in WordPerfect, MS Word, Portable Document Format, or ASCII format. To file the document, access the Commission's website at www.ferc.gov, click on "E-Filing" and then follow the instructions for each screen. First time users will have to establish a user name and password. The Commission will send an automatic acknowledgment to the sender's E-mail address upon receipt of comments. User assistance for electronic filing is available at 202-208-0258 or by E-mail to efiling@ferc.fed.us. Comments should not be submitted to the E-mail address.

All comments will be placed in the Commission's public files and will be available for inspection in the