

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**National Energy Technology Laboratory; Notice of Availability of a Financial Assistance Solicitation**

AGENCY: National Energy Technology Laboratory, Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notice of availability of a financial assistance solicitation.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the intent to issue Financial Assistance Solicitation No. DE-PS26-02NT41423 entitled "Black Liquor/Biomass Gasification Technology Support Research and Development." It is the intent of the National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL), on behalf of the Office of Industrial Technologies (OIT) in the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, to solicit the submission of applications for black liquor/biomass gasification technology support research and development. The areas of interest are: TA-1 Fuels Chemistry; TA-1a Fuels Chemistry—Immediate Needs for Demonstration; TA-1b Fuels Chemistry—Optimization Needs for Sustainable Performance; TA-2 Containment, TA-3 Mill Integration—Steam, Power, Pulping, Causticizing; TA-3a Mill Integration—Steam, Power, Pulping Causticizing—Immediate Needs for Demonstration; TA-3b Mill Integration—Steam, Power, Pulping, Causticizing,—Optimization Needs for Sustainable Performance; TA-4 Process Control and Optimization; TA4a—Process Control and Optimization—Immediate Needs for Demonstration; TA-4b—Process Control and Optimization—Optimization Needs for Sustainable Performance; TA-5—Assurance and Education; TA-5a Assurance and Education—Immediate Needs for Demonstration; TA-5b Assurance and Education—Optimization Needs for Sustainable Performance; TA-6 Project Specific Field Support.

DATES: The solicitation will be available through the DOE/NETL's Internet address at <http://www.netl.doe.gov/business> and can be accessed on the "Industry Interactive Procurement System" (IIPS) webpage located at <http://e-center.doe.gov> on or around November 15, 2001.

ADDRESSES: NA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Deborah J. Boggs, MS IO7, U.S. Department of Energy, National Energy Technology Laboratory, 3610 Collins Ferry Road, P.O. Box 880, Morgantown,

WV 26507-0880, E-mail Address: dboggs@netl.doe.gov, Telephone Number: 304-285-4473.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: Applied and/or bench-scale research and development support efforts are to be undertaken. These efforts are expected to be promising new concepts and optimization efforts in support of black liquor recovery and biomass gasification technologies to the point that they can be demonstrated in industrial applications, with primary interest in the demonstration projects that are underway. The scope of funded activities is to cover, applied research and development, applications engineering, and proof of concept at the laboratory-scale. Technical areas needed to be addressed include those that are of immediate needs for the demonstration projects and those that optimize existing systems/concepts to improve/sustain gasification performance. The Government anticipates 5-10 awards. Individual awards may range from \$500,000-\$1.5 million in Government cost-share. The DOE intends to award cooperative agreements, but reserves the right to award whatever instrument is considered to be in the Government's best interest. In accordance with EPAct, applicants are advised that this solicitation contains a recipient 20% cost share requirement for research and development projects and 50% cost share for demonstration or commercial application projects. This is a percent of the total award value, not as a percent of the Government's share. The duration of these projects is expected to range between 3-5 years.

Once released, the solicitation will be available for downloading from the IIPS Internet page. At this Internet site you will also be able to register with IIPS, enabling you to submit an application. If you need technical assistance in registering or for any other IIPS function, call the IIPS Help Desk at (800) 683-0751 or E-mail the Help Desk personnel at IIPS-HelpDesk@e-center.doe.gov. The solicitation will only be made available in IIPS, hard (paper) copies of the solicitation and related documents will not be made available.

Prospective applicants who would like to be notified as soon as the solicitation is available should subscribe to the Business Alert Mailing List at <http://www.netl.doe.gov/business>. Once you subscribe, you will receive an announcement by E-mail that the solicitation has been posted on IIPS. Telephone requests, written requests, E-mail requests, or facsimile requests for a copy of the solicitation package will

not be accepted and/or honored. Applications must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the instructions and forms contained in the solicitation. The actual solicitation document will allow for requests for explanation and/or interpretation.

Issued in Morgantown, WV on November 9, 2001.

Randolph L. Kesling,

Director, Acquisition and Assistance Division.

[FR Doc. 01-29245 Filed 11-21-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Bonneville Power Administration****Northeast Oregon Hatchery—Grande Ronde and Imnaha Spring Chinook Project**

AGENCY: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) and notice of floodplain and wetlands involvement.

SUMMARY: This notice announces BPA's intention to prepare an EIS on the development of additional supplementation facilities and modifications to existing facilities to support the mitigation of impacts to natural populations of spring chinook salmon in the Grande Ronde and Imnaha River basins. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Department of Interior; and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Department of Agriculture, are cooperating agencies. The EIS will describe the proposed alternatives for fish trapping, rearing, and release facilities to help restore spring chinook salmon populations in the Imnaha River and Lostine River (a tributary in the Grande Ronde River basin) of Northeast Oregon. The planned facilities will modify and supplement existing facilities built for the Lower Snake River Compensation Plan (LSRCP), a program authorized by Congress in 1976 and administered by USFWS to compensate for spring, summer, and fall chinook salmon and steelhead losses caused by the construction and operation of four Federal dams on the lower Snake River. This action may involve floodplain and wetlands located in Wallowa and Union Counties, Oregon. In accordance with DOE regulations for compliance with floodplain and wetlands environmental review requirements, BPA will prepare a floodplain and wetlands assessment and would perform this proposed action so as to avoid or minimize potential

harm to or within the affected floodplain and wetlands. The assessment and a floodplain statement of findings will be included in the EIS being prepared for the proposed project in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

DATES: Written comments on the scope of the Draft EIS are due to the address below no later than January 31, 2002. Comments may also be made at EIS scoping meetings to be held at the locations below on January 15, 16, and 17, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Send comment letters and requests to be placed on the project mailing list to Communications, Bonneville Power Administration—KC-7, P.O. Box 12999, Portland, Oregon, 97212. The phone number of the Communications office is 503-230-3478 in Portland; toll-free 1-800-622-4519 outside of Portland. Comments may also be sent to the BPA Internet address: comment@bpa.gov, or faxed to: 503-230-3285.

EIS scoping meetings will be held at the Imnaha Christian Fellowship, 78782 Imnaha Highway, Imnaha, Oregon, at 7 p.m. on January 15, 2002; at the South Fork Grange, 131 Highway 82, Lostine, Oregon, at 7 p.m. on January 16, 2002; and at Eastern Oregon University, Hoke Hall, 1 University Boulevard (intersection of 7th Street and I Avenue), LaGrande, Oregon, at 7 p.m. on January 17, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patricia Smith, Environmental Project Lead—KEC-4, Bonneville Power Administration, P.O. Box 3621, Portland, Oregon, 97208-3621, phone number 503-230-7349, fax number 503-230-5699, e-mail prsmith@bpa.gov; or Jay Marcotte, Project Manager—KEWL-4, Bonneville Power Administration, P.O. Box 3621, Portland, Oregon, 97208-3621, phone number 503-230-3943, fax number 503-230-3943, e-mail jgmarcotte@bpa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Lookingglass Fish Hatchery was originally designed and constructed under the LSRCP program to produce two stocks of fish, the Imnaha stock for the Imnaha subbasin and a second stock for the Grande Ronde subbasin. Production of spring chinook salmon under this program began in the early 1980s. Beginning in the early 1990s, the fishery managers recognized that many natural populations in Northeast Oregon were at imminent risk of extirpation and immediate action was necessary. All natural spring chinook salmon

populations in the Snake River, including the Imnaha and Grande Ronde Rivers, were listed by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) as threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in May 1992. In response to the listings, the States, Tribes, and USFWS developed plans to conserve Imnaha and Grande Ronde spring chinook salmon using captive broodstock and hatchery supplementation as the preferred artificial propagation approaches. These programs were designed to shift the emphasis of the LSRCP program from compensation to conservation and restoration. Plans in the mid-1990s to conserve four stocks under ESA permits issued by NMFS were implemented. Because the new programs did not increase numbers of fish to be produced at Lookingglass Fish Hatchery, an assumption was made that the existing facility, with minor modifications, would be sufficient to meet the needs.

Proposed Action

Recently, fishery managers determined that it is not possible to meet the entire program's needs at Lookingglass Fish Hatchery and that, without additional facilities, production must be cut from the conservation components of the program. Therefore, this project proposes to modify the existing Lookingglass Fish Hatchery and Imnaha satellite facility and build new facilities on the Lostine and Imnaha Rivers. A new incubation, rearing, and trapping facility is proposed for the Lostine River, a Grande Ronde basin tributary, and a new rearing facility is proposed for the Imnaha River. In addition, modifications are proposed to the Lookingglass Fish Hatchery on the Grande Ronde River and the Imnaha satellite facility on the Imnaha River. This project does not involve program issues or increases in the number of fish to be produced, but rather new and upgraded facilities that support an existing approved program and level of fish production. Potential exists for spanning or locating structures in the surrounding floodplains and activities may involve wetlands on those sites.

Process to Date

Based on similar site-specific projects, an initial decision was made to initiate an Environmental Assessment (EA). An EA Determination was signed on November 20, 2000, with the expectation that a Finding of No Significant Impact would be attained. However, the Imnaha portion of this project is located within the boundaries of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area and the Imnaha Wild and Scenic

River. Modifications to the existing Imnaha satellite facility and any new Imnaha facilities may involve construction in the Imnaha River that could create significant impacts. Therefore, it has been determined that the appropriate level of environmental coverage is an EIS.

This is a multi-party project involving Tribal governments, State agencies, and Federal agencies. The parties include the Nez Perce Tribe (NPT), the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR), Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), USFS, USFWS, NMFS, and BPA. Scoping began during the EA process and will continue for at least 30 days after the filing of this notice of intent to prepare an EIS, gathering information on the extent of the action, range of alternatives, and the types of effects to be evaluated. NEPA and other environmental laws and regulatory requirements will be merged into an overall integrated process that ensures compliance with all Federal and State legal prerequisites. A review process in accordance with the specific requirements of each agency's NEPA regulations and manuals will allow for an integrated effort that provides a full disclosure.

Alternatives Proposed for Consideration

A reasonable range of alternatives for this project would include a proposed action that examines a combination of facility sites, new and existing with upgrades, that would reasonably accommodate the LSRCP biological criteria and program objectives. Connected, similar, and cumulative actions will be considered, along with a reasonable range of alternatives that could fulfill the purpose and need of the proposed action, including a no-action alternative. Mitigation measures will be considered, separate from features of the proposed action, that could avoid or substantially reduce the environmental consequences of the proposed action.

Public Participation and Identification of Environmental Issues

BPA has reinitiated scoping for this project, establishing a scoping period during which affected landowners, concerned citizens, special interest groups, local governments, and any other interested parties are invited to comment on the scope of the proposed EIS. Scoping will help BPA ensure that a full range of issues related to this proposal is addressed in the EIS, and also will identify significant or potentially significant impacts that may result from the proposed project. At

these informal meetings, NPT, CTUIR, ODFW, USFS, USFWS, and BPA will provide detailed information about the proposed facilities and modifications to existing facilities. Written information will also be available, and BPA staff will answer questions and accept oral and written comments. When completed, the Draft EIS will be circulated for review and comment, and BPA will hold public comment meetings for the Draft EIS. BPA will consider and respond in the Final EIS to comments received on the Draft EIS.

The proposed action and alternatives will be examined for environmental effects on the affected environment. The types of impacts that will be considered include foreseeable direct and indirect effects as well as past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future cumulative effects. Issues raised during the scoping process will be examined and addressed in the Draft EIS.

Maps and further information are available from BPA at the address above.

Issued in Portland, Oregon, on November 14, 2001.

Stephen J. Wright,

Acting Administrator and Chief Executive Officer.

[FR Doc. 01-29247 Filed 11-21-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-U

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP01-415-000]

East Tennessee Natural Gas Company; Notice of Public Working Meetings

November 16, 2001.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will hold additional public working meetings to discuss the environmental impacts of the East Tennessee Natural Gas Company's (East Tennessee) Patriot Project in Tennessee, Virginia, and North Carolina.

The locations and times for these meetings are listed below.

Tuesday, November 27, 2001, 7:30-10 p.m. Carroll County High School Auditorium, 100 Cavs Lane, Hillsville, VA 24343, (540) 728-2165 or (540) 236-4455

Thursday, November 29, 2001, 7:30-10 p.m. Martinsville Middle School Auditorium, 201 Brown Street, Martinsville, VA 24112, (276) 634-5728

These public working meetings are designed to provide you with more

information about the project, and an opportunity for you to discuss the project and alternatives with FERC staff. You may also submit written comments at the meeting.

On the dates of the meetings, we will also be conducting limited site visits of the project area, and on November 28, 2001, staff will conduct overflight of the project area. Anyone interested in participating in the site visits may contact the Commission's Office External Affairs at (201) 208-1088 for more details and must provide their own transportation.

David P. Boergers,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-29237 Filed 11-21-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP96-128-012]

Eastern Shore Natural Gas Company; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff

November 16, 2001.

Take notice that on November 6, 2001, Eastern Shore Natural Gas Company (Eastern Shore) tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Second Revised Volume No. 1, the following tariff sheets with a proposed effective date of November 1, 2001:

First Revised Sheet No. 1

First Revised Sheet No. 9

Original Sheet No. 10

Eastern Shore states that the purpose of this filing is to provide the requisite information concerning the specific negotiated rate service agreement with PECO Energy Company (PECO). Such requisite information includes the exact legal name of the shipper, the negotiated rate and other applicable charges, the applicable rate schedule, the primary receipt and delivery points, contract quantity and a statement affirming that the negotiated rate service agreement does not deviate in any material aspect from the form of service agreement contained in Eastern Shore's FERC Gas Tariff.

Eastern Shore states that copies have been mailed to all customers and interested state commissions.

Any person desiring to be heard or protest this filing should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with Section 385.214 and 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and

Regulations. All such motions or protests must be filed as provided in Section 154.210 of the Commission's Regulations. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceedings. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection. This filing 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). 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.

David P. Boergers,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-29236 Filed 11-21-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP02-24-000]

PG&E Gas Transmission, Northwest Corporation; Notice of Application

November 16, 2001.

Take notice that on November 9, 2001, PG&E Gas Transmission, Northwest Corporation (PG&E) filed an application pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's Regulations for a certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing PG&E to construct a total of 53.6 miles of 42-inch diameter loop of its existing mainline system in Boundary County in Idaho, and Spokane, Whitman, and Walla Walla Counties in Washington, and Umatilla County in Oregon and to increase system compression by adding 19,500 ISO hp of compression at one existing compressor station (Station 14) in Klamath County, Oregon, all as more fully set forth in the application that is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection. This filing may 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).

PG&E proposes this project to increase its system capacity by approximately