

Programs to the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC).

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest such 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 Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214). All such motions and protests should be filed on or before the comment date. Protests will be considered by the Commission to determine 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.

Comment Date: January 25, 2002.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 372-008 California]

Southern California Edison; Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Assessment

January 15, 2002.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) regulations, 18 CFR part 380 (Order No. 486, 52 FR 47897), the Office of Energy Projects has reviewed the application for license for the Lower Tule Hydroelectric Project, located on the Middle Fork of the Tule River in Tulare County, California, and has prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) for the project. The project is partially located within the Sequoia National Forest and the Giant Sequoia National Monument.

The DEA contains the staff's analysis of the potential environmental impacts

of the project and concludes that licensing the project, with appropriate environmental protective measures, would not constitute a major federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

A copy of the DEA is on file with the Commission and is available for public inspection. The DEA 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).

Any comments should be filed by February 14, 2002, and should be addressed to Linwood A. Watson, Acting Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. Please affix Project No. 372-008 to all comments. 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 under the "e-Filing" link.

For further information, contact Nan Allen at (202) 219-2938.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP02-9-000]

Dominion Transmission, Inc.; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Line 280 Replacement Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

January 15, 2002.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) that will discuss the environmental impacts of the Line 280 Replacement Project involving construction, operation, and abandonment of facilities by Dominion Transmission, Inc. (DTI) in Pennsylvania.¹ This EA will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether the project is in the public convenience and necessity.

If you are a landowner receiving this notice, you may be contacted by a pipeline company representative about

¹DTI's application was filed with the Commission under Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations.

the acquisition of an easement to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed facilities. The pipeline company would seek to negotiate a mutually acceptable agreement. However, if the project is approved by the Commission, that approval conveys with it the right of eminent domain. Therefore, if easement negotiations fail to produce an agreement, the pipeline company could initiate condemnation proceedings in accordance with state law.

A fact sheet prepared by the FERC entitled "An Interstate Natural Gas Facility On My Land? What Do I Need To Know?" was attached to the project notice DTI provided to landowners. This fact sheet addresses a number of typically asked questions, including the use of eminent domain and how to participate in the Commission's proceedings. It is available for viewing on the FERC Internet website (www.ferc.gov).

Summary of the Proposed Project

DTI proposes to abandon in place approximately 71 miles of its existing LN-280 pipeline and 5 miles of its existing LN-4 pipeline in Cameron, Clinton, Elk, Potter, and Tioga Counties, Pennsylvania. In order to replace the capacity lost by the pipeline abandonment, DTI also proposes to install two additional compressor units, each rated for 1,775 horsepower, at its existing Ardell Compressor Station in Elk County, Pennsylvania.

Abandonment of LN-280 and LN-4 would require no additional land, since the pipelines would be left in place. DTI would retain ownership of the existing right-of-way. Construction of the proposed facilities at the existing Ardell Compressor Station would require about 11.5 acres of land. Of this 11.5 acres, approximately 1.9 acres would be required for the station expansion and for new right-of-way. The remaining 9.6 acres would occur on the existing station or existing right-of-way.

The EA Process

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires the Commission to take into account the environmental impacts that could result from an action whenever it considers the issuance of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity. NEPA also requires us² to discover and address concerns the public may have about proposals. We call this "scoping". The main goal of the scoping process is to focus the analysis

²"We", "us", and "our" refer to the environmental staff of the Office of Energy Projects (OEP).