

taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. All such motions or protests should be filed on or before the comment date, and, to the extent applicable, must be served on the applicant and on any other person designated on the official service list. This filing is available for review at the Commission or may be viewed on the Commission's web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "RIMS" link, select "Docket #" and follow the instructions (call 202-208-2222 for assistance). 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: May 22, 2002.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-12368 Filed 5-16-02; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2031-046]

Springville City, UT; Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment

May 13, 2002.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission's) regulations, the Office of Energy Projects has reviewed the application dated August 30, 2000, requesting the Commission's authorization to issue a new license for the existing Bartholomew Hydroelectric Project, and has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed and alternative actions. The subject project is located within Bartholomew Canyon and on Hobbie Creek, in Utah County, Utah. The project is partially situated on federal lands within the Uinta National Forest.

Copies of the EA can be viewed at the Commission's Public Reference Room, Room 2A, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, or by calling (202) 208-1371. The document also may be viewed on the Web at www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm. Call (202) 208-2222 for assistance.

Any comments on the EA should be filed within 45 days from the date of this notice and should be addressed to:

Magalie R. Salas, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. Please affix "Bartholomew Hydroelectric Project, No.2031-046" to the first page of your comments. All timely filed comments will be considered in any Commission order addressing the proposed new license.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please telephone the Commission's Environmental Coordinator for the Bartholomew Hydroelectric Project at (202) 219-2780 or contact him by E-mail at james.haimes@ferc.gov.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. AD02-1-000]

Federal Energy Regulatory Records Information System; Notice of Intent To Replace the Commission Issuance Posting System, Records Information Management System and Docket Sheet System

May 13, 2002.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (the Commission), hereby gives notice that it intends to discontinue updating its Commission Issuance Posting System (CIPS), Records Information Management System (RIMS) and its Docket Sheet System on the web. As detailed in the notice of March 3, 2002 in the referenced docket, the Commission intends to combine these three online systems into a single online system called the Federal Energy Regulatory Records Information System (FERRIS).

This notice announces the coming availability of the new system. The Commission will start updating FERRIS with current issuances (CIPS data only) on or about May 20, 2002. On or about June 1, 2002, the Commission will complete the conversion of RIMS files and will discontinue updating CIPS, RIMS and Docket Sheets. Please refer to the Commission's website for the announcement of the exact dates these systems will no longer be updated.

To familiarize the public with the features of the new system, the Commission is holding demonstrations and classes. Dates for these events, held at the Commission's headquarters and through the web, are announced under

the link, Demo's & Classes, on the FERRIS introductory page on the Commission's website, http://www.ferc.gov/help/demos_classes.htm.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-12367 Filed 5-16-02; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RT02-2-000, RT01-86-000, RT01-95-000, RM99-2-000, RT01-99-000, and RT01-100-000]

State-Federal Regional Panels on Regional Transmission Organizations, New England Transmission Owners, New York Independent System Operator, Inc., Regional Transmission Organizations; Notice of State-Federal Regional Panel

May 13, 2002.

On May 28, 2002, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time, there will be a state-federal regional panel in the form of a teleconference for New England and New York. Commissioners and staff from state regulatory agencies, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and comparable Canadian national or provincial agencies will participate in the panel. It is established pursuant to the Order Announcing the Establishment of State-Federal Regional Panels to Address RTO Issues, Modifying the Application of Rule 2201 in the Captioned Dockets, and Clarifying Order No. 607, 97 FERC ¶ 61,182 (2001), *order on reh'g*, 98 FERC ¶ 61,309 (2002), *amended by* 99 FERC ¶ 61,092 (2002).

The participants have proposed the following agenda:

- (1) The cost-benefit study on regional transmission organizations to be released May 14, 2002, by the New England and New York Independent System Operators.
- (2) The geographic scope of regional transmission organizations in relation to New England.
- (3) The merger of the New England and New York Independent System Operators.
- (4) Governance of regional transmission organizations, including selection of board members and independence.
- (5) Market monitoring.

The panel discussion will be transcribed, and the transcript will be placed in the captioned dockets. Ace-Federal Reporters will provide copies of the transcript at cost. The phone

numbers for Ace-Federal Reporters are (800) 336-6646 and (202) 347-3700. Additionally, the Commission will post the transcript on its website ten days after receipt from Ace-Federal Reporters.

For additional information, please contact: Sarah McKinley, State Relations, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, (202) 208-2016, Sarah.McKinley@ferc.gov.

Magalie R. Salas,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-12370 Filed 5-16-02; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[ER-FRL-6629-4]

Environmental Impact Statements and Regulations; Availability of EPA Comments

Availability of EPA comments prepared pursuant to the Environmental Review Process (ERP), under section 309 of the Clean Air Act and section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act as amended. Requests for copies of EPA comments can be directed to the Office of Federal Activities at (202) 564-7167.

An explanation of the ratings assigned to draft environmental impact statements (EISs) was published in FR dated April 12, 2002, (67 FR 17992).

Draft EISs

ERP No. D-AFS-J82016-MT Rating EC2, Bitterroot National Forest Noxious Weed Treatment Project, Ground and Aerial Herbicides Application, Mechanical, Biological and Cultural Weed Treatment and Public Awareness Measures, Implementation, Stevensville Ranger District, Bitterroot National Forest, Ravalli County, MT.

Summary: EPA supports the need for an integrated weed management program, but expressed environmental concerns regarding potential for herbicide transport to surface and ground water, and recommended improved mitigation measures to reduce risk of drift or herbicides to aquatic areas during aerial application. Specifically, the final EIS should include information regarding application rates for herbicide treatments, and information on herbicide leaching potential and aquatic toxicity and a minimal level of monitoring for herbicides in selected sensitive waters to validate effectiveness of mitigation measures.

ERP No. D-DOE-L08059-WA Rating EC2, Schultz-Hanford Transmission Line Project, New 500 kilovolt (kV) Transmission Line Construction, Central Washington, north of Hanford connecting to existing line at the Schultz Substation, Kittitas, Yakima, Grant and Benton Counties, WA.

Summary: EPA expressed environmental concerns with the purpose and need and alternatives evaluated, characterization of expected effects and proposed mitigation measures. EPA recommended that the FEIS include a monitoring and evaluation plan and include a discussion of the rationale for evaluating two specific project segments (Segment A Reroute and Segment B).

ERP No. D-DOE-L08060-00 Rating EC2, Wallula Power Project and Wallula-McNary Transmission Line Project, Construction and Operation, 1300 megawatt(MW) Natural Gas Fired Combustion Gas Turbine Facility and a new 500-kilovolt(kV) Transmission Line and Upgrade of the McNary Substation, US COE Section 10 and 404 Permits, Walla-Walla Co., WA and Umatilla Co., OR.

Summary: EPA had environmental concerns and identified issues with the project purpose and need and alternatives, air quality impact assessment, cumulative effects, lack of a monitoring and evaluation plan, noise effects on wildlife and vegetation management. EPA recommended that these issues be addressed in the final EIS.

ERP No. D-DOE-L08061-00 Rating EC2, McNary-John Day Transmission Line Project, Construction, Operation and Maintenance of a 79-mile-long 500-Kilovolt-Transmission Line between McNary Substation and John Day Substation, Umatilla and Sherman Counties, OR and Benton and Klickitat Counties, WA.

Summary: EPA has environmental concerns due to the lack of a demonstrated need for the project, an effectively constrained range of alternatives and the general, programmatic analyses for a site specific project. EPA recommends that the final EIS demonstrate the need for the project, examine the full range of reasonable alternatives, and include site-specific information and analyses about the project corridor, proposed project and mitigation measures.

ERP No. D-FHW-E40793-00 Rating EC2, Appalachian Corridor I-66 Highway Construction, US 23/119 south of Pikeville, KY eastward to the King Coal Highway southeast of Matewan, Funding and US Army COE Section 404

Permits Issuance, Pike County, KY and Mingo County, WV.

Summary: EPA expressed environmental concerns regarding locations of Alternates and Connectors, avoidance and mitigation of wetlands and stream impacts, and potential secondary and cumulative impacts. EPA requested additional information on these issues and clarification of study area maps.

ERP No. D-FHW-F40399-MI Rating EC2, M-15 Reconstruction, I-75 to I-69, Funding and NPDES and US Army COE Section 404 Permits Issuance, Oakland and Genesee Counties, MI.

Summary: EPA has environmental concerns and have identified issues relating to: Alternatives, wetland impacts/ mitigation, surface/ groundwater water and cumulative impacts.

ERP No. D-FHW-F40402-MI Rating EC2, I-94 Jackson Freeway Modernization Project, Improvements between Michigan State Route-60 (MI-60) and Sargent Road, Funding and NPDES and US Army COE Section 404 Permits Issuance, Jackson County, MI.

Summary: EPA identified environmental concerns with respect to wetland and stormwater impacts.

ERP No. D-FRC-J03014-00 Rating EC2, Kern River 2003 Gas Transmission Project, Expansion of the existing (KRG) Interstate Pipeline System from southwestern Wyoming to southern California, Right-of-Way Grant, NPDES and US Army COE Section 404 Permits Issuance, (FERC Docket NO. CP01-422-000), WY, UT, NV and CA.

Summary: EPA expressed environmental concerns about impacts to wetlands and riparian areas, as well as the need to include information on revegetation plans and methods for controlling erosion.

ERP No. D-FRC-L05222-ID Rating EO2, Four Mid-Snake River Hydroelectric Projects, Applications for New License for the Existing Projects: Shoshone Falls-FERC No. 2778, Upper Salmon Falls-FERC No. 2777, Lower Salmon Falls-FERC No. 2061 and Bliss-FERC No. 1975, Snake River, ID.

Summary: EPA expressed objections to three of the alternatives evaluated in the DEIS as they would not result in any appreciable improvement to instream or riparian environmental conditions. EPA expressed concerns with the Year-Round Run-of-River alternative due to the lack of clarity as to whether this alternative would effectively deliver the quantity and quality of water needed for downstream salmon recovery efforts. EPA recommended that the FEIS include additional information related to project purpose and need, issues