

project and balances that against the non-environmental benefits to be provided by the project. Therefore, if a person has comments on community and landowner impacts from this proposal, it is important either to file comments or to intervene as early in the process as possible.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings. 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.

If the Commission decides to set the amendment for a formal hearing before an Administrative Law Judge, the Commission will issue another notice describing that process. At the end of the Commission's review process, a final Commission order approving or denying a certificate will be issued.

All persons who have heretofore filed need not file again.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-25976 Filed 10-10-02; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 1417-080]

Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District; Notice of Availability of Final Environmental Assessment

October 7, 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 a Land and Shoreline Management Plan for the Kingsley Dam Hydroelectric Project, located on the North Platte and Platte Rivers, in Garden, Keith, Lincoln, Dawson, and Gosper Counties, Nebraska, and has prepared a Final Environmental Assessment (FEA). The Kingsley Dam Project does not occupy any federal or tribal lands.

The FEA contains the staff's analysis of the potential environmental impacts and concludes that approving the Shoreline Management Plan, with staff recommended changes, would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

A copy of the FEA is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "FERRIS" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document.

For assistance, call (202) 502-8222 or for TTY (202) 502-8659. For further information, contact Steve Hocking at (202) 502-8753 or steve.hocking@ferc.gov.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,
Deputy Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project Nos. 11834-000 and 4026-033—Maine]

FPL Energy Maine Hydro, LLC and Androscoggin Reservoir Company; Notice of Availability of Final Environmental Assessment

October 4, 2002.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission's) regulations, 18 CFR part 380 (Order No. 486, 52 FR 47897), the Office of Energy Projects has reviewed the application for an original license for the Upper and Middle Dam Storage Project located on the Rapid River, in Oxford and Franklin Counties, Maine, and has prepared an Final Environmental Assessment (FEA) for the project. In addition, the FEA analyzes the proposed permanent flow pursuant to Article 32 of the existing license for the Azisochos Project, located on the Magalloway River, in Oxford County, Maine. In the FEA, the Commission's staff has analyzed the potential environmental effects of the project, and permanent minimum flow and has concluded that approval of the project, with appropriate environmental measures, would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

On May 21, 2002, the Commission staff issued a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Upper and Middle Dam Storage Project and the proposed permanent minimum flow from the Azisochos Project and requested that any comments be filed within 30 days. Comments were filed by four entities and are addressed in the FEA.

The FEA contains the staff's analysis of the potential environmental effects 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 FEA is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "FERRIS" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, call 1-866-208-3676 or for TTY (202) 502-8659, or e-mail FERCONLINESUPPORT@FERC.GOV.

For further information, contact Mark Pawlowski at (202) 502-6052.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,
Deputy Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP02-385-000]

Williams Gas Pipelines Central, Inc.; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Redbud Power Pipeline Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

October 4, 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 Redbud Power Pipeline Project involving construction and operation of facilities by Williams Gas Pipelines Central, Inc. (Williams) in Oklahoma County, Oklahoma.¹ These facilities would consist of about 12.6 miles of various diameter pipeline and a meter station with appurtenant facilities. 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

¹ Williams' application was originally filed under the blanket certificate authority issued to Williams in Docket No. CP82-479-000 and the certificate procedures of Part 157 of the Commission's regulations. Williams' application was subsequently protested, however, and on September 5, 2002, its application was converted to a section 7(c) filing under the Natural Gas Act (NGA).

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 Williams 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 Web site (www.ferc.gov).

Summary of the Proposed Project

Williams wants to construct and operate 12.6 miles of a 30-inch and 24-inch-diameter pipeline lateral and a 12-inch-diameter delivery meter station with appurtenant facilities located in Oklahoma County, Oklahoma. The proposed facilities would transport up to 51,980 million British thermal units per day of natural gas to Redbud Energy, LP (Redbud) for its new non-jurisdictional 1,100 megawatt power generation station.

The new 12.6-mile-long lateral would commence at a point within Williams' existing Edmond Compressor Station and terminate on a site owned by Redbud. The lateral would consist of 12.3 miles of 30-inch-diameter pipeline and 0.3 miles of 24-inch-diameter pipeline. Pigging facilities are proposed at both ends of the lateral. Williams would construct a 100-foot by 150-foot meter station within the Redbud Power Plant.

The general location of the project facilities is shown in appendix 1.²

Land Requirements for Construction

Construction of the proposed facilities would require about 136.8 acres of land. Following construction, about 76.4 acres would be maintained as permanent right-of-way. The remaining 60.4 acres

² The appendices referenced in this notice are not being printed in the **Federal Register**. Copies are available on the Commission's Web site at the "FERRIS" link or from the Commission's Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, or call 1-866-208-3676. For instructions on connecting to FERRIS refer to the last page of this notice. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.

of land would be restored and allowed to revert to its former use.

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 us³ to discover and address concerns the public may have about proposals. This process is referred to as "scoping". The main goal of the scoping process is to focus the analysis in the EA on the important environmental issues. By this Notice of Intent, the Commission requests public comments on the scope of the issues it will address in the EA. All comments received are considered during the preparation of the EA. State and local government representatives are encouraged to notify their constituents of this proposed action and encourage them to comment on their areas of concern.

The EA will discuss impacts that could occur as a result of the construction and operation of the proposed project under these general headings:

- Geology and soils
- Land use
- Water resources, fisheries, and wetlands
- Cultural resources
- Vegetation and wildlife
- Air quality and noise
- Endangered and threatened species
- Public safety

We will also evaluate possible alternatives to the proposed project or portions of the project, and make recommendations on how to lessen or avoid impacts on the various resource areas.

Also, we have made a preliminary decision to not address the impacts of the nonjurisdictional facilities. We will briefly describe their location and status in the EA.

Our independent analysis of the issues will be in the EA. Depending on the comments received during the scoping process, the EA may be published and mailed to Federal, state, and local agencies, public interest groups, interested individuals, affected landowners, newspapers, libraries, and the Commission's official service list for this proceeding. A comment period will be allotted for review if the EA is published. We will consider all comments on the EA before we make

³ "We", "us", and "our" refer to the environmental staff of the Office of Energy Projects (OEP).

our recommendations to the Commission.

To ensure your comments are considered, please carefully follow the instructions in the public participation section below.

Public Participation

You can make a difference by providing us with your specific comments or concerns about the project. By becoming a commentator, your concerns will be addressed in the EA and considered by the Commission. You should focus on the potential environmental effects of the proposal, alternatives to the proposal (including alternative routes), and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impact. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. Please carefully follow these instructions to ensure that your comments are received in time and properly recorded:

- Send an original and two copies of your letter to: Magalie R. Salas, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., NE., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426.
- Label one copy of the comments for the attention of Gas 1, PJ-11.1.
- Reference Docket No. CP02-385-000.
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before November 4, 2002.

Please note that we are continuing to experience delays in mail deliveries from the U.S. Postal Service. As a result, we will include all comments that we receive within a reasonable time frame in our environmental analysis of this project. However, the Commission strongly encourages electronic filing of any comments or interventions or protests to this proceeding. 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 and the link to the User's Guide. Before you can file comments you will need to create a free account which can be created by clicking on "Login to File" and then "New User Account."

Becoming an Intervenor

In addition to involvement in the EA scoping process, you may want to become an official party to the proceeding known as an "intervenor". Intervenor play a more formal role in the process. Among other things, intervenors have the right to receive copies of case-related Commission documents and filings by other intervenors. Likewise, each intervenor must provide 14 copies of its filings to the Secretary of the Commission and

must send a copy of its filings to all other parties on the Commission's service list for this proceeding. If you want to become an intervenor you must file a motion to intervene according to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214) (see appendix 2).⁴ Only intervenors have the right to seek rehearing of the Commission's decision.

Affected landowners and parties with environmental concerns may be granted intervenor status upon showing good cause by stating that they have a clear and direct interest in this proceeding which would not be adequately represented by any other parties. You do not need intervenor status to have your environmental comments considered.

Environmental Mailing List

This notice is being sent to individuals, organizations, and government entities interested in and/or potentially affected by the proposed project. It is also being sent to all identified potential right-of-way grantors. By this notice we are also asking governmental agencies, especially those in appendix 3, to express their interest in becoming cooperating agencies for the preparation of the EA.

Additional Information

Additional information about the project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at 1-866-208-FERC or on the FERC Internet Web site (www.ferc.gov) using the FERRIS link. Click on the FERRIS link, enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the Docket Number field. Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance with FERRIS, the FERRIS helpline can be reached at 1-866-208-3676, TTY (202) 502-8659, or at FERCONLINESUPPORT@FERC.GOV. The FERRIS link on the FERC Internet Web site also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Deputy Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Application Tendered for Filing With the Commission, Establishing Procedural Schedule for Relicensing and a Deadline for Submission of Final Amendments

October 4, 2002.

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

a. *Type of Application:* New Major License.

b. *Project No.:* 487-034.

c. *Date Filed:* September 25, 2002.

d. *Applicant:* PPL Holtwood, LLC.

e. *Name of Project:* Lake Wallenpaupack Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location:* On Wallenpaupack Creek, in Wayne and Pike Counties, Pennsylvania.

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

h. *Applicant Contact:* Gary Petrewski, PPL Generation, LLC, Two North Ninth Street, Allentown, PA 18101-1179, (610) 774-5996, gpetrewski@pplweb.com.

i. *FERC Contact:* Patrick K. Murphy (202) 502-8755,

patrick.murphy@ferc.gov.

j. *Deadline for filing comments:* 30 days from the issuance date of this notice.

All documents (original and eight copies) should be filed with: Magalie R. Salas, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426. 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. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings.

The Commission's Rules of Practice require all intervenors filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person on the official service list for the project. Further, if an intervenor files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, they must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency.

k. *The existing Lake Wallenpaupack Project consists of:* (1) A dam, comprised of a gravity type concrete structure and earthen embankments, totaling about 1,300 feet long; (2) a 2.5-mile-long, 14-foot-diameter steel

pipeline, connecting to a surge tank, and two penstocks; (2) a 5,700-acre reservoir; (3) a powerhouse with a total installed capacity of 44 megawatts; and (4) appurtenant facilities. The applicant estimates that the average annual generation is 80,500 megawatt hours.

l. *Location of the Application:* 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) 502-8371. The application may be viewed on the Web at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "FERRIS" link. Enter the docket number, excluding the last three digits in the docket number field, to access the document. For assistance, call 1-866-208-3676, or send an e-mail to ferconline.support@ferc.gov. A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in item h above.

m. *Relicensing procedures and final amendments:* The Commission staff proposes to issue a single Environmental Assessment (EA) rather than issuing a draft and final EA. Staff intends to allow at least 30 days for entities to comment on the EA before final action is taken on the license application. If any person or organization objects to this staff proposed procedure, they should file comments as stipulated in item j above, explaining the basis for their objection. The application will be processed according to the following Hydro Licensing Schedule. Revisions to the schedule will be made as appropriate.

Issue Deficiency or Acceptance Letter with request for additional information—November 2002

Notice soliciting final terms and conditions—March 2003

Notice of the availability of the EA—August 2003

Ready for Commission's decision on the application—January 2004

Final amendments to the application must be filed with the Commission no later than 45 days from the issuance date of the notice soliciting final terms and conditions.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-25817 Filed 10-10-02; 8:45 am]

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⁴ Interventions may also be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. See the previous discussion on filing comments electronically.