

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission****Notice of Application Tendered for Filing With the Commission, and Soliciting Additional Study Requests, and Establishing Procedural Schedule for Licensing and Deadline for Submission of Final Amendments**

December 17, 2002.

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

a. *Type of Application*: Minor original license.

b. *Project No.*: 12423-001.

c. *Date filed*: November 25, 2002.

d. *Applicant*: American Falls Reservoir District No. 2 and Big Wood Canal Company.

e. *Name of Project*: 993 Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location*: Juncture of the 993 Lateral and North Gooding Main Canal, Boise Meridian, 20 miles northwest of the Town of Shoshone, Lincoln County, Idaho. The initial diversion is the Milner Dam on the Snake River. The North Gooding Main Canal is part of a U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Bureau) project. The project would occupy about 10-15 acres of Federal land managed by the Bureau.

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

h. *Applicant Contact*: Lynn Harmon, General Manager, American Falls Reservoir District No. 2 and Big Wood Canal Company, Box C, Shoshone, Idaho, 83352; (208) 886-2331.

i. *FERC Contact*: Allison Arnold, (202) 502-6346 or allison.arnold@ferc.gov.

j. *Cooperating agencies*: We are asking Federal, state, local, and tribal agencies with jurisdiction and/or special expertise with respect to environmental issues to cooperate with us in the preparation of the environmental document. Agencies who would like to request cooperating status should follow the instructions for filing comments described in item k below.

k. Pursuant to section 4.32(b)(7) of 18 CFR of the Commission's regulations, if any resource agency, Indian Tribe, or person believes that an additional scientific study should be conducted in order to form an adequate factual basis for a complete analysis of the application on its merit, the resource agency, Indian Tribe, or person must file a request for a study with the Commission not later than 60 days from the date of this notice, and serve a copy of the request on the applicant.

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.

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.

Additional study requests and requests for cooperating agency status may be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>) under the "e-Filing" link.

l. This application is not ready for environmental analysis at this time.

m. The 993 Hydroelectric Power Project would consist of: (1) A new concrete diversion structure located across the North Gooding Main Canal with a maximum height of 10 feet; (2) a new 7,000-foot-long canal with a bottom width of 25 feet that is to be excavated from rock, with some earth embankment, having a hydraulic capacity of 350 cfs; (3) a 10-foot-high gated concrete diversion structure that will divert up to 350 cfs to a concrete intake structure; (4) a 2,900-foot-long steel pipe (or HDPE) penstock (72 inch diameter); (5) a 30 by 50-foot concrete with masonry or metal walled powerhouse containing two 750 kilowatt turbines with a total installed capacity of 1,500 Kw; (6) an enlarged 100-foot-long tailrace channel with a bottom width of 40 feet that will discharge into the North Gooding Main Canal; (7) a 2.4-mile-long transmission line, and (8) appurtenant facilities. The annual generation will be approximately 5.8 gigawatt-hours (GWh).

n. A copy of the application 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, contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll-free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, (202) 502-8659. A copy is also available

for inspection and reproduction at the address in item h above.

o. With this notice, we are initiating consultation with the Idaho State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), as required by § 106, National Historic Preservation Act, and the regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, 36 CFR 800.4.

p. *Procedural schedule and final amendments*: The application will be processed according to the following Hydro Licensing Schedule. Revisions to the schedule will be made as appropriate.

Issue Acceptance or Deficiency Letter—March 2003.

Issue Scoping Document—April 2003.

Notice that application is ready for environmental analysis—July 2003.

Notice of the availability of the EA—November 2003.

Ready for Commission decision on the application—January 2004.

Final amendments to the application must be filed with the Commission no later than 30 days from the issuance date of the notice of ready for environmental analysis.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-32208 Filed 12-20-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission****Notice of Alternative Dispute Resolution Workshop**

December 17, 2002.

The Commission's Dispute Resolution Service (DRS) will hold a workshop on alternative dispute resolution and how it can be used during the natural gas pipeline pre-filing process. The workshop will be held on January 9, 2003, at the Airport Marriott Hotel, 18700 John F. Kennedy Blvd., Houston, Texas 77032.

The workshop will describe ADR, how ADR has been used successfully, and when ADR may be an appropriate alternative to traditional means of resolving disputes. The DRS will present information about its activities and services. The DRS will explore with the participants to the workshop what they believe their dispute resolution needs are and help identify what steps could be taken to meet those needs. The workshop will also seek comment on what the DRS could do to help parties resolve disputes at the earliest possible time and at low cost. Richard Miles and

Deborah Osborne from the DRS and Douglas Sipe from the Office of Energy Projects will facilitate the workshop.

The Workshop will be held from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The DRS will be available during the afternoon to answer any questions or to discuss specific areas that the participants raise. To attend, please register by email to douglas.sipe@ferc.gov or call Douglas Sipe at (202) 502-8837. For more information on the DRS, visit the FERC Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov/legal/drs/drs.htm> or contact Richard Miles at (202) 502-8702 or richard.miles@ferc.gov.

Additional workshops may be held in other regions of the country if industry response to the January 9th workshop is warranted. Please contact Douglas Sipe if you have any questions or comments regard these future workshops.

Magalie R. Salas,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-32207 Filed 12-20-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of FERC Staff Participation at MISO-PJM-SPP Reliability Seams Workshop

December 16, 2002.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission hereby gives notice that on December 18, 2002, members of its staff will attend the MISO-PJM-SPP reliability seams workshop, concerning proposed solutions to address parallel path flow issues and the coordination of congestion management processes and ATC/AFC values between the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc. (MISO), PJM Interconnection (PJM) and Southwest Power Pool, Inc. (SPP) regions. The staff's attendance is part of the Commission's ongoing outreach efforts. The meeting is sponsored by MISO, PJM and SPP, and will be held on December 18, 2002, 10 a.m. at the Radisson Airport Hotel & Conference Center, 1375 North Cassady Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43219.

This meeting is open to the public. The meeting may discuss matters at issue in Docket No. RM01-12-000, Remedying Undue Discrimination Through Open Access Transmission Service and Standard Electricity Market Design, and in Docket No. EL02-65-000, *et al.*, Alliance Companies, *et al.*

For more information, contact Patrick Clarey, Office of Markets, Tariffs and

Rates, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission at (202) 502-8540 or patrick.clarey@ferc.gov.

Magalie R. Salas,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-32206 Filed 12-20-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7426-1]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Seven-County Study of Air Quality and Birth Defects: Computer-Assisted Telephone Questionnaire for Subset of Study Population

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this document announces that EPA is planning to submit the following proposed Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Title: Seven-County Study of Air Quality and Birth Defects: Computer-Assisted Telephone Questionnaire for Subset of Study Population. Before submitting the ICR to OMB for review and approval, EPA is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the proposed information collection as described below.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before February 21, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Public comments should be submitted to: Dr. Pauline Mendola, US EPA (MD 58A) Research Triangle Park, NC 27711.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Interested persons may obtain technical information or a copy of the ICR without charge by contacting: Dr. Pauline Mendola, (919) 966-6953; FAX: (919) 966-7584; E-mail:

mendola.pauline@epa.gov, or by mailing a request to the address above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Affected entities: Entities potentially affected by this action are women who delivered a live-born or stillborn infant or who experienced a recorded fetal death in seven Texas counties in 1999 already enrolled in the record-linkage component of the Seven-County Study of Air Quality and Birth Defects.

Title: Seven-County Study of Air Quality and Birth Defects: Computer-Assisted Telephone Questionnaire for Subset of Study Population.

Abstract: Previous U.S. studies examining the relationship between air pollution and adverse reproductive outcomes have not used data beyond the Environmental Protection Agency's stationary ambient monitors to estimate exposure. The proposed computer-assisted questionnaire contains a maximum of 28 questions categorized into 6 sections: Residential History, Work History, Time Spent Outside the Home (Weekdays), Time Spent Outside the Home (Weekends), Multivitamin Use, and Tobacco Use. Study participants will be the mothers of infants born with and without birth defects in 1999 in seven Texas counties. These women will be selected from a larger records-linkage-based case-control study of air pollution and birth defects in the state.

Obtaining questionnaire information on maternal residence at conception will allow us to more precisely estimate exposure during the critical window of gestational weeks three through eight. Maternal work history, outdoor activities, and time spent outside the home will be used to refine exposure estimates for outdoor air pollution. The sections on maternal vitamin use and smoking during pregnancy will provide relevant data on potential confounders of the association between air pollution and birth defects.

The study investigators will use this data to help estimate the association between air pollution exposure and risk of selected birth defects. This will be the first study in this research area to collect this type of data, and if it proves useful, will indicate a need for such supplemental data collection in future studies.

The information will appear in the form of final EPA reports, dissertation manuscripts, and journal articles, and will also be made publicly available.

The total cost of this study is estimated to be approximately \$150,000.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control numbers for EPA's regulations are listed in 40 CFR part 9 and 48 CFR chapter 15.

The EPA would like to solicit comments to:

(i) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(ii) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information,