

should be analyzed in the EA, including viewpoints in opposition to, or in support of, the staff's preliminary views; (4) determine the resource issues to be addressed in the EA; and (5) identify those issues that require a detailed analysis, as well as those issues that do not require a detailed analysis.

Consequently, interested entities are requested to file with the Commission any data and information concerning environmental resources and land uses in the project area and the subject project's impacts to the aforementioned.

o. The tentative schedule for preparing the Center Creek EA is:  
Major Milestone—Target Date  
Ready for Environmental Analysis  
Notice—April 23, 2003  
Draft EA Issued—July 16, 2003  
Final EA Issued—September 17, 2003

**Note:** The schedule is going to vary depending upon the circumstances of the project (deficiencies, additional information, etc.) See Guidance for Publishing Hydro Licensing Schedules.

**Magalie R. Salas,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-6024 Filed 3-12-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

## 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

March 6, 2003.

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.:* 2169-020.
- c. *Date Filed:* February 21, 2003.
- d. *Applicant:* Alcoa Power Generating Inc (APGI).
- e. *Name of Project:* Tapoco Project.
- f. *Location:* On the Little Tennessee and Cheoah Rivers in Graham and Swain Counties, North Carolina and Blount and Monroe Counties, Tennessee. The project affects Federal lands.
- g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act 16 U.S.C. 791(a)-825(r).
- h. *Applicant Contact:* Mr. Norman L. Pierson, Property and Relicensing Manager, Alcoa Power Generation Inc., Tapoco Division, 300 North Hall Road, Alcoa, TN 37701-2516, (865) 977.3326.

i. *FERC Contact:* Randy Yates at (770) 452-3778, or [lorance.yates@ferc.gov](mailto:lorance.yates@ferc.gov).

j. *Deadline for filing comments on the application:* 60 days from the filing date.

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.

k. *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 cooperation status should follow the instruction for filing comments described in the item j above. 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 proposed Tapoco Project includes four developments:* Santeetlah Development consisting of: (1) 1,054-foot-high and 216-foot-high concrete arch dam; (2) 25,176 foot long tunnel/pipeline; (3) 2,881-acre reservoir; (4) powerhouse with two generating units, with the total installed capacity of 49.2 MW; and (5) 750-foot-long 161 kV transmission line.

Cheoah Development consisting of: (1) 750-foot-long and 229-foot high curved concrete gravity dam; (2) 644-acre reservoir; (3) powerhouse with 4 vertical Francis turbine units directly connected to generators and 1-independent Francis turbine unit added in 1949; and (4) 118-MW total installed capacity.

Calderwood Development consisting of: (1) 916-foot-long and 230-foot-high concrete arch dam; (2) 570-acre reservoir; (3) 2,050-foot-long tunnel; and (4) powerhouse with 3 Francis turbine units, which are being upgraded to a total installed capacity of 140.4 MW.

Chilhowee Development consisting of: (1) 1,483-foot-long and 88.5-foot-high concrete gravity dam; (2) 1.734-acre reservoir; and (3) powerhouse with 3 Kaplan turbine units with a total installed capacity of 52.2 MW

APGI is planning a refurbishment/upgrade at several of the units during the term of the new license and proposes to modify project operations in connection with the environmental measures described in the application.

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](mailto: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. Procedural schedule and final amendments: At this time we anticipate a comprehensive settlement to be submitted to the Commission and therefore we do not anticipate the need for preparing a draft EA. We intend to prepare a single environmental document. The EA will include our recommendations for operating procedures and environmental enhancement measures that should be part of any license issued by the Commission. Recipients will have 60 days to provide the Commission with any written comments on the EA. All comments filed with the Commission will be considered in the Order taking final action on the license applications. However, should substantive comments requiring reanalysis be received on the NEPA document, we would consider preparing a subsequent NEPA document.

The application will be processed according to the following Hydro Licensing Schedule. Revisions to the schedule may be made as appropriate.

Issue Acceptance letter—May 2003.

Notice soliciting final terms and conditions—May 2003.

Deadline for Agency Recommendations—July 2003.

Notice of the availability of the EA—November 2003.

Public Comments on EA due—January 2004.

Ready for Commission's decision on the application—July 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.

p. With this notice, we are initiating consultation with the Tennessee and North Carolina State Historic Preservation Officers as required by § 106, National Historic Preservation Act, and the regulations of the Advisory

Council on Historic Preservation, 36 CFR, part 800.

Magalie R. Salas,  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-6025 Filed 3-12-03; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

#### Notice of Application Tendered for Filing With the Commission, Soliciting Additional Study Requests, and Establishing Procedures for Relicensing and a Deadline for Submission of Final Amendments

March 6, 2003.

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.*: 382-026.

c. *Date Filed*: February 26, 2003.

d. *Applicant*: Southern California Edison Company.

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

f. *Location*: On the Kern River near the town of Bodfish in kern County, California.

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

h. *Applicant Contact*: Nino J. Mascolo, Senior Attorney, Southern California Edison Co., 2244 Walnut Grove Avenue, PO Box 800, Rosemead, California 91770; (626) 302-4459.

i. *FERC Contact*: Kenneth Hogan at (202) 502-8434 or [kenneth.hogan@ferc.gov](mailto:kenneth.hogan@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 instructions for filing comments described in item k below.

k. Deadline for filing additional study requests is 60 days from the date of this notice.

All documents (original and eight copies) should be filed with: Ms. 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 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 (<http://www.ferc.gov>) under the "e-Filing" link. After logging into the e-Filing system, selecte "Comment on Filing" from the Filing Type Selection screen and continue with the filing process.

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

m. The existing Borel Hydroelectric Project (Project) consists of: (1) 158-foot long, 4-foot-high concrete diversion dam with fishway; (2) a 61-foot-long intake structure with three 10-by 10-foot radial gates; (3) a canal inlet structure consisting of a canal intake, trash racks, and a sluice gate; (4) a flowline with a combined total length of 1,985-feet of tunnel, 1,651-feet of steel Lennon flume, 3,683-feet of steel siphon, and 51,835-feet of concrete-lined canal; (5) four steel penstock, penstocks 1 and 2 are 526-foot-long and 565-foot-long, respectively with varying diameters between 42 and 60 inches, penstocks 3 and 4 each have a 60-inch-diameter and extend 622-feet at which point they wye together to form a single 84-inch-diameter, 94-foot-long penstock; (6) a powerhouse with two 3,000 kW generators and a 6,000kW generator for a total installed capacity of 12,000 kW or 12 MW; and (7) other appurtenant facilities. The Project has no storage capability and relies on water releases from Lake Isabella made by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers.

n. A copy of the application is on file with the Commission and is available for public inspection. This filing may also 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 filed to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll-free at (866) 208-3676, or for TTY, contact (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 California 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 milestones, some of which may be combined to expedite processing:

Issue Deficiency Letter—May, 2003.

Notice of application accepted for filing—July, 2003.

Issuance of NEPA Scoping Document 1, for comments—August, 2003.

Request for Additional Information—September, 2003.

Issuance of NEPA Scoping Document 2—October, 2003.

Notice of application is ready for environmental analysis—November, 2003.

Notice of the availability of the draft NEPA document—April, 2004.

Notice of the availability of the final NEPA document—September, 2004.

Order issuing the Commission's decision on the application—October, 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.

Magalie R. Salas,  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-6028 Filed 3-12-03; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RM98-1-000]

#### Regulations Governing Off-the-Record Communications; Public Notice

March 7, 2003.

This constitutes notice, in accordance with 18 CFR 385.2201(h), of the receipt of exempt and prohibited off-the-record communications.

Order No. 607 (64 FR 51222, September 22, 1999) requires Commission decisional employees, who make or receive an exempt or a prohibited off-the-record communication relevant to the merits of a contested on-the-record proceeding, to deliver a copy of the communication, if written, or a summary of the substance of any oral communication, to the Secretary.

Prohibited communications will be included in a public, non-decisional file associated with, but not part of, the decisional record of the proceeding. Unless the Commission determines that the prohibited communication and any