

energy to Canada; that authorization expires on January 9, 2004. On November 24, 2003, the Office of Fossil Energy (FE) of the Department of Energy (DOE) received an application from Coral to renew its authorization to transmit electric energy from the United States to Canada as a power marketer. Coral, a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business in Houston, Texas, is indirectly owned by Shell Oil Company and Intergen, N.A. Coral does not own or control any electric power generation or transmission facilities and does not have a franchised service area.

Coral proposes to arrange for the delivery of electric energy to Canada over the existing international transmission facilities owned by Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Bonneville Power Administration, Citizen Utilities, Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative, International Transmission Company, Joint Owners of the Highgate Project, Long Sault, Inc., Maine Electric Power Company, Maine Public Service Company, Minnesota Power Inc., Minnkota Power Cooperative, New York Power Authority, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation, Northern States Power, and Vermont Electric Transmission Company.

The construction, operation, maintenance, and connection of each of the international transmission facilities to be utilized by Coral, as more fully described in the application, has previously been authorized by a Presidential permit issued pursuant to Executive Order 10485, as amended.

Because Coral is exporting electricity under the existing authorization, they have requested expedited processing of this application in order to avoid any lapse in export authority. Accordingly, DOE has shortened the comment period and requests comments, protests, and requests to intervene be filed by January 7, 2004.

Procedural Matters: Any person desiring to become a party to this proceeding or to be heard by filing comments or protests to this application should file a petition to intervene, comment or protest at the address provided above in accordance with §§ 385.211 or 385.214 of the FERC's Rules of Practice and Procedures (18 CFR 385.211, 385.214). Fifteen copies of each petition and protest should be filed with DOE on or before the date listed above.

Comments on the Coral application to export electric energy to Canada should be clearly marked with Docket EA-253-A. Additional copies are to be filed directly with Robert Reilley, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs, Coral

Canada U.S. Inc., 909 Fannin, Plaza One, Houston, TX 77010.

A final decision will be made on this application after the environmental impacts have been evaluated pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and a determination is made by the DOE that the proposed action will not adversely impact on the reliability of the U.S. electric power supply system.

Copies of this application will be made available, upon request, for public inspection and copying at the address provided above or by accessing the Fossil Energy Home Page at <http://www.fe.de.gov>. Upon reaching the Fossil Energy Home page, select "Regulatory Programs," then "Electricity Regulation," and then "Pending Proceedings" from the options menus.

Issued in Washington, DC, on December 18, 2003.

Anthony J. Como,

Deputy Director, Electric Power Regulation, Office of Coal & Power Import/Export, Office of Coal & Power Systems, Office of Fossil Energy.

[FR Doc. 03-31762 Filed 12-23-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Oak Ridge Reservation

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Oak Ridge. The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. No. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of this meeting be announced in the **Federal Register**.

DATES: Wednesday, January 14, 2004, 6 p.m.

ADDRESSES: DOE Information Center, 475 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Oak Ridge, TN.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pat Halsey, Federal Coordinator, Department of Energy Oak Ridge Operations Office, P.O. Box 2001, EM-90, Oak Ridge, TN 37831. Phone (865) 576-4025; Fax (865) 576-5333 or e-mail: halseypj@oro.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose of the Board: The purpose of the Board is to make recommendations to DOE in the areas of environmental restoration, waste management, and related activities.

Tentative Agenda:

The meeting presentation will feature an overview of the Federal Facility Agreement Core Team concept. Included will be a discussion of the philosophy behind the Core Team concept, the types of issues they address, and their mission, makeup, and responsibilities.

Public Participation: The meeting is open to the public. Written statements may be filed with the Committee either before or after the meeting. Individuals who wish to make oral statements pertaining to agenda items should contact Pat Halsey at the address or telephone number listed above. Requests must be received five days prior to the meeting and reasonable provision will be made to include the presentation in the agenda. The Deputy Designated Federal Officer is empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business. Each individual wishing to make public comment will be provided a maximum of five minutes to present their comments.

Minutes: Minutes of this meeting will be available for public review and copying at the Department of Energy's Information Center at 475 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Oak Ridge, TN between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, or by writing to Pat Halsey, Department of Energy Oak Ridge Operations Office, PO Box 2001, EM-90, Oak Ridge, TN 37831, or by calling her at (865) 576-4025.

Issued at Washington, DC on December 19, 2003.

Rachel M. Samuel,

Deputy Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 03-31701 Filed 12-23-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. ER02-1656-017]

California Independent System Operator Corporation; Notice of Technical Conference

December 16, 2003.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission is convening a technical conference regarding the California Independent System Operator Corporation (CAISO) Revised Comprehensive Market Design Proposal 2002 (MD02), pursuant to its Order issued on October 28, 2003,¹ to further

¹ California Independent System Operator Corporation, 105 FERC ¶ 61,140 (2003) (October 28 Order).

facilitate and better understand several aspects of the proposed MD02. The conference will be held on January 28–29, 2004, at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC beginning at 9 a.m. in a room to be announced at a later date.

The conference will focus on the flexible offer obligation proposal, the residual unit commitment process, pricing for constrained-output generators, marginal losses, and ancillary services. Participants are requested to restrict their contributions to this conference to these and other market efficiency issues not related to the mitigation of market power. Market Power Mitigation will be the focus of a second technical conference proposed to be held in early March 2004.

In the October 28 Order, the Commission also sought additional information and explanation from the CAISO in relation to certain elements of the MD02 proposal. Concurrently with this Notice the Commission Staff requests certain supplemental information from the CAISO to further clarify issues relating to certain aspects of the MD02 proposal, and to prepare for the March 2004 second technical conference. The dates by which the CAISO will be required to file information with the Commission are set out in a timetable in the Attachment to this Notice.

Interested participants are also invited to submit information and comments arising from the October 28 Order, the technical conference held in California on November 6, 2003, and from the additional information that will be submitted by the CAISO. Participants are also requested to submit information and comments to the Commission by the due dates listed in the timetable in the Attachment.

A second technical conference will be held in early March 2004 to finalize the outstanding issues relating to implementation of MD02, particularly the design of measures for the mitigation of market power, including local market power mitigation and treatment of imports. A separate notice of technical conference will be issued by the Commission in early February 2004 announcing the date and location of the second technical conference, and a final agenda.

The conference is open for the public to attend, and registration is not required. For more information about the conference, please contact: Olga

Kolotushkina at (202) 502–6024 or at olga.kolotushkina@ferc.gov.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

Timetable for Submissions

1. Information on Market Issues to be filed by the CAISO—by January 7, 2004

Pursuant to the October 28 Order, the Commission requests that the CAISO clarify the following issues by January 7, 2004, so that interested participants may both respond and better prepare for discussions at the MD02 Technical Conference to be held on January 28–29, 2004.

- Clarification of the CAISO's approach to allocation of marginal losses—refer to ¶ 78 of the October 28 Order.
- Revised pricing mechanism for setting prices for constrained output generators in the forward market—refer to ¶ 89 of the October 28 Order.
- Further clarification of the statement by the CAISO that it “does not prohibit energy from capacity committed in the day-ahead RUC from being sold by the unit owner via any bilateral transaction in the hour-ahead market, including sales to other Control Areas”—refer to ¶ 123 of the October 28 Order.
- Additional clarification on the CAISO's concern that a purchase of only capacity may undermine incentive to imports to acquire transmission capacity across ties as part of the residual unit commitment process—refer to ¶ 127 of the October 28 Order.

2. Information on Market Issues To Be Filed by Other Participants—by January 14, 2004 *

Participants are invited to file reply comments by Wednesday, January 14, 2004, in response to:

- The CAISO's submission under item 1 above;
- Any other market issues, other than market power mitigation, raised in the October 28 Order; and
- The discussions relating to market issues, other than market power mitigation, that occurred at the November 6, 2003 Technical Conference held in California.

* The Commission requests that submissions be limited to market issues other than market power mitigation measures. Market power mitigation and resource adequacy issues will be the focus of the second Technical Conference to be held in early March. The Commission will issue a formal notice announcing the second conference in early February.

3. Information Requested From CAISO Under Request Issued on December 16, 2003—by January 12, 2004

4. Comments of Other Participants in Response to Information Submitted by the CAISO Under Data Request—Anticipated Date January 26, 2004

Formal notice inviting comments from interested participants relating to CAISO's submission pursuant to the Data Request will be published by the Commission as soon as practicable after the CAISO has submitted the requested information. It is anticipated that the date by which such comments should be filed will be January 26, 2004. This will be specified in the notice.

[FR Doc. E3–00623 Filed 12–23–03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP04–31–000]

CenterPoint Energy Gas Transmission Company; Notice of Application

December 16, 2003.

Take notice that on December 9, 2003, CenterPoint Energy Gas Transmission Company (CenterPoint), 1111 Louisiana Street, Houston, Texas 77002–5231, filed in Docket No. CP04–31–000 pursuant to Section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act, an application for permission and approval to abandon certain facilities located in Panola County, Texas. Specifically, CenterPoint proposes to abandon one rural tap and appurtenant facilities located on Line ST–1B, all as more fully described in the request which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection. This filing may also be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the “eLibrary” link, select “Docket #” and follow the instructions. Call (202) 208–2222 for assistance.

CenterPoint states that it provides natural gas transportation service to CenterPoint Energy-Entex (Entex), an affiliated distribution company that serves two rural domestic customers on CenterPoint's Line ST–1B. CenterPoint avows that Line ST–1B was installed in 1954 for the primary purpose of receiving gas supplies from producers and transporting those supplies to CenterPoint's mainline transmission system. Although installed as a gas supply facility, CenterPoint explains that the two rural taps were installed on Line ST–1B to deliver gas to Entex and its two rural customers, Mr. Ray Schultz