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Magalie R. Salas,  
Secretary.

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP07-27-000]

#### **Tuscarora Gas Transmission Company; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Tuscarora 2008 Expansion Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues**

January 25, 2007.

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 Tuscarora 2008 Expansion project, involving construction and operation of a compressor station and appurtenances by Tuscarora Gas Transmission Company (Tuscarora).

Tuscarora proposes to construct a new natural gas-fired compressor station referred to as the Likely Compressor Station which would consist of a single 5,731 horsepower gas turbine compressor package and appurtenances in Modoc County, California. Tuscarora would also install isolation and side valves on its mainline and a total of about 1,800 feet of suction and discharge pipeline to connect the compressor station to the mainline. The general location of the project is shown on the map attached as Appendix 1.<sup>1</sup>

The proposed project would permit the firm transportation of an additional 40,000 dekatherms per day of natural gas to markets in northern Nevada. Specifically, the project would enable Sierra Pacific Power Company to fuel its 514-megawatt Tracy Combined Cycle Power Plant which is currently under construction.

The Likely Compressor Station would be located on a 21-acre parcel of land owned by Tuscarora east of its mainline right-of-way. The station would permanently occupy a 3.5-acre fenced and graveled area which would be surrounded by a mix of undeveloped and agricultural land. The closest town, Likely, is located about 3.5 miles away and the closest residence is located about 3,500 feet south of the site. One parcel of land managed by the Bureau of Land Management is located within 0.25 mile northeast of the compressor station site.

#### **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 us 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 staff requests public comments on the scope of the issues to address in the EA. All comments received will be considered during the preparation of the EA.

The Commission's staff will prepare an EA that will describe the potential environmental impacts that could result from construction and operation of the proposed project under the general headings:

- Water resources, wetlands, and waterbodies.
- Vegetation and wildlife.
- Threatened and endangered species.
- Cultural resources.
- Geology and soils.
- Land use and residences.
- Air quality and noise.
- Reliability and safety.

Our independent analysis of the issues will be presented in the EA. We will also evaluate possible alternatives to the proposed project or portions of

appendix (map) are available from the Commission's Public Reference Room, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, or call (202) 502-8371. Copies of the appendix will be sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.

the project, and make recommendations on how to lessen or avoid impacts on the various resource areas.

Depending on the comments received during the scoping process, the EA may be published and mailed to federal, state, and local government agencies; public interest groups; Native American tribes; interested individuals; affected landowners, newspapers, libraries, and the Commission's official service list for this proceeding. A 30-day comment period will be allotted for review if the EA is published. We will consider all comments submitted in any Commission Order that is issued for the project.

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 commenter, your concerns will be addressed in the EA and considered by the Commission. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. Generally, comments are submitted regarding the potential environmental effects, reasonable alternatives and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impact.

This notice and request for environmental comments is being sent to affected landowners; federal, state and local government representatives and agencies; environmental and public interest groups; other interested parties in this proceeding; and local libraries and newspapers. We encourage government representatives to notify their constituents of this notice and to encourage their comments concerning this proposed project.

To ensure that your comments are properly recorded, please mail them to our office on or before February 25, 2007. When filing comments please:

- 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 Branch 2; DG2E; and Reference Docket No. CP07-27-000 on the original and both copies.

Please note that the Commission strongly encourages the electronic filing ("eFiling") of comments, interventions or protests to this proceeding. Instructions on how to "eFile" comments can be found on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the "Documents and Filings" link.

<sup>1</sup> The appendix referenced in this notice is not being printed in the **Federal Register**. Copies of the

### 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 send one electronic copy (using the Commission's e-Filing system) or 14 paper 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). 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 has been sent to all known individuals, organizations, and government entities interested in and/or potentially affected by the proposed Project. This includes all landowners who are potential right-of-way grantors, whose property may be used temporarily for project purposes, or who own homes within distances defined in the Commission's regulations of certain aboveground facilities.

### Additional Information

Additional information about the project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs at 1-866-208 FERC (3372) or on the FERC Internet Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>).

To access information via the FERC Web site click on the "eLibrary" link then click on "General Search" and enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the Docket Number field. Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. The "eLibrary" link provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission such as orders, notices, and rulemakings. For assistance with "eLibrary", please contact FERC Online Support at

[FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or call toll free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202)502-8659.

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Public meetings and/or site visits along with other Project related information will be posted on the Commission's calendar located at <http://www.ferc.gov/EventCalendar/EventsList.aspx>.

**Magalie R. Salas,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. E7-1663 Filed 2-1-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

#### Notice of Application for Non-Project Use of Project Lands and Water and Soliciting Comments, Motions To Intervene, and Protests

January 25, 2007.

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

a. *Application Type:* Non-project use of project lands and waters.

b. *Project No.* 943-099.

c. *Date Filed:* January 9, 2007.

d. *Applicant:* Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County (County).

e. *Name of Project:* Rock Island Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location:* The project is located on the Columbia River in Chelan County, Washington. The project does not occupy any Federal or tribal lands.

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

h. *Applicant Contact:* Greg Jones, Coordinator, Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County, P.O. Box 1231, Wenatchee, WA 98807-1231. Phone: (509) 663-8121.

i. *FERC Contact:* Gina Krump, [gina.krump@ferc.gov](mailto:gina.krump@ferc.gov), 202-502-6704.

j. *Deadline for filing comments and or motions:* February 26, 2007.

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.

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. Please reference "Rock Island Hydroelectric Project, FERC Project No. 943-099" on any comments or motions filed. The Commission strongly encourages e-filings.

k. *Description of the Application:* The County requests Commission approval to permit the City of Wenatchee to construct a 4.1-mile non-paved, public trail on project mitigation lands.

l. *Locations of the Application:* This filing 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 "E-library" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, please 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.

m. Individuals desiring to be included on the Commission's mailing list should so indicate by writing to the Secretary of the Commission.

n. *Comments, Protests, or Motions to Intervene:* Anyone may submit comments, a protest, or a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.210, .211, .214. In determining the appropriate action to take, the Commission will consider all protests or other comments filed, but only those who file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules may become a party to the proceeding. Any comments, protests, or motions to intervene must be received on or before the specified comment date for the particular application.

o. *Filing and Service of Responsive Documents:* Any filings must bear in all capital letters the title "COMMENTS," "RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TERMS AND CONDITIONS," "PROTEST," OR "MOTION TO INTERVENE," as applicable, and the Project Number of the particular application to which the filing refers. Any of the above-named documents must be filed by providing the original and the number of copies provided by the Commission's regulations to: The Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426. A copy of any motion to intervene must