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**Nathaniel J. Davis, Jr.**

*Acting Deputy Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2233-066 Oregon]

#### Portland General Electric Company; Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment

October 29, 2007.

An environmental assessment (EA) is available for public review. The EA was prepared for an application filed by Portland General Electric Company (licensee) on December 29, 2006, and supplemented on February 26, 2007, requesting Commission approval of an amendment of license to increase the height of temporary flashboards on the concrete dam along the crest of Willamette Falls from 2.0 feet to 3.5 feet, in addition to other modifications, at the Willamette Falls Hydroelectric Project. The project is located on the Willamette River near the cities of West Linn and Oregon City in Clackamas County, Oregon. The project does not occupy any federal lands.

The EA evaluates the environmental impacts that would result from approving the licensee's proposed increase in flashboard height and installation of temporary adult lamprey passage structures. The EA finds that approval of the amendment application, combined with Commission modifications, would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

A copy of the EA is attached to a Commission order titled "Order Amending License," issued October 29, 2007, and is available for review in the Commission's Public Reference Room. A copy of the EA may also be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number (P-2233) 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.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**

*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. PF07-13-000]

#### Palomar Gas Transmission, LLC; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Palomar Gas Transmission Project; Request for Comments on Environmental Issues and Notice of Public Meetings

October 29, 2007.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) is in the process of preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) on the environmental impacts of the Palomar Gas Transmission Project involving the construction and operation of a new underground natural gas pipeline proposed by Palomar Gas Transmission, LLC (PGT). This Notice of Intent (NOI) explains the scoping process that will be used to gather input from the public and interested agencies on the project. Your input will help determine which issues will be evaluated in the EIS. Please note that the scoping period for this project will close on November 28, 2007.

Comments on the project may be submitted in written form or verbally. In lieu of or in addition to sending written comments, we<sup>1</sup> also invite you to attend the public scoping meetings that have been scheduled in the project area. The meetings are scheduled for Monday, November 12 in Maupin, Oregon; Tuesday, November 13 in Molalla, Oregon; Wednesday, November 14 in

<sup>1</sup> "We," "us," and "our" refer to the environmental staff of the FERC's Office of Energy Projects.

McMinnville, Oregon; and Thursday, November 15 in Forest Grove, Oregon. Further details on how to submit comments and additional details of the public scoping meetings are provided in the Public Participation section of this notice.

The FERC will be the lead federal agency in the preparation of an EIS that will satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and will be used by the FERC to consider the environmental impacts that could result if the Commission issues PGT a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity under section 7 of the Natural Gas Act.

This NOI is being sent to Federal, State, and local government agencies; elected officials; affected landowners; environmental and public interest groups; Indian tribes and regional Native American organizations; commentators and other interested parties; and local libraries and newspapers. We encourage government representatives to notify their constituents of this planned project and encourage them to comment on their areas of concern.

If you are a landowner receiving this notice, you may be contacted by a PGT representative about the acquisition of an easement to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed facilities. The pipeline would seek to negotiate a mutually acceptable agreement. However, if the project is approved by the FERC, 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?" is available for viewing on the FERC Internet Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov/for-citizens/citizen-guides.asp>). This fact sheet addresses a number of typically asked questions, including the use of eminent domain and how to participate in FERC's proceedings.

#### Summary of the Proposed Project

PGT has announced its proposal to construct and operate a new natural gas pipeline and associated structures with a bi-directional flow capacity of 1.4 billion cubic feet per day. The project would be located in northwest Oregon and consist of a 211-mile-long, 36-inch-diameter pipeline running from near Shaniko, Wasco County, Oregon to near Wauna, Clatsop County, Oregon. The pipeline would travel across Wasco,