DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
National Electric Transmission Congestion Study

AGENCY: Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE), Department of Energy.


SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (the "Department") gives notice that it has issued a National Electric Transmission Congestion Study (2009 Congestion Study) and is seeking comments on all aspects of the study. The full text of the 2009 Congestion Study is available at http://www.oe.energy.gov.

DATES: Written comments may be filed electronically in MS Word and PDF formats. Comments regarding the 2009 Congestion Study should be emailed to congestion09.anl.gov. Comments should be received no later than 5 p.m. EDT June 29, 2010. Also, comments can be filed by mail at the address listed below.


Note: Delivery of U.S. Postal Service mail sent to the Department continues to be delayed by several weeks due to security screening procedures. Electronic submission of comments is therefore encouraged. Copies of written comments received and other relevant documents and information may be reviewed at http://www.congestion09.anl.gov.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 1221(a) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPAct) directed the Secretary of Energy to conduct periodic nationwide studies of electric transmission congestion. The initial study was to be completed within one year of enactment of the EPAct with subsequent studies every three years thereafter. The American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009 (Recovery Act) further directed the Secretary to include in the 2009 Congestion Study an analysis of significant potential sources of renewable energy that are constrained by lack of adequate transmission capacity. Based on the Congestion Study, and comments concerning it from states and other stakeholders, the Secretary of Energy may designate any geographic area experiencing electric transmission capacity constraints or congestion as a national interest electric transmission corridor (National Corridor).

In August 2006, the Department published its first National Electric Transmission Congestion Study.1 In 2007, based in part on the findings of that study and after considering the comments of stakeholders, the Secretary designated two National Corridors, one in the Mid-Atlantic area and one covering portions of southern California and western Arizona, reflecting the high impacts of transmission congestion in each area.2

The 2009 Congestion Study has been completed and issued by the Department. The study is available for review at the website listed above. Based on the study, the Department found three classes of congestion areas that merit further federal attention: Critical Congestion Areas, Congestion Areas of Concern, and a Conditional Constrained Area.

The Department stated when it announced the beginning of its work on the 2009 Congestion Study that the study would focus on the identification of existing electric transmission-level congestion based on publicly available historic information and data related to transmission congestion. The information and data used by DOE in conducting the analysis in the 2009 Congestion Study was that which was available through May 2009. As a result the study does not address the possible impacts of the recent recession on congestion, or any other recent events, reports, or other developments affecting congestion.

The Department is seeking comments from interested persons on the 2009 Congestion Study, and on future steps for identifying and addressing electric transmission congestion, including the possible designation of National Corridors. Commenters may address any aspect of this study they consider appropriate. The Department intends to update, or issue an addendum to, this study in which it may consider the effect of the recession on congestion identified in the study, comments received on this version of the study, and the implications of additional data or information that has become available since May 2009. The Department invites commenters to direct it to data, publications, or other information that they believe relevant to this additional analysis.

Issued in Washington, DC, on April 26, 2010.

Patricia A. Hoffman, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
[Project No. 13652–000—Montana]

Gary E. Hall and Rita Hall; Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment

April 22, 2010.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission’s (Commission’s) regulations (18 CFR Part 380), Commission staff has reviewed the application for exemption from licensing for the 50-watt Potter Creek Hydroelectric Project, located in Flathead County, Montana, and has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA). The proposed project would be built on private lands owned by the applicant and on 0.51 acres of U.S. Forest Service land in the Flathead National Forest. The EA contains the

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1 See 71 FR 45047 (August 6, 2006).
2 See 72 FR 56692 (October 5, 2007).
staff’s analysis of the potential environmental impacts of the project and concludes that exempting the project from licensing, with appropriate environmental measures, would not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

A copy of the EA is on file with the Commission and is available for public inspection. 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 excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access documents. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll-free at 1–866–208–3676, or for TTY, (202) 502–8659. You may also register online at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp to be notified via e-mail of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support. Please contact Jennifer Harper by telephone at (202) 502–6136 or by e-mail at Jennifer.Harper@ferc.gov if you have any questions.

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Combined Notice of Filings #1

April 19, 2010.

Take notice that the Commission received the following exempt wholesale generator filings:

Applicants: White Oak Energy LLC.
Description: Notice of Self-Certification of Exempt Wholesale Generator Status of White Oak Energy LLC.
Filed Date: 04/16/2010.
Accession Number: 20100416–5083.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Friday, May 7, 2010.

Take notice that the Commission received the following electric rate filings:

Applicants: Southwest Power Pool, Inc.
Description: Southwest Power Pool, Inc submits executed Protocols to be appended to the Letter Agreement Regarding Comprehensive Seams Agreement with Entergy Services, Inc etc.
Filed Date: 04/16/2010.
Accession Number: 20100419–0204.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Friday, May 7, 2010.

Applicants: Delmarva Power & Light Company.
Description: Delmarva Power & Light Company submits Original Service Agreement 2450 to FERC Electric Tariff, Sixth Revised Volume 1 to be effective 5/1/10.
Filed Date: 04/16/2010.
Accession Number: 20100416–0215.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Thursday, May 6, 2010.

Filed Date: 04/16/2010.
Accession Number: 20100419–0202.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Monday, April 26, 2010.

Applicants: Consolidated Edison Company of New York.
Description: Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc submits Substitute Fourth Revised Sheet 43 et al. to its FERC Electric Tariff, First Revised Rate Schedule 96 PASNY Delivery Service.
Filed Date: 04/16/2010.
Accession Number: 20100416–0211.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Friday, May 7, 2010.

Description: New York Independent System Operator, Inc submits Substitute Ninth Revised Sheet 51 et al. to FERC Electric Tariff, Original Volume 1 to be effective 5/31/10.
Filed Date: 04/16/2010.
Accession Number: 20100419–0203.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Monday, April 26, 2010.

Applicants: Commonwealth Edison Company.
Description: Commonwealth Edison Company submits tariff filing per 35: Baseline Tariff Corrected Filing to be effective 4/14/2010.
Filed Date: 04/15/2010.
Accession Number: 20100415–5095.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Thursday, May 6, 2010.

Applicants: Xcel Energy Operating Companies.
Description: Xcel Energy Operating Companies submits Original Sheet 9.1 et al. to its FERC Electric Tariff, First Revised Volume 1 to be effective 5/28/10.
Filed Date: 04/15/2010.
Accession Number: 20100415–0203.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Thursday, May 6, 2010.

Docket Numbers: ER10–1058–000.
Description: Pacific Gas and Electric Company submits revisions to the Service Agreement for Wholesale Distribution Service with Western Area Power Administration.
Filed Date: 04/13/2010.
Accession Number: 20100415–0204.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Tuesday, May 4, 2010.

Applicants: The United Illuminating Company.
Description: The United Illuminating Company submits an executed Localized Costs Sharing Agreement with GenConn Devon, LLC.
Filed Date: 04/16/2010.
Accession Number: 20100416–0212.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Friday, May 7, 2010.

Applicants: Southern California Edison Company.
Description: Southern California Edison Company submits First Revised Sheet 42 et al. First Revised Rate Schedule FERC No. 403 to be effective 6/16/10.
Filed Date: 04/16/2010.
Accession Number: 20100416–0213.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Friday, May 7, 2010.

Docket Numbers: ER10–1061–000.
Applicants: Southern California Edison Company.
Description: Southern California Edison Company submits six Revised Sheet 51 et al. to FERC Electric Tariff, Original Volume 1 to be effective 5/31/10.
Filed Date: 04/16/2010.
Accession Number: 20100419–0202.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Friday, May 7, 2010.

Fourth Replacement Volume 1 in compliance with the Commission’s April 6, 2010.

The California Independent System Operator Corp submits Substitute Second Revised Sheet 365 et al. to FERC Gas Tariff,

Xcel Energy Operating Companies.