

feasibility of the Bear Creek Hydroelectric Project located on Bear Creek, near Concrete, Washington. The sole purpose of a preliminary permit, if issued, is to grant the permit holder priority to file a license application during the permit term. A preliminary permit does not authorize the permit holder to perform any land-disturbing activities or otherwise enter upon lands or waters owned by others without the owners' express permission.

The proposed project would consist of upper and lower developments. The applicant proposes to rehabilitate and refurbish facilities from an existing project that has been decommissioned for about 30 years.

The upper development includes the following existing facilities: (1) A 100-foot-long diversion structure with a 30-foot-long, 6-foot-high ungated overflow spillway section at an elevation of 987 feet msl; (2) a 400-foot-long, 36-inch-diameter steel penstock; (3) an one-acre reservoir with 2-acre-feet of storage; (4) a 40-foot by 16-foot concrete powerhouse; (5) a 350-foot-long, 12.5 kilovolt (kV), 3-phased transmission line; and (6) 1,850 feet of access roads. The existing turbine would be used, but one new, 250-kilowatt (kW) generator would be installed. The estimated annual power generation for the upper development is 1.2 gigawatt-hours (GWh).

The lower development includes the following existing facilities: (1) A 235-foot-long diversion structure with an 82-foot-long, 24-foot-high ungated overflow spillway section at an elevation of 912 feet msl; (2) an 1.7-acre reservoir; and (3) a 28-foot by 82-foot concrete powerhouse with three existing 200 kW Pelton turbines, totaling 600 kW. The lower development would include the following new facilities: (1) 2,800 foot-long, 36-inch-diameter above-ground steel penstock; and (2) a 3.5-mile-long, 12.5-kV transmission line. The estimated annual power generation for the lower development is 11.7 GWh.

Both developments would have a total installed capacity of 850 kW and generate about 12.9 GWh of energy annually.

Applicant Contact: Thomas M. McMaster, Bear Creek Hydro Associates, LLC, 358 Shallow Shore Road, Bellingham, Washington 98229; phone: (360) 647-2196.

FERC Contact: Patrick Murphy; phone: (202) 502-8755.

Deadline for filing comments, motions to intervene, competing applications (without notices of intent), or notices of intent to file competing applications: 60 days from the issuance of this notice. Competing applications and notices of

intent must meet the requirements of 18 CFR 4.36. Comments, motions to intervene, notices of intent, and competing applications may be filed electronically via the Internet. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ecomment.asp>. You must include your name and contact information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, (202) 502-8659. Although the Commission strongly encourages electronic filing, documents may also be paper-filed. To paper-file, mail an original and seven copies to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426.

More information about this project, including a copy of the application, can be viewed or printed on the "eLibrary" link of the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/elibrary.asp>. Enter the docket number (P-13951-000) in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

Dated: February 8, 2011.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 13803-000]

Bison Peak Pumped Storage, LLC; Notice of Preliminary Permit Application Accepted for Filing and Soliciting Comments, Motions To Intervene, and Competing Applications

On June 29, 2010, the Bison Peak Pumped Storage, LLC., filed an application for a preliminary permit, pursuant to section 4(f) of the Federal Power Act (FPA), proposing to study the feasibility of the Bison Peak Pumped Storage Project (Bison Peak Project or project) to be located in the Tehachapi Mountains south of Tehachapi, Kern County, California. The sole purpose of a preliminary permit, if issued, is to grant the permit holder priority to file

a license application during the permit term. A preliminary permit does not authorize the permit holder to perform any land-disturbing activities or otherwise enter upon lands or waters owned by others without the owners' express permission.

The applicant has proposed two alternatives for the placement of a lower reservoir, termed "South" and "Tejon." The South alternative proposal would consist of the following: (1) An upper dam with a height of 50 feet, a crest length of 7,128 feet, and with a reservoir having a total storage capacity of 5,500 acre-feet at a normal maximum operating elevation of 7,860 feet mean sea level (msl); (2) a lower dam with a height of 310 feet, a crest length of 1,160 feet, and with a reservoir having a total storage capacity of 5,805 acre-feet at a normal maximum operating elevation of 5,100 feet msl; (3) a 9,060-foot-long underground conduit; (4) a powerhouse containing four 250 megawatt (MW) reversible pump turbines and located 900 feet below ground level, approximately midway between the upper and lower reservoirs; (5) a powerhouse access tunnel of approximately 2,090 feet; and a (6) 3.2- or 5.3-mile-long, 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line to either the existing Cottonwind or Windhub substations, respectively.

The Tejon alternative proposal would consist of the following: (1) An upper dam with a height of 50 feet, a crest length of 7,128 feet, and with a reservoir having a total storage capacity of 5,500 acre-feet at a normal maximum operating elevation of 7,860 feet msl; (2) a lower dam with a height of 260 feet, a crest length of 1,480 feet, and with a reservoir having a total storage capacity of 6,355 acre-feet at a normal maximum operating elevation of 5,250 feet msl; (3) a 10,350-foot-long underground conduit; (4) a powerhouse containing four 250 MW reversible pump turbines and located 900 feet below ground level, approximately midway between the upper and lower reservoirs; and a (5) 14.2- or 14.8-mile-long transmission line (including both new construction of a 345-kV line and upgrades to existing transmission lines) to either the existing Cottonwind or Windhub substations, respectively. The estimated annual generation of the Bison Peak Pumped Storage Project would be 3,066 gigawatt-hours.

Applicant Contact: Bison Peak Pumped Storage, LLC., 9795 Cabrini Dr., Ste. 206, Burbank, CA 91504; phone: (818) 767-5554.

FERC Contact: Matt Buhoff; phone: (202) 502-6824.

Deadline for filing comments, motions to intervene, competing applications (without notices of intent), or notices of intent to file competing applications: 60 days from the issuance of this notice. Competing applications and notices of intent must meet the requirements of 18 CFR 4.36. Comments, motions to intervene, notices of intent, and competing applications may be filed electronically via the Internet. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ecomment.asp>. You must include your name and contact information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, (202) 502-8659. Although the Commission strongly encourages electronic filing, documents may also be paper-filed. To paper-file, mail an original and seven copies to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426.

More information about this project, including a copy of the application, can be viewed or printed on the "eLibrary" link of Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/elibrary.asp>. Enter the docket number (P-13803-000) in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

Dated: February 8, 2011.

Kimberly D. Bose,

Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Western Area Power Administration

Desert Southwest Customer Service Region-Rate Order No. WAPA-151

AGENCY: Western Area Power Administration, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rates.

SUMMARY: The Western Area Power Administration (Western) is proposing to update its formula rates for the WALC Balancing Authority Ancillary Services as well as the formula rates for NITS on the P-DP and Intertie projects. Current formula rates, under Rate Schedules DSW-SD2, DSW-RS2, DSW-FR2, DSW-SPR2, DSW-SUR2, DSW-EI2 and PD-NTS2, and INT-NTS2 are set to expire June 30, 2011. Western is also proposing to add a new rate schedule, Rate Schedule DSW-GI1, for Generator Imbalance (GI) Service. Western is proposing these rates to meet evolving and expanding transmission system and ancillary services requirements. Western has prepared a brochure that provides detailed information on the proposed rates to all interested parties. The proposed rates, under Rate Schedules DSW-SD3, DSW-RS3, DSW-FR3, DSW-SPR3, DSW-SUR3, DSW-EI3, DSW-GI1, PD-NTS3, and INT-NTS3 would go into effect on October 1, 2011, and would remain in effect through September 30, 2016, or until superseded.¹ The new rate schedule for GI Service, under Rate Schedule DSW-GI1, would go into effect and coincide with the other ancillary service rates in this rate order. Publication of this **Federal Register** notice begins the formal process for the proposed formula rates.

DATES: The consultation and comment period begins today and will end May 16, 2011. Western will present a detailed explanation of the proposed formula rates at a public information forum. The public information forum date is March 10, 2011, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. MST, Phoenix, Arizona. Western will accept oral and written comments at a public comment forum. The public comment forum date is April 6, 2011, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. MST, Phoenix, Arizona. Western will accept written comments

any time during the consultation and comment period.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to Mr. Darrick Moe, Regional Manager, Desert Southwest Customer Service Region, Western Area Power Administration, 615 South 43rd Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85009, e-mail MOE@wapa.gov. Western will post information, including written comments and the rate brochure to its Web site at <http://www.wapa.gov/dsw/pwrmt/ANCSR/ANCSR.htm>. Western must receive written comments by the end of the consultation and comment period to ensure they are considered in Western's decision process. The public information forum and public comment forum location is the Desert Southwest Customer Service Regional Office, 615 South 43rd Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Jack Murray, Rates Manager, Desert Southwest Customer Service Region, Western Area Power Administration, 615 South 43rd Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85009, telephone (602) 605-2442, e-mail jmurray@wapa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Deputy Secretary of Energy approved the current Rate Schedules under Rate Order WAPA-No. 127 for ancillary services rates through June 30, 2011.² The current rate schedules contain formula-based rates that are recalculated annually. The proposed rates continue the formula-based approach and will be recalculated annually using updated financial and load information. The proposed formula-based rates would, if adopted, go into effect October 1, 2011, and remain in effect through September 30, 2016. Rates effective October 1, 2011, are preliminary and are subject to change upon publication of final formula rates. NITS would remain project-specific as provided under Rate Order No. WAPA-127 with no changes proposed to the existing formula rates.

Proposed Formula Rate for Scheduling, System Control and Dispatch Service

The proposed formula for Scheduling, System Control and Dispatch (SSCD) Service, Rate Schedule DSW-SD3, is as follows:

Annual Cost of Scheduling Personnel and Related Costs

Cost per Schedule = -----
Number of Schedules per Year

¹ Since the current rates will expire prior to the anticipated completion of this ratemaking process, those rates are being extended for a two year period in WAPA Order 152.

² FERC confirmed and approved Rate Order No. WAPA-127 on November 21, 2006, in Docket No., EF06-5191-000 See *United States Department of*

Energy, Western Area Power Administration, 117 FERC ¶ 62,172.