DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Western Area Power Administration

Notice of Cancellation of Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Crowned Ridge Wind Energy Center Project, Codington and Grant Counties, SD

AGENCY: Western Area Power Administration, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of Cancellation of Environmental Impact Statement.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Western Area Power Administration (Western) is issuing this notice to advise the public that it is cancelling the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) on an interconnection request by NextEra Energy Resources (NextEra).

DATES: This cancellation is effective on July 8, 2011.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information on the cancellation of this EIS process, contact Matt Marsh, NEPA Document Manager, Upper Great Plains Regional Office, Western Area Power Administration, P.O. Box 35800, Billings, MT 59107–5800, e-mail MMarsh@wapa.gov, telephone (800) 358–3415. For general information on DOE’s NEPA review process, contact Carol M. Borgstrom, Director of NEPA Policy and Compliance, GC–54, Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585–0119, telephone (202) 586–4600 or (800) 472–2756, facsimile (202) 586–7031.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NextEra proposed to design, construct, operate, and maintain a 150-megawatt Crowned Ridge Wind Energy Center Project (Project) in Codington and Grant counties, South Dakota, and interconnect that Project with Western’s transmission system. NextEra’s interconnection request caused Western to initiate a NEPA review of its action to allow the interconnection. Western published a Notice of Intent for the EIS in the Federal Register on November 30, 2010 (75 FR 74040), and started the EIS process. A public scoping meeting was held subsequent to the Notice of Intent, but a Draft EIS was not produced because NextEra decided to suspend further action on its proposed Project. NextEra notified Western of the decision, and Western is now terminating the NEPA review process on its interconnection decision and NextEra’s proposed Project. NextEra could decide to reinitiate the proposed Project at some future date. In that event Western would issue a new Notice of Intent, and would start an entirely new NEPA process.

The Assistant Secretary, Environment, Safety and Health granted approval authority to Western’s Administrator for EISs related to integrating major new sources of generation in a October 4, 1999, memorandum. Under the authority granted by that memorandum, I have terminated the NEPA process for NextEra’s proposed Crowned Ridge Wind Energy Center Project with the publication of this notice.

Dated: June 29, 2011.

Timothy J. Meeks,
Administrator.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[ER–FRL–8997–8]

Environmental Impacts Statements; Notice of Availability


Notice

In accordance with Section 309(a) of the Clean Air Act, EPA is required to make its comments on EISs issued by other Federal agencies public. Historically, EPA met this mandate by publishing weekly notices of availability of EPA comments, which includes a brief summary of EPA’s comment letters, in the Federal Register. Since February 2008, EPA has included its comment letters on EISs on its Web site at: http://www.epa.gov/compliance/nea/eisdata.html. Including the entire EPA comment letters on the Web site satisfies the Section 309(a) requirement to make EPA’s comments on EISs available to the public. Accordingly, on March 31, 2010, EPA discontinued the publication of the notice of availability of EPA comments in the Federal Register.


EIS No. 20110215, Final EIS, FHWA, WI, Wisconsin Highway Project, Mobility Motorized and Nonmotorized Travel Enhancements, Updated Information on New Alternatives, and Evaluates a Staged Improvement, US18/151 (Verona Road) and the US 12/14 (Beltine) Corridors, Dane County, WI, Review Period Ends: 08/08/2011, Contact: George P. Poirier 608–829–7500.