DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 14240–000] Mona South Pumped Storage Project; Notice of Preliminary Permit Application Accepted for Filing and Soliciting Comments, Motions To Intervene, and Competing Applications

On August 1, 2011, Mona South Pumped Storage Project, LLC, California, 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 Mona South Pumped Storage Project (Mona South Pumped Storage Project or Project) to be located within Wide Canyon, 4 miles southwest of Mona, Juab County, Utah. The project affects federal lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management. 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 the following: (1) An underground powerhouse containing the pump-turbines and motor-generators; (2) a waterway roughly 7,100 feet-long, including inlet/outlet structures at each reservoir, headrace tunnel, pressure shaft, buried penstock, and tailrace features connecting the upper reservoir, the underground powerhouse and the lower reservoir; (3) transmission line connecting the underground powerhouse to the proposed PacifiCorp/ Rocky Mountain Power Clover Substation; (4) a two reservoir construction (upper reservoir), a 370 feet-long by 3,000 feet-long concrete-faced dam located within Wide Canyon bordered by Middle Ridge and Long Ridge having a storage capacity of about 20,400 acre-feet and a water surface area of 218 acres at full pool elevation of 6,480 above mean sea level (msl); (5) a 110 foot-high and 13,000 feet-high, earthfill ring dike (lower reservoir) with a water surface area of about 261 acres Full pool elevation 5,880 feet msl; (6) location of lower reservoir and length of water-way connection will be determined later to ensure efficiency; (7) optimization of generation and energy storage ranging from a 4 unit, 500 megawatts (MW) (4 units × 125 MW unit) to a 4 unit, 1,000 MW (4 units × 250 MW unit) allowing for 8 to 10 hours of continuous output; (8) Project’s interconnection at this new substation would require roughly 5 mile-long transmission line connecting powerhouse to the substation, which my be one or two circuits. Interconnection voltage may be 230 or 500 kilovolts; and (9) annual generation would be within 1,800 to 4,500 gigawatthours depending on constructed option.

Applicant Contact: Mr. Nathan Sandvig, Mona North Pumped Storage Project, LLC c/o enXco Development Corporation, 517 SW 4th Avenue, Suite 300, Portland, OR 97204; phone (503) 219–3166.

FERC Contact: Brian Csernak; phone: (202) 502–6144.

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–14240–000) in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. RM98–1–000] Records Governing Off-the-Record Communications; Public Notice

This constitutes notice, in accordance with 18 CFR 385.2201(b), of the receipt of prohibited and exempt off-the-record communications.

Order No. 607 (64 FR 51222, September 22, 1999) requires Commission decisional employees, who make or receive a prohibited or exempt off-the-record communication relevant to the merits of a contested proceeding to deliver to the Secretary of the Commission, a copy of the communication, if written, or a summary of the substance of any oral communication.

Prohibited communications are included in a public, non-decisional file associated with, but not a part of, the decisional record of the proceeding. Unless the Commission determines that the prohibited communication and any responses thereto should become a part of the decisional record, the prohibited off-the-record communication will not be considered by the Commission in reaching its decision. Parties to a proceeding may seek the opportunity to respond to any facts or contentions made in a prohibited off-the-record communication, and may request that the Commission place the prohibited communication and responses thereto in the decisional record. The Commission will grant such a request only when it determines that fairness so requires. Any person identified below as having made a prohibited off-the-record communication shall serve the document on all parties listed on the official service list for the applicable proceeding in accordance with Rule 2010, 18 CFR 385.2010.

Exempt off-the-record communications are included in the decisional record of the proceeding, unless the communication was with a cooperating agency as described by 40 CFR 1501.6, made under 18 CFR 385.2201(a)(1)(v).

The following is a list of off-the-record communications recently received:
CONFORMITY PURPOSES

ACTION:

Conformity to a State air quality standard.

Agency (EPA).

INFORMATION CONTACT:

 implementations and establishes procedures for
 project's final air quality analysis. The

Implementation Plan (SIP) indicates that transportation activities will not produce new air quality violations, worsen existing violations, or delay timely attainment of the national ambient air quality standards.

The criteria by which we determine whether a SIP’s motor vehicle emission budgets are adequate for transportation conformity purposes are outlined in 40 CFR 93.118(e)(4). We have described our process for determining the adequacy of submitted SIP budgets in our July 1, 2004 preamble, starting at 69 FR 40038, and we used the information in these resources in making our adequacy determination. Please note that an adequacy review is separate from EPA’s completeness review, and it should not be used to prejudge EPA’s ultimate approval of the SIP. Even if we find a budget adequate, the SIP could later be disapproved.

The findings are available at EPA’s transportation conformity Web site: http://www.epa.gov/otaq/stateresources/transconf/adequacy.htm.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401–7671q.

Dated: September 19, 2011.

Susan Hedman,
Regional Administrator, Region 5.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Patricia Morris, Environmental Scientist, Control Strategies Section, Air Programs Branch, Air and Radiation Division, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604. (312) 353–8656, morris.patricia@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Throughout this document, whenever “we”, “us” or “our” is used, we mean EPA.

Background

Today’s notice is simply an announcement of findings that we have already made. On August 11, 2011, EPA Region 5 sent a letter to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency stating that we have made insignificance findings through the adequacy process, for PM$_{2.5}$ and NO$_x$ for the Ohio portion of the Huntington/Ashland area, as the state had requested in its redesignation and maintenance plan submittal. Receipt of the submittal was announced on EPA’s transportation conformity Web site. No comments were received. The findings letter is available at EPA’s conformity web site: http://www.epa.gov/otaq/stateresources/transconf/adequacy.htm.

Transportation conformity is required by section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act. EPA’s conformity rule requires that transportation plans, programs, and projects conform to state air quality implementation plans and establishes the criteria and procedures for determining whether or not they conform. Conformity to a State

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[6717–01–P]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

EPA–R05–OAR–2011–0468; FRL–9473–1

Adequacy Status of the Ohio Portion of the Huntington/Ashland Submitted Annual Fine Particulate Matter Maintenance Plan for Transportation Conformity Purposes

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of adequacy.

SUMMARY: In this notice, EPA is notifying the public that we have made insignificance findings through the transportation conformity adequacy process, under the Clean Air Act, for directly emitted fine particulate matter (PM$_{2.5}$) and oxides of nitrogen (NO$_x$) in the Ohio portion of the Huntington/Ashland WV–KY–OH area. Ohio submitted the insignificance findings with the redesignation and maintenance plan submittal on May 4, 2011. As a result of our findings, the Ohio portion of the Huntington/Ashland area is no longer required to perform a regional emissions analysis for either directly emitted PM$_{2.5}$ or NO$_x$ as part of future PM$_{2.5}$ conformity determinations for the 1997 annual PM$_{2.5}$ air quality standard.

DATES: These findings are effective October 14, 2011.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Patricia Morris, Environmental Scientist, Control Strategies Section, Air Programs Branch, Air and Radiation Division, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604. (312) 353–8656, morris.patricia@epa.gov.

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