

the date of issuance of the Commission staff's FEIS or EA.

There are two ways to become involved in the Commission's review of this project. First, any person wishing to obtain legal status by becoming a party to the proceedings for this project should, on or before the comment date stated below, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426, a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214 or 385.211) and the Regulations under the NGA (18 CFR 157.10). A person obtaining party status will be placed on the service list maintained by the Secretary of the Commission and will receive copies of all documents filed by the applicant and by all other parties. A party must submit seven copies of filings made with the Commission and must mail a copy to the applicant and to every other party in the proceeding. Only parties to the proceeding can ask for court review of Commission orders in the proceeding.

Persons who wish to comment only on the environmental review of this project should submit an original and two copies of their comments to the Secretary of the Commission. Environmental commenters will be placed on the Commission's environmental mailing list, will receive copies of the environmental documents, and will be notified of meetings associated with the Commission's environmental review process. Environmental commenters will not be required to serve copies of filed documents on all other parties. However, the nonparty commenters will not receive copies of all documents filed by other parties or issued by the Commission (except for the mailing of environmental documents issued by the Commission) and will not have the right to seek court review of the Commission's final order.

However, a person does not have to intervene in order to have comments considered. The second way to participate is by filing with the Secretary of the Commission, as soon as possible, an original and two copies of comments in support of or in opposition to this project. The Commission will consider these comments in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but the filing of a comment alone will not serve to make the filer a party to the proceeding. The Commission's rules require that persons filing comments in opposition to the project provide copies of their protests only to the party or parties directly involved in the protest.

The Commission encourages electronic submission of protests and interventions in lieu of paper using the "eFiling" link at <http://www.ferc.gov>. Persons unable to file electronically should submit an original and seven copies of the protest or intervention to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426. This filing is accessible on-line at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "eLibrary" link and is available for review in the Commission's Public Reference Room in Washington, DC. There is an "eSubscription" link on the Web site that enables subscribers to receive email notification when a document is added to a subscribed docket(s). For assistance with any FERC Online service, please email [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov), or call (866) 208-3676 (toll free) or TTY, call (202) 502-8659.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. Eastern Time on April 16, 2012

Dated: March 26, 2012.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2012-7644 Filed 3-29-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. EL12-49-000]

#### Northern Indiana Public Service Company; Notice of Petition for Declaratory Order

Take notice that on March 16, 2012, pursuant to Rule 207 of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.207, section 219 of the Federal Power Act, 16 U.S.C. 824e, and 824s(a), and Order No. 679,<sup>1</sup> Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO) filed a Petition for Declaratory Order, requesting that the Commission issue an order granting transmission rate incentives related to the Reynolds to Burr Oak to Hipple 345 kV transmission line, a Multi-Value Project approved under the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc. Transmission Expansion Plan process.

Any person desiring to intervene or to protest this filing must file in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of

<sup>1</sup> Promoting Transmission Investment Through Pricing Reform, Order No. 679, FERC Stats. & Regs. ¶ 31,222, order on reh'g, Order No. 679-A, FERC Stats. & Regs. ¶ 31,236 (2006), order on reh'g, 119FERC ¶ 61,062 (2007).

the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211, 385.214). Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a notice of intervention or motion to intervene, as appropriate. Such notices, motions, or protests must be filed on or before the comment date. On or before the comment date, it is not necessary to serve motions to intervene or protests on persons other than the Applicant.

The Commission encourages electronic submission of protests and interventions in lieu of paper using the "eFiling" link at <http://www.ferc.gov>. Persons unable to file electronically should submit an original and 14 copies of the protest or intervention to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426.

This filing is accessible on-line at <http://www.ferc.gov>, using the "eLibrary" link and is available for review in the Commission's Public Reference Room in Washington, DC. There is an "eSubscription" link on the Web site that enables subscribers to receive email notification when a document is added to a subscribed docket(s). For assistance with any FERC Online service, please email [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov), or call (866) 208-3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502-8659.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. Eastern Time on April 16, 2012.

Dated: March 26, 2012.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**  
*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 14354-000]

#### Long Canyon Pumped Storage Project; Notice of Preliminary Permit Application Accepted for Filing and Soliciting Comments, Motions To Intervene, and Competing Applications

On January 12, 2012, Utah Independent Power, Inc., Nevada, 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 Long Canyon Pumped Storage Project to be located near the town of Moab, Grand County, Utah. The

project would affect 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 upper reservoir formed by a 160-foot-high by 6,750-foot-long, roller-compacted concrete (RCC) dam (an open "U"—shaped structure varying from grade to roughly 160-foot-high) having a total storage capacity of 5,530 acre-feet and a water surface area of 90 acres at full pool elevation of 6,000 feet above mean-sea-level (msl); (2) a lower reservoir formed by a 200-foot-high by 730-foot-long, RCC dam, having a total storage capacity of 5,530 acre-feet and a water surface area of 110 acres at full pool elevation of 4,200 feet msl; (3) two 8,510-foot-long by 16-foot-diameter penstocks; (4) an underground powerhouse roughly 750-foot-long by 175-feet-high by 70-feet-wide; (5) two 320-foot-long by two 18-foot diameter tailraces; (6) an access tunnel roughly 36-feet-in-diameter and 2,470-foot-long, connecting the project's powerhouse to Grand County Highway 279; (7) the existing trail-road relocated to the south side of the reservoir to an elevation of 4,210 feet msl; and (8) pump-turbines with a capacity of roughly 800 megawatts (MW) (3 units × 267 MW unit). The annual energy output would be approximately 1,077,000 megawatt-hours. Twin 25—kilovolt (kV) circuit transmission lines would interconnect with an existing Rocky Mountain Power transmission line via a 40-mile-long interconnection.

*Applicant Contact:* Mr. Frank L. Mazzone, Utah Independent Power, Inc., 957 Fairway Drive, Sonoma, CA 95476; phone (707) 996-2573.

*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](mailto: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-14354) in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

Dated: March 23, 2012.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2012-7642 Filed 3-29-12; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. AD10-12-003]

#### **Increasing Market and Planning Efficiency Through Improved Software; Notice of Technical Conference: Increasing Real-Time and Day-Ahead Market Efficiency Through Improved Software**

Take notice that Commission staff will convene a technical conference on June 25, 26, and 27, 2012 to discuss opportunities for increasing real-time and day-ahead market efficiency through improved software. A detailed agenda with the list of and times for the selected speakers will be published on the Commission's Increasing Market and Planning Efficiency Web site<sup>1</sup> after May 14, 2012.

This conference will bring together diverse experts from ISOs/RTOs, non-market utilities, the software industry, government, research centers and academia for the purposes of stimulating discussion and sharing of information about the technical aspects of these issues and identifying fruitful

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.ferc.gov/industries/electric/industryact/market-planning.asp>.

avenues for research. This conference is intended to build on the discussions initiated in the Commission's June 2010 and June 2011 staff technical conferences on increasing market and planning efficiency through improved software.

The conferences held in June 2010 and June 2011 produced presentations on several advanced approaches to market modeling which appear to have significant promise for potential efficiency improvements: Stochastic modeling; optimal transmission switching; AC optimal power flow modeling; and use of active and dynamic transmission ratings. Significant computational impediments to efficiently and reliably implement these approaches must be understood and overcome before benefits can be realized. In this conference, we seek to explore research and technical steps that would be needed to implement these and other advanced technologies in the future.

In particular we solicit proposals for presentations on topics and questions such as the following:

(1) *Stochastic modeling for unit commitment and operating reserves:* Given the difficulty in formulating and solving full-scale stochastic unit-commitment problems, what interim steps might be taken to more intelligently incorporate information about uncertainty into unit-commitment and dispatch? Specifically:

- How can uncertainty be described in a manageable set of scenarios or constraints that improve unit-commitment and dispatch while allowing good solutions to be achieved in the required timeframe?

- If a stochastic unit-commitment model is used, how should day-ahead prices be calculated, given that the stochastic formulation no longer produces as part of its solution a single set of deterministic shadow prices for power at each location?

- How would a stochastic day-ahead unit commitment mechanism alter current market software for other processes (for example, reliability unit-commitment processes)?

- What steps toward better incorporation of uncertainty into unit-commitment might be taken over the next 5 to 10 years?

- What methods can be used to calculate requirements for contingency reserves and regulating reserves?

- How can reserves calculations more completely capture the uncertainty and variability of the system, including forecast error?

- How can outage probability be captured in contingency reserve