

The above-referenced meeting is open to stakeholders.

Further information may be found at www.pjm.com/committees-and-groups/stakeholder-meetings/stakeholder-groups/ipsac-ny-ne.aspx.

The discussions at the meeting described above may address matters at issue in the following proceedings:

- Docket No. ER08–1281, *New York Independent System Operator, Inc.*
- Docket No. EL05–121, *PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.*
- Docket No. EL10–52, *Central Transmission, LLC v. PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.*
- Docket No. ER10–253 and EL10–14, *Primary Power, L.L.C.*
- Docket No. EL12–69, *Primary Power LLC v. PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.*
- Docket No. ER11–1844, *Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc.*
- Docket No. ER12–1178, *PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.*
- Docket No. ER13–90, *Public Service Electric and Gas Company and PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.*
- Docket No. ER13–102, *New York Independent System Operator, Inc.*
- Docket No. ER13–193, *ISO New England Inc.*
- Docket No. ER13–195, *Indicated PJM Transmission Owners*
- Docket No. ER13–196, *ISO New England Inc.*
- Docket No. ER13–198, *PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.*
- Docket No. ER13–397, *PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.*
- Docket No. ER13–673, *PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.*
- Docket No. ER13–703, *PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.*
- Docket No. ER13–887, *PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.*
- Docket No. ER13–1052, *PJM Interconnection, L.L.C. and the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc.*
- Docket No. ER13–1054, *PJM Interconnection, L.L.C. and the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc.*

For more information, contact Jonathan Fernandez, Office of Energy Market Regulation, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission at (202) 502–6604 or jonathan.fernandez@ferc.gov.

Dated: May 10, 2013.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of FERC Staff Attendance at the Energy Regional State Committee Meeting

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) hereby gives notice that members of its staff may attend the meeting noted below. Their attendance is part of the Commission's ongoing outreach efforts.

Entergy Regional State Committee

May 29, 2013 (9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.).

This meeting will be held at the Windsor Court Hotel, 300 Gravier Street, New Orleans, LA 70130.

The discussions may address matters at issue in the following proceedings:

- Docket No. EL01–88, Louisiana Public Service Commission v. Entergy Services, Inc.
- Docket No. EL09–50, Louisiana Public Service Commission v. Entergy Services, Inc.
- Docket No. EL09–61, Louisiana Public Service Commission v. Entergy Services, Inc.
- Docket No. EL10–55, Louisiana Public Service Commission v. Entergy Services, Inc.
- Docket No. EL10–65, Louisiana Public Service Commission v. Entergy Services, Inc.
- Docket No. EL11–63, Louisiana Public Service Commission v. Entergy Services, Inc.
- Docket No. EL11–65, Louisiana Public Service Commission v. Entergy Services, Inc.
- Docket No. EL13–41, Occidental Chemical Company v. Midwest Independent System Transmission Operator, Inc.
- Docket No. EL13–43, Council of the City of New Orleans, Mississippi Public Service Commission, Arkansas Public Service Commission, Public Utility Commission of Texas, Louisiana Public Service Commission
- Docket No. ER05–1065, Entergy Services, Inc.
- Docket No. ER07–682, Entergy Services, Inc.
- Docket No. ER07–956, Entergy Services, Inc.
- Docket No. ER08–1056, Entergy Services, Inc.
- Docket No. ER09–1224, Entergy Services, Inc.
- Docket No. ER10–794, Entergy Services, Inc.
- Docket No. ER10–1350, Entergy Services, Inc.
- Docket No. ER10–2001, Entergy Arkansas, Inc.
- Docket No. ER10–3357, Entergy Arkansas, Inc.
- Docket No. ER11–2161, Entergy Texas, Inc.
- Docket No. ER11–3657, Entergy Arkansas, Inc.
- Docket No. ER12–480, Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc.
- Docket No. ER12–1428, Entergy Arkansas, Inc.
- Docket No. ER12–1881, Entergy Arkansas, Inc.
- Docket No. ER12–1882, Entergy Gulf States, Louisiana L.L.C.
- Docket No. ER12–1883, Entergy Louisiana LLC
- Docket No. ER12–1884, Entergy Mississippi, Inc.
- Docket No. ER12–1885, Entergy New Orleans, Inc.
- Docket No. ER12–1886, Entergy Texas, Inc.
- Docket Nos. ER12–2681, et al. Entergy Corp., Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc. and ITC Holdings Corp.
- Docket No. ER12–2682, Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc.
- Docket No. ER12–2683, Entergy Services, Inc.
- Docket No. ER12–2693, Entergy Services, Inc.
- Docket No. ER13–288, Entergy Services, Inc.
- Docket No. ER13–432, Entergy Services, Inc.
- Docket No. ER13–665, Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc.
- Docket No. ER13–708, Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc.
- Docket No. ER13–769, Entergy Arkansas, Inc. and Entergy Mississippi, Inc.
- Docket No. ER13–770, Entergy Arkansas, Inc. and Entergy Louisiana, LLC.
- Docket No. ER13–782, ITC Arkansas LLC, et al.
- Docket No. ER13–868, Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc.
- Docket No. ER13–945, Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc.
- Docket No. ER13–948, Entergy Services, Inc.
- Docket No. ER13–1184, Entergy Power, LLC.
- Docket No. ER13–1194, Entergy Services, Inc.
- Docket No. ER13–1195, Entergy Services, Inc.

Docket No. ER13-1227, Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc.
Docket No. ER13-1317, Entergy Services, Inc.

These meetings are open to the public.

For more information, contact Patrick Clarey, Office of Energy Market Regulation, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission at (317) 249-5937 or patrick.clarey@ferc.gov.

Dated: May 10, 2013.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Western Area Power Administration

Quartzsite Solar Energy Project Record of Decision (DOE/EIS-0440)

AGENCY: Western Area Power Administration, DOE.

ACTION: Record of Decision.

SUMMARY: Western Area Power Administration (Western), an agency within the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), received a request from Quartzsite Solar Energy, LLC (QSE) to interconnect its proposed Quartzsite Solar Energy Project (Project) to Western's Bouse-Kofa 161-kilovolt (kV) transmission line. The proposed Project site is in an undeveloped area in La Paz County, Arizona, east of State Route (SR) 95, approximately 10 miles north of Quartzsite, Arizona, on lands administered by the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

On December 21, 2012, the Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Yuma Field Office (Yuma) Proposed Resource Management Plan Amendment (PRMPA) for Quartzsite Solar Energy Project was published in the **Federal Register** (77 FR 75632). After considering the environmental impacts, Western has decided to allow QSE's request for interconnection to Western's transmission system on the Bouse-Kofa 161-kV transmission line and to construct, own, and operate a new switchyard and its associated communication pathway.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information, please contact Ms. Liana Reilly, Environmental Project Manager, Corporate Services Office, Western Area Power Administration, A7400, P.O. Box 281213, Lakewood, CO 80228, telephone (720) 962-7253, fax

(720) 962-7263, or email: reilly@wapa.gov. For general information on DOE's National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) review process, please contact Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance, GC-54, U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, DC 20585, telephone (202) 586-4600 or (800) 472-2756.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Western is a Federal agency under the DOE that markets and transmits wholesale electrical power through an integrated 17,000-circuit mile, high-voltage transmission system across 15 western states. Western's Open Access Transmission Service Tariff (Tariff) provides open access to its electric transmission system. In reviewing interconnection requests, Western must ensure that existing reliability and service is not degraded. Western's Large Generator Interconnection Procedures provide for transmission and system studies to ensure that system reliability and service to existing customers are not adversely affected by new interconnections.

In compliance with the NEPA, as amended, and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended, Western as lead agency, with the BLM as a cooperating agency, prepared and released the Draft EIS/PRMPA on November 10, 2011, and subsequently held public hearings on the document in Yuma, Arizona, on December 13, 2011, and in Quartzsite, Arizona, on December 14, 2011. Following the release of the Draft EIS/PRMPA, Western and the BLM prepared a Final EIS/PRMPA which was released on December 21, 2012 (77 FR 76477).¹ The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Army Garrison-Yuma Proving Ground, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) were also cooperating agencies.

Proposed Federal Action

Western's proposed Federal action is to interconnect the proposed Project to Western's transmission system at the existing Bouse-Kofa 161-kV transmission line and construct, own, and operate a new switchyard on BLM-administered land adjacent to the transmission line as well as an associated communications pathway. Western has submitted a right-of-way (ROW) application to the BLM for its

switchyard and communication pathway.

QSE Proposed Project

The proposed Project is a 100-megawatt solar electric power plant that would use concentrating solar power technology to capture the sun's heat to make steam, which would power a traditional steam turbine generator. The proposed Project would contain the central receiver or tower, a solar field consisting of mirrors or heliostats to reflect the sun's energy to the central tower, a conventional steam turbine generator, insulated storage tanks for hot and cold liquid salt, ancillary tanks, evaporation ponds, a temporary construction laydown area, technical and non-technical buildings, transformers and a 161/230-kV electrical switchyard, roads, and water wells. All components of the proposed Project would be located on BLM-administered land. A new 1.5-mile long 161/230-kV generation tie line would extend from the southern boundary of the solar facility boundary to a new switchyard to be constructed adjacent to Western's existing Bouse-Kofa 161-kV transmission line.

QSE has submitted a ROW application to the BLM for the proposed Project. The ROW application is for a total of 26,273 acres, of which 1,675 acres would be utilized for the final Project ROW if approved. The proposed Project site is in an undeveloped area in La Paz County, Arizona, east of SR 95, approximately 10 miles north of Quartzsite, Arizona.

Description of Alternatives

Three alternatives were analyzed in the EIS/PRMPA including the QSE's proposed Project with dry-cooling technology, Alternative 1 with hybrid cooling technology, and the No Action alternative. Also analyzed were three alternatives related to the Yuma PRMPA including approving the PRMPA to change approximately 6,800 acres of Visual Resource Management (VRM) Class III to VRM Class IV along with Project approval, approving the PRMPA to change approximately 6,800 acres of VRM Class III to VRM Class IV without Project approval, and the No Action alternative of not approving the PRMPA and leaving the current VRM Class III designation in place.

Western's preferred alternative is to grant the interconnection request for the proposed Project to Western's existing Bouse-Kofa 161-kV transmission line and to construct, operate, and maintain a new switchyard and communication pathway.

¹The Final EIS can be found on Western's Web site at: <http://ww2.wapa.gov/sites/Western/transmission/interconn/Pages/QuartzsiteSolar.aspx>.