inspection and reproduction at the
address in paragraph h.
Registered online at http://
www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/
esubscription.asp to be notified via
email of new filing and issuances
related to this or other pending projects.
For assistance, contact FERC Online
Support.

o. With this notice, we are soliciting
comments on the PAD and
Commission’s staff Scoping Document 1
(SD1), as well as study requests. All
comments on the PAD and SD1, and
study requests should be sent to the
address above in paragraph h. In
addition, all comments on the PAD and
SD1 study requests, requests for
cooperating agency status, and all
communications to and from
Commission staff related to the merits of
the potential application must be filed
with the Commission.

The Commission strongly encourages
electronic filing. Please file all
documents using the Commission’s
eFiling system at 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. In lieu of
electronic filing, please send a paper
copy to: Secretary, Federal Energy
Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street
NE., Washington, DC 20426. The first
page of any filing should include docket
number P–2879–011.

All filings with the Commission must
bear the appropriate heading:
“Comments on Pre-Application
Document.” “Study Requests.”
“Comments on Scoping Document 1,”
“Request for Cooperating Agency
Status.” “Communications to and
from Commission Staff.” Any
individual or entity interested in
submitting study requests, commenting
on the PAD or SD1, and any agency
requesting cooperating status must do so

p. Although our current intent is to
prepare an environmental assessment
(EA), there is the possibility that an
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
will be required. Nevertheless, this
meeting will satisfy the NEPA scoping
requirements, irrespective of whether an
EA or EIS is issued by the Commission.

Scoping Meetings

Commission staff will hold two
scoping meetings in the vicinity of the
project at the times and places noted
below. The daytime meeting will focus
on resource agency, Indian tribes, and
non-governmental organization
concerns, while the evening meeting is
primarily for receiving input from the
public. We invite all interested
individuals, organizations, and agencies
to attend one or both of the meetings,
and to assist staff in identifying
particular study needs, as well as the
scope of environmental issues to be
addressed in the environmental
document. The times and locations of
these meetings are as follows:

Evening Scoping Meeting

Date: Tuesday, April 25, 2017.
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Waterbury Municipal
Complex, 28 North Main Street,
Waterbury, VT 05676.
Phone: (802) 244–7033.

Daytime Scoping Meeting

Date: Wednesday, April 26, 2017.
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Capitol Plaza Hotel and
Conference Center, 100 State Street,
Montpelier, VT 05602.
Phone: (802) 223–5252.

Scoping Document 1 (SD1), which
outlines the subject areas to be
addressed in the environmental
document, was mailed to the
individuals and entities on the
Commission’s mailing list. Copies of
SD1 will be available at the scoping
meetings, or may be viewed on the web
at http://www.ferc.gov, using the
“eLibrary” link. Follow the directions
for accessing information in paragraph
n. Based on all oral and written
comments, a Scoping Document 2 (SD2)
may be issued. SD2 may include a
revised process plan and schedule, as
well as a list of issues, identified
through the scoping process.

Environmental Site Review

The potential applicant and
Commission staff will conduct an
Environmental Site Review (site visit) of
the project on Tuesday, April 25,
starting at 2:00 p.m., and ending at or
about 3:30. All participants should meet
at 1:45 p.m. at 341 Power Plant Road,
Duxbury, Vermont, at the parking lot
located to the left off Power Plant Road
before you reach the substation and
powerhouse. Participants are
responsible for their own transportation.
Persons with questions about the site
visit should contact John Greenan (802–
770–3213) or Gary Lemay (603–428–
4960). Persons planning on participating
in the site visit should contact Gary
Lemay (603–428–4960; glemay@
gomezandsullivan.com) or Sharon Lucia
(Sharon.Lucia@greenmountainpower.com) on or before
April 11, 2017.

Meeting Objectives

At the scoping meetings, staff will: (1)
Initiate scoping of the issues; (2) review
and discuss existing conditions and
resource management objectives; (3)
review and discuss existing information and
identify preliminary information
and study needs; (4) review and discuss the
process plan and schedule for pre-
filling activity that incorporates the time
frames provided for in Part 5 of the
Commission’s regulations and, to the
extent possible, maximizes coordination
of federal, state, and tribal permitting
and certification processes; and (5)
discuss the appropriateness of any
federal or state agency or Indian tribe
acting as a cooperating agency for
development of an environmental
document.

Meeting participants should come
prepared to discuss their issues and/or
concerns. Please review the PAD in
preparation for the scoping meetings.
Directions on how to obtain a copy of the
PAD and SD1 are included in item
n. of this document.

Meeting Procedures

The meetings will be recorded by a
stenographer and will be placed in the
public records of the project.

Dated: March 31, 2017.
Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2017–06846 Filed 4–5–17; 8:45 am]

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory
Commission

[Project No. 14834–000]

Merchant Hydro Developers, LLC;
Notice of Preliminary Permit
Application Accepted for Filing and
Soliciting Comments, Motions To
Intervene, and Competing Applications

On January 18, 2017, Merchant Hydro
Developers, 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 Stony Creek Pumped Storage
Hydro Project to be located near the
town of Somerset in Somerset County,
Pennsylvania. 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
The proposed project would consist of the following: (1) A new upper reservoir having a surface area of 100 acres and a storage capacity of 1,500 acre-feet at a surface elevation of approximately 2,540 feet above mean sea level (msl) created through construction of new roller-compacted concrete or rock-filled dams; (2) a new lower reservoir having a surface area of 40 acres and a storage capacity of 1,800 acre-feet at a surface elevation of approximately 1,800 feet msl created through construction of new roller-compacted concrete or rock-filled dams; (3) a new 2,560-foot-long, 48-inch-diameter penstock connecting the upper and lower reservoirs; (4) a new 150-foot-long, 50-foot-wide powerhouse containing two turbine-generator units with a total rated capacity of 91 megawatts; (5) a new transmission line connecting the powerhouse to a nearby electric grid interconnection point with options to evaluate multiple grid interconnection locations; and (6) appurtenant facilities. Possible initial fill water and make-up water would come from Stony Creek Lake. The dam would be a gravity-overflow structure, and have a 150-foot-long, 50-foot-wide powerhouse; (3) a new 2,560-foot-long, 48-inch-diameter penstock connecting the powerhouse to a nearby electric grid interconnection location; and (6) appurtenant facilities. Possible initial fill water and make-up water would come from Stony Creek Lake. The proposed project would have an annual generation of 332,152 megawatt-hours.

Applicant Contact: Adam Rousselle, Merchant Hydro Developers, LLC, 5710 Oak Crest Drive, Doylestown, PA 18902; phone: (267) 254–6107.

FERC Contact: Tim Looney; phone: (202) 502–6096.

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.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file 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.

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