

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY****Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

[Docket No. CP17-468-000]

**Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review of the Proposed Marshall County Mine Panel 18W Project; Texas Eastern Transmission, LP**

On June 30, 2017, Texas Eastern Transmission, LP filed an application in Docket No. CP17-468-000 requesting a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act to construct and operate certain natural gas pipeline facilities. The proposed project is known as the as Marshall County Mine Panel 18W Project (Project), and would excavate and elevate sections of four existing mainline pipelines to minimize and monitor potential strains on the pipelines due to anticipated longwall mining activities.

On July 13, 2017, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) issued its Notice of Application for the Project. Among other things, that notice alerted agencies issuing federal authorizations of the requirement to complete all necessary reviews and to reach a final decision on a request for a federal authorization within 90 days of the date of issuance of the Commission staff's Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Project. This instant notice identifies the FERC staff's planned schedule for the completion of the EA for the Project.

**Schedule for Environmental Review**

Issuance of EA—December 21, 2017  
90-day Federal Authorization Decision  
Deadline—March 21, 2018

If a schedule change becomes necessary, additional notice will be provided so that the relevant agencies are kept informed of the Project's progress.

**Project Description**

Texas Eastern proposes to excavate and elevate 1.6-mile-long sections each of its Line 10, Line 15, Line 30, and a 1.5-mile-long section of its Line 25 to minimize and monitor potential strains on the pipelines due to anticipated longwall mining activities of Marshall Coal. Concurrent with pipeline elevation, portions of two of the lines, Lines 10 and 15, would be replaced with new pipe. Texas Eastern will also perform maintenance activities on sections of Lines 25 and 30. The four mainline sections will be returned to natural gas service while remaining elevated using sandbags and skids

during the longwall mining activities and potential ground subsidence. Once the mining-induced subsidence and the 2017-2018 heating season have both ended, the two sections of pipeline located within wetlands will be removed and the four elevated pipeline sections will be re-installed belowground, hydrostatically tested, and placed back into service.

**Background**

On July 24, 2017, the Commission issued a *Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Marshall County Mine Panel 18W Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues* (NOI). The NOI was sent to affected landowners; federal, state, and local government agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Native American tribes; other interested parties; and local libraries and newspapers. The Commission did not receive any comments in response to the NOI.

**Additional Information**

In order to receive notification of the issuance of the EA and to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets, the Commission offers a free service called eSubscription. This can reduce the amount of time you spend researching proceedings by automatically providing you with notification of these filings, document summaries, and direct links to the documents. Go to [www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp](http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp).

Additional information about the Project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs at (866) 208-FERC or on the FERC Web site ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)). Using the eLibrary link, select General Search from the eLibrary menu, enter the selected date range and Docket Number excluding the last three digits (*i.e.*, CP17-468), and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to eLibrary, the helpline can be reached at (866) 208-3676, TTY (202) 502-8659, or at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov). The eLibrary link on the FERC Web site also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rule makings.

Dated: October 5, 2017.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2017-22002 Filed 10-11-17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY****Federal Energy Regulatory Commission****Combined Notice of Filings #1**

Take notice that the Commission received the following exempt wholesale generator filings:

*Docket Numbers:* EG18-2-000.

*Applicants:* NTE Carolinas II, LLC.

*Description:* Self-Certification of Exempt Wholesale Generator Status of NTE Carolinas II, LLC.

*Filed Date:* 10/4/17.

*Accession Number:* 20171004-5155.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 10/25/17.

*Docket Numbers:* EG18-3-000.

*Applicants:* Bladen Solar, LLC.

*Description:* Self-Certification of Exempt Wholesale Generator Status of Bladen Solar, LLC.

*Filed Date:* 10/5/17.

*Accession Number:* 20171005-5005.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 10/26/17.

*Docket Numbers:* EG18-4-000.

*Applicants:* Bullock Solar, LLC.

*Description:* Self-Certification of Exempt Wholesale Generator Status of Bullock Solar, LLC.

*Filed Date:* 10/5/17.

*Accession Number:* 20171005-5006.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 10/26/17.

Take notice that the Commission received the following electric rate filings:

*Docket Numbers:* ER18-26-000.

*Applicants:* Southwestern Electric Power Company.

*Description:* § 205(d) Rate Filing: SWEPSCO-NTEC Hallsville S. Tap to Gum Springs DPA to be effective 9/11/2017.

*Filed Date:* 10/4/17.

*Accession Number:* 20171004-5139.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 10/25/17.

*Docket Numbers:* ER18-27-000.

*Applicants:* Thunder Ranch Wind Project, LLC.

*Description:* Baseline eTariff Filing: Thunder Ranch Wind Project, LLC MBR Tariff to be effective 11/1/2017.

*Filed Date:* 10/4/17.

*Accession Number:* 20171004-5154.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 10/25/17.

*Docket Numbers:* ER18-28-000.

*Applicants:* Duke Energy Florida, LLC.

*Description:* § 205(d) Rate Filing: DEF Bartow NITSA Update to be effective 1/1/2018.

*Filed Date:* 10/5/17.

*Accession Number:* 20171005-5003.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 10/26/17.

The filings are accessible in the Commission's eLibrary system by clicking on the links or querying the docket number.

Any person desiring to intervene or protest in any of the above proceedings must file in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Regulations (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214) on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on the specified comment date. Protests may be considered, but intervention is necessary to become a party to the proceeding.

eFiling is encouraged. More detailed information relating to filing requirements, interventions, protests, service, and qualifying facilities filings can be found at: <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling/filing-req.pdf>. For other information, call (866) 208-3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502-8659.

Dated: October 5, 2017.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2017-22007 Filed 10-11-17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Western Area Power Administration

#### Recommendation for the Western Area Power Administration Loveland Area Projects and Colorado River Storage Project To Pursue Final Negotiations Regarding Membership in a Regional Transmission Organization

**AGENCY:** Western Area Power Administration, DOE.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Western Area Power Administration (WAPA), a power marketing administration (PMA) of the Department of Energy (DOE), is publishing this recommendation for the Loveland Area Projects (LAP) and the Colorado River Storage Project (CRSP) to pursue final negotiations regarding membership in the Southwest Power Pool (SPP), a Regional Transmission Organization (RTO). WAPA is seeking public comment from its customers, Native American Tribes, stakeholders, and the public on the substance of WAPA's recommendation to pursue final negotiations regarding LAP and CRSP membership in SPP.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, all comments should be received by WAPA by email or at the address below on or before 4 p.m. MST November 27, 2017. WAPA will present a detailed explanation of the recommendation for LAP and listen to customers' and other interested parties' comments at a forum in Loveland, Colorado. WAPA also will present a detailed explanation of the recommendation for CRSP and listen to customers' and other interested parties'

comments at forums held in locations throughout the CRSP marketing area. The specific times and locations of these forums are posted on the Web sites identified in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section. Key information that formed the basis for this recommendation will be presented at the forums and is posted at the Web sites listed in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section. Any decision to pursue the recommendation will be informed by comments received.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments by email to [SPP-Comments@wapa.gov](mailto:SPP-Comments@wapa.gov) or by mail to Mr. Rodney G. Bailey, Power Marketing Advisor, Western Area Power Administration, 150 East Social Hall Avenue, Suite 300, Salt Lake City, UT 84111-1580. Written comments must be received by the deadline identified in the **DATES** section to be considered in WAPA's decision process and should include the following information:

1. Name and general description of the entity submitting the comment.
2. Name, mailing address, telephone number, and email address of the entity's primary contact.
3. Identification of any specific recommendation the comment references.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Rodney Bailey, Power Marketing Advisor, Western Area Power Administration, 150 East Social Hall Avenue, Suite 300, Salt Lake City, UT 84111-1580, telephone (801) 524-4007.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In 2013, representatives for LAP and CRSP, along with eight other transmission owners, informally referred to as the Mountain West Transmission Group (Mountain West), began discussing combining their transmission systems under a single tariff to eliminate pancaked transmission rates and enable generation optimization across the footprint. After reaching conceptual agreement on the possibility of a joint tariff, the discussions focused on the Mountain West participants joining an RTO with a fully integrated energy and ancillary services market. With this perspective, the Mountain West participants, individually and collectively, completed transmission cost studies, adjusted production cost modeling, and performed various other analyses. The Mountain West participants sent a request for information to SPP and three other RTOs. After having considered the responses to its request, in conjunction with each Mountain West participant's individual analyses and the collective Mountain West analyses, the Mountain West participants reached consensus to

further investigate membership in SPP. After extensive discussions among the Mountain West participants, preliminary negotiations with SPP, and further analysis by WAPA subject matter experts, and pursuant to its authority under Section 1232(a)(1)(A) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16431), WAPA recommends pursuing final negotiations regarding LAP and CRSP membership in SPP. Any decision by WAPA to move forward in final negotiations with SPP will be consistent with CRSP and LAP statutory requirements and as outlined in the basis for the recommendation and explanatory material posted to WAPA's Rocky Mountain Region (RMR) and Colorado River Storage Project Management Center (CRSP MC) Web sites at <https://www.wapa.gov/regions/rm> and <https://www.wapa.gov/regions/crsp>, respectively. At the conclusion of those final negotiations, WAPA intends to provide notification of its decision for LAP and CRSP to either execute a membership agreement with SPP or terminate formal negotiations.

Therefore, WAPA is soliciting comments from its customers and other interested parties regarding this recommendation. If the membership negotiations are successful, then LAP and CRSP would sign an SPP membership agreement to become members of SPP and participate in the SPP Integrated Marketplace, the LAP and CRSP transmission systems would be placed under the SPP tariff, and the Western Area Colorado Missouri Balancing Authority responsibilities would transfer to SPP. Section 1232(b) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 authorizes the appropriate Federal regulatory authority to enter into a contract, agreement, or other arrangement transferring control and use of all or part of the transmission system of a Federal utility to a Transmission Organization. (42 U.S.C. 16431(b)). The Administrator of WAPA is designated as the appropriate Federal regulatory authority with respect to all or part of WAPA's transmission system in accordance with the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

#### Availability of Information

The basis for this recommendation and explanatory material to be presented at the forums are available for review and comment on the Web sites referenced in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section. Comments received in response to this notice will be posted on the same Web sites after the close of the comment period.