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[FR Doc. E5-663 Filed 2-17-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Notice; Meeting

AGENCY: United States Election Assistance Commission.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting for the Technical Guidelines Development Committee.

DATE & TIME: Wednesday, March 9, 2005, 8:30 am to 5:30 pm.

PLACE: National Institute of Standards and Technology, 100 Bureau Drive, Building 101, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899-8900.

STATUS: This meeting will be open to the public. There is no fee to attend, but, due to security requirements, advance registration is required. Registration information is available at: https://rproxy.nist.gov/CRS/conf_ext.cfm?conf_id=1392. Please make sure you provide special needs in the space allotted on the registration form. Also, on the form, leave the amount due at 0\$.

Note: Advance registration closes March 2, 2005.

SUMMARY: The Technical Guidelines Development Committee (the "Development Committee") has scheduled a plenary meeting for March 9, 2005. The Committee was established pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 15361, to act in the public interest to assist the Executive Director of the Election Assistance Commission in the development of the voluntary voting system guidelines. The Development Committee held its first meeting on July 9th, 2004 and its second meeting on January 18 and 19, 2005. The purpose of the third meeting of the Committee will be to review and approve progress on technical work tasks defined in resolutions adopted at the January plenary meeting and to consider further resolutions if proposed. The Committee's adopted resolutions are available for public review at: <http://www.vote.nist.gov/Official%20w-o%20signature.doc>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Technical Guidelines Development Committee held their first plenary meeting for July 9, 2004. At this meeting, the Development Committee agreed to a resolution forming three working groups: (1) Human Factors & Privacy; (2) Security & Transparency;

and (3) Core Requirements & Testing to gather information and public input on relevant issues. The information gathered by the working groups was analyzed at the second meeting of the Development Committee January 18 & 19, 2005. Thirty-one resolutions were adopted by the TGDC at the January plenary session. The resolutions defined technical work tasks for NIST that will assist the TGDC in developing recommendations for voluntary voting system guidelines. The guidelines are due to the Election Assistance Commission in April 2005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Allan Eustis 301-975-5099. If a member of the public would like to submit written comments concerning the Committee's affairs at any time before or after the meeting, written comments should be addressed to the contact person indicated above, or to voting@nist.gov.

Gracia M. Hillman,

Chair, U.S. Election Assistance Commission.

[FR Doc. 05-3306 Filed 2-16-05; 11:59 am]

BILLING CODE 6820-YN-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

[FE Docket No. PP-299]

Application for Presidential Permit; Sea Breeze Pacific Regional Transmission System, Inc.

AGENCY: Office of Fossil Energy, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of application.

SUMMARY: Sea Breeze Pacific Regional Transmission System, Inc., (Sea Breeze) has applied for a Presidential permit to construct, operate, maintain, and connect a 150,000-volt (150-kV), direct current transmission line across the U.S. border with Canada.

DATES: Comments, protests, or requests to intervene must be submitted on or before March 21, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Comments, protests, or requests to intervene should be addressed as follows: Office of Fossil Energy (FE-27), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585 (FAX 202-297-5736).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Jerry Pell (Program Office) at 202-586-3362, or Michael T. Skinker (Program Attorney) at 202-586-2793.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The construction, operation, maintenance, and connection of facilities at the international border of the United States for the transmission of electric energy between the United States and a foreign

country is prohibited in the absence of a Presidential permit issued pursuant to Executive Order (EO) 10485, as amended by EO 12038.

On December 20, 2004, Sea Breeze filed an application with the Office of Fossil Energy (FE) of the Department of Energy (DOE) for a Presidential permit for the construction of a 150-kV electric transmission line that would cross the U.S.-Canadian border. Sea Breeze is a British Columbia corporation with its principal place of business in Vancouver, British Columbia. Although Sea Breeze is the sole applicant for a Presidential permit, Sea Breeze is a joint venture between Sea Breeze Power Corporation, a publicly traded Canadian corporation, and Boundless Energy, LLC, a limited liability company of the State of Maine.

Sea Breeze proposes to develop a direct current transmission interconnection between Canada and the United States utilizing High Voltage Direct Current Light technology. The project would originate on Vancouver Island in the vicinity of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, cross the Strait of Juan de Fuca via submarine cable, and proceed via terrestrial underground cable to a converter station to be constructed at a substation located in Port Angeles, Washington, and owned by Bonneville Power Administration. The converter station would convert the direct current back to alternating current.

The entire length of the proposed transmission facilities would be 22 miles, consisting of 1½ miles of land-based underground cable in Canada, 19 miles of submarine cable crossing the Strait of Juan de Fuca, and 1½ miles of land-based underground cable inside the United States. The project is intended to transmit up to 550 megawatts of power in either direction between the two countries.

Since the restructuring of the electric power industry began, resulting in the introduction of different types of competitive entities into the marketplace, DOE has consistently expressed its policy that cross-border trade in electric energy should be subject to the same principles of comparable open access and non-discrimination that apply to transmission in interstate commerce. DOE has stated that policy in export authorization granted to entities requesting authority to export over international transmission facilities. Specifically, DOE expects transmitting utilities owning border facilities constructed pursuant to Presidential permits to provide access across the border in accordance with the