

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Research Service

Notice of Federal Invention Available for Licensing and Intent to Grant Exclusive License

AGENCY: Agricultural Research Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of availability and intent.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that U.S. Patent No. 6,018,063, "Biodegradable Oleic Estolide Ester Base Stocks and Lubricants", issued on January 25, 2000, is available for licensing and that the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, intends to grant to Peaks and Prairies, L.L.C. of Malta, Montana, an exclusive license to this invention. Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, intends to grant to Peaks and Prairies, L.L.C. of Malta, Montana, an exclusive license to U.S. Patent No. 6,316,649, "Biodegradable Oleic Estolide Ester Having Saturated Fatty Acid End Group Useful as Lubricant Base Stock", issued on November 13, 2001. Notice of Availability of this invention for licensing was published in the **Federal Register** on March 13, 2001.

DATES: Comments must be received within ninety (90) calendar days of the date of publication of this Notice in the **Federal Register**.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to: USDA, ARS, Office of Technology Transfer, 5601 Sunnyside Avenue, Room 4-1174, Beltsville, Maryland 20705-5131.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: June Blalock of the Office of Technology Transfer at the Beltsville address given above; telephone: 301-504-5989.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal Government's patent rights to these inventions are assigned to the United States of America, as represented by the Secretary of Agriculture. It is in

the public interest to so license these inventions as Peaks and Prairies, L.L.C. of Malta, Montana has submitted a complete and sufficient application for a license. The prospective exclusive license will be royalty-bearing and will comply with the terms and conditions of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7. The prospective exclusive license may be granted unless, within ninety (90) days from the date of this published Notice, the Agricultural Research Service receives written evidence and argument which establishes that the grant of the license would not be consistent with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7.

Richard J. Brenner,
Assistant Administrator.

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BILLING CODE 3410-03-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Great River Energy, Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of finding of no significant impact.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) has made a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) in connection with potential impacts related to the construction and operation of a natural gas-fired simple cycle, combustion turbine power generation facility in Cambridge Township in Isanti County, Minnesota. The electrical output from the facility is expected to range from 170 megawatts (MW) to 190 MW depending upon operating conditions. RUS may provide financial assistance for this project.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nurul Islam, Environmental Protection Specialist, Engineering and Environmental Staff, Rural Development, Utilities Programs, Stop 1571, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone: (202) 720-1414, FAX: (202) 720-0820; or e-mail: nurul.islam@wdc.usda.gov; or Mark Strohfus, Environmental Project Leader, GRE, 17845 East Highway 10, P.O. Box 800, Elk River, Minnesota 55330-0800, telephone (763) 241-2491,

FAX: (763) 241-6033, e-mail: MStrohfus@greenergy.com.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Great River Energy (GRE) is proposing to construct a simple-cycle combustion turbine generation plant in Cambridge Township in Isanti County, Minnesota. Total electrical output is expected to range from 170 MW to 190 MW depending on operating conditions. An alternative site for the plant is also being proposed for the project. The alternative site location is at GRE's Elk River headquarters in Sherburne County, Minnesota. The Elk River site presently has a 40 MW facility fueled with refuse derived fuel and it would remain if the proposed plant were to be constructed at this alternative site. No additional land would be purchased if the plant were to be constructed at this location. Due to constraints on natural gas availability, a combustion turbine at the Elk River site would be equipped to fire fuel oil as a backup fuel. The generator would be connected to the Elk River Substation. Construction of the project at the proposed Cambridge site would necessitate upgrading approximately 47 miles of existing 69-kilovolt (kV) transmission lines. Construction at the alternative Elk River site would necessitate upgrading approximately 27 miles of existing 69-kV transmission lines to allow the electricity from the new generator to be reliably delivered from the site. A fuel oil-fired combustion turbine rated at approximately 20 MW exists at the proposed Cambridge site and will remain in operation at the site after construction of the proposed combustion turbine. Additional land would be acquired to facilitate the proposed construction activities. The proposal at the Cambridge site would include upgrades to the existing substation at the Cambridge plant site. A 10-inch high pressure gas lateral pipeline approximately one-half mile long would be constructed to provide a natural gas fuel supply for the proposal. GRE prepared an environmental analysis for RUS that describes the proposal and assesses the proposal's environmental impacts. RUS has conducted an independent evaluation of the environmental analysis and believes that it accurately assesses the impacts of the proposal. This environmental analysis will serve as RUS' environmental assessment (EA) of the