

(866) 208-3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502-8659.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2100-134 California]

California Department of Water Resources; Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Oroville Facilities and Intention to Hold Public Meetings

September 29, 2006.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) regulations, 18 CFR part 380 (Order No. 486, 52 FR 47897), the Office of Energy Projects has reviewed the application for license for the Oroville Facilities (FERC No. 2100), located on the Feather River in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada in Butte County, California, and has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (draft EIS) for the project. The existing project occupies 2,000 acres of federal lands managed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service within the Plumas and Lassen National Forests and 3,900 acres managed by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management.

The draft EIS contains staff evaluations of the applicant's proposal and alternatives for relicensing the Oroville Facilities. The draft EIS documents the views of governmental agencies, non-governmental organizations, affected Indian tribes, the public, the license applicant, and Commission staff.

Comments on the draft EIS should be filed with Magalie R. Salas, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. All comments must be filed by November 28, 2006, and should reference Project No. 2100-134. Comments may be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and instructions on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the eLibrary link.

In addition to or in lieu of sending written comments, you are invited to attend one or more public meetings that will be held to receive comments on the

draft EIS. Meeting dates, times, and locations will be provided in a subsequent Notice.

At these meetings, resource agency personnel and other interested persons will have the opportunity to provide oral and written comments and recommendations regarding the draft EIS. The meeting will be recorded by a court reporter, and all statements (verbal and written) will become part of the Commission's public record for the project. Meeting information will be posted on the Commission's calendar located at <http://www.ferc.gov/EventCalendar/EventsList.aspx> along with other related information.

The Commission will consider comments it receives as it prepares the final EIS for this project. The final EIS will be part of the record from which the Commission will make its decision.

Copies of the draft EIS are available for review in the Commission's Public Reference Branch, Room 2A, located at 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. The draft EIS also may be viewed on the Internet at www.ferc.gov under the eLibrary link. Enter the docket number (P-2100) to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll-free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, (202) 502-8659.

CD versions of the draft EIS have been mailed to everyone on the mailing list for the project. Copies of the CD, as well as a limited number of paper copies, are available from the Public Reference Room identified above.

You may also register online at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp> to be notified via e-mail of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

Anyone may intervene in this proceeding based on this draft EIS (18 CFR 380.10). You must file your request to intervene as specified above.¹ You do not need intervenor status to have your comments considered.

For further information, contact James Fargo at (202) 502-6095 or at james.fargo@ferc.gov.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E6-16534 Filed 10-5-06; 8:45 am]

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¹ Interventions may also be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. See the previous discussion on filing comments electronically.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP06-275-000]

Equitrans, LP; Notice of Availability of the Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Big Sandy Pipeline Project

September 29, 2006.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission), in cooperation with the United States Army Corps of Engineers, has prepared an environmental assessment (EA) on the natural gas pipeline facilities proposed by Equitrans, LP (Equitrans) in the above-referenced docket.

The EA was prepared to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The FERC staff concludes that approval of the proposed project, with appropriate mitigating measures, would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

The EA assesses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of Equitrans' proposed Big Sandy Pipeline Project. The project includes construction of approximately 68 miles of 20-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline and appurtenant facilities in Carter, Lawrence, Floyd, and Johnson Counties, Kentucky. A compressor station would also be constructed in Langley, KY.

The purpose of the project is to provide new firm transportation capacity of 130,000-dekatherms per day into the interstate natural gas system to relieve summertime curtailments of natural gas in the eastern Kentucky basin.

The EA has been placed in the public files of the FERC. A limited number of copies of the EA are available for distribution and public inspection at: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Public Reference Room, 888 First Street, NE., Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426, (202) 502-8371.

Copies of the EA have been mailed to federal, state, and local agencies, public interest groups, interested individuals, newspapers, and parties to this proceeding.

Any person wishing to comment on the EA may do so. To ensure consideration prior to a Commission decision on the proposal, it is important that we receive your comments before the date specified below. Please carefully follow these instructions to ensure that your comments are received in time and properly recorded:

- Send an original and two copies of your comments to: Magalie R. Salas, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., NE., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426;
- Reference Docket No. CP06–275–000;
- Label one copy of the comments for the attention of the Gas Branch 1, PJ–11.1; and
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before October 30, 2006.

Please note that the Commission strongly encourages electronic filing of any comments or interventions or protests to this proceeding. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the "e-Filing" link and the link to the User's Guide. Before you can file comments you will need to create an account which can be created on-line.

Comments will be considered by the Commission but will not serve to make the commentor a party to the proceeding. Any person seeking to become a party to the proceeding must file a motion to intervene pursuant to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures (18 CFR 385.214).¹ Only intervenors have the right to seek rehearing of the Commission's decision.

Affected landowners and parties with environmental concerns may be granted intervenor status upon showing good cause by stating that they have a clear and direct interest in this proceeding which would not be adequately represented by any other parties. You do not need intervenor status to have your comments considered.

Additional information about the project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at 1–866–208–FERC or on the FERC Internet Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>) using the eLibrary link. Click on the eLibrary link, click on "General Search" and enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the Docket Number field. Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll free at 1–866–208–3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502–8659. The eLibrary link also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

In addition, the Commission now offers a free service called eSubscription

which allows you to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets. 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 <http://www.ferc.gov/esubscribenow.htm>.

Magalie R. Salas,

Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. AD06–11–000]

Transparency Provisions of the Energy Policy Act of 2005; Second Notice of Technical Conference

September 29, 2006.

On September 5, 2006, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) announced that a conference will be held in the above-referenced proceeding on October 13, 2006, at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426 in the Commission Meeting Room from 9:30 a.m. until 3 p.m. (EDT). The Chairman and Commissioners are expected to attend.

All interested persons are invited to attend. There is *no* registration fee to attend.

Sections 316 and 1281 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005,¹ respectively, added section 23 to the Natural Gas Act² and section 220 to the Federal Power Act.³ These sections provide that the Commission may act to facilitate price transparency in wholesale natural gas and electricity markets, and authorize the Commission to adopt such rules as may be necessary to assure the timely dissemination of information about the availability and prices of natural gas and electric energy and transmission service in such markets.

There will be two panels. The morning panel will focus on natural gas and the afternoon panel will focus on electric energy.

The morning panel (9:30 to 11:30 a.m.), in particular, will focus on facilitating price transparency in markets for the sale or transportation of

physical natural gas in interstate commerce. Panelists should be prepared to address the following:

1. What specific information about the availability and prices of natural gas sold at wholesale and in interstate commerce is not available today but should be? Why?

2. How could that information be disseminated?

3. How does either the Commission's historical natural gas jurisdiction or EPart 2005 give the Commission the authority to collect or disseminate that information or have it collected or disseminated?

4. In the context of its prior efforts, what more (if anything) should the Commission do with respect to the development or publication of natural gas price indices?

The afternoon panel (1 to 3 p.m.), in particular, will focus on facilitating price transparency in markets for the sale and transmission of electric energy in interstate commerce. Panelists should be prepared to address the following:

1. What specific information about the availability and prices of wholesale electric energy and transmission service is not available today but should be? Why?

2. How could that information be disseminated?

3. How does either the Commission's historical electric energy jurisdiction or EPart 2005 give the Commission the authority to collect or disseminate that information or have it collected or disseminated?

4. In the context of its prior efforts, what more (if anything) should the Commission do with regard to the development or publication of electric price indices?

Prospective panelists are invited to contact Saida Shaalan, by e-mail at Saida.Shaalan@FERC.gov, by Wednesday, October 4, 2006.

Prospective attendees and participants are urged to watch for a further notice, which will identify the panelists.

As previously announced, a free Webcast of this event will be available through <http://www.ferc.gov>. Anyone with Internet access who desires to view this event can do so by navigating to <http://www.ferc.gov>'s Calendar of Events and locating this event in the Calendar. The event will contain a link to its Webcast. The Capitol Connection provides technical support for the Webcasts and offers access to the meeting via phone bridge for a fee. If you have any questions, visit <http://www.CapitolConnection.org> or contact Danelle Perkowski or David Reiningger at 703–993–3100.

¹ Interventions may also be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. See the previous discussion on filing comments electronically.

¹ Energy Policy Act of 2005, §§ 316 and 1281, Pub. L. No. 109–59, 119 Stat. 594, 691–92 and 978–79 (2005).

² 15 U.S.C. 717t–2 (2005).

³ 16 U.S.C. 824t (2005).