

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

[Docket No. CP05-420-000]

Bayou Casotte Energy, LLC; Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Casotte Landing Lng Project

December 22, 2006.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) in cooperation with the U.S. Coast Guard (Coast Guard); U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE); U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS); U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries); and the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR) has prepared this final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the construction and operation of the liquefied natural gas (LNG) import terminal and natural gas pipeline facilities, and including operation of LNG vessels in the waterway from the territorial seas until moored at the facility, all referred to as the Casotte Landing LNG Project, as proposed by Bayou Casotte Energy, LLC in the above-referenced docket.

This final EIS was prepared to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The staff concludes that approval of the Casotte Landing LNG Project, with appropriate mitigating measures as recommended, would have limited adverse environmental impact. The Coast Guard proposed action requiring NEPA, is issuance of a Letter of Recommendation (LOR) of waterway suitability for LNG vessel traffic with the conditions referenced in the Description of the Proposed Action (Section 2.0 in the EIS). The final EIS evaluates alternatives to the proposed actions (*i.e.*, FERC's proposed approval of the Project and the Coast Guard's proposed action of issuing a Letter of Recommendation finding the waterway to be suitable for LNG vessel traffic with conditions), including the Coast Guard alternatives, system alternatives, alternative sites for the LNG import terminal, and pipeline alternatives. The final EIS also contains our Essential Fish Habitat Assessment.

The general purpose of the Casotte Landing LNG Project is to provide up to 1.3 billion cubic feet per day (Bcfd) of natural gas to markets in the United States.

The final EIS addresses the potential environmental effects of construction and operation of the following facilities near the City of Pascagoula in Jackson County, Mississippi: a ship unloading facility with a single berth capable of receiving LNG ships with cargo capacities of up to 200,000 cubic meters (m³);

- three 160,000 m³ (net capacity) full containment LNG storage tanks;
- a closed-loop intermediate fluid vaporizer system utilizing cooling water from the adjacent Chevron Pascagoula Refinery as a heat source, sized for a normal sendout of 1.3 Bcfd;
- various ancillary buildings and facilities;
- five pipeline interconnects originating from a 1.5-mile-long, 36-inch-diameter spur ;
- associated pipeline support facilities, including two meter stations at interconnects with the existing pipeline systems; and
- integrally related nonjurisdictional facilities would include a natural gas liquid (NGL) extraction system and pipeline, electric transmission lines, an electric substation, a waste heat water circulation system, and the relocation of two of the Chevron Pascagoula Refinery crude oil tanker berths.

The analysis also includes operation of LNG vessels in the waterway from the territorial seas until moored at the proposed LNG terminal.

The final EIS has been placed in the public files of the FERC and is available for distribution and public inspection at: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street NE., Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426, (202) 502-8371.

A limited number of copies of the final EIS are available from the Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch identified above. In addition, CD copies of the final EIS have been mailed to Federal, State, and local agencies; elected officials; public interest groups; individuals and affected landowners; libraries; newspapers; and parties to these proceedings.

In accordance with CEQ's regulations implementing NEPA, no agency decision on a proposed action may be made until 30 days after the EPA publishes a NOA of the final EIS. However, the CEQ regulations provide an exception to this rule when an agency decision is subject to a formal internal process that allows other agencies or the public to make their views known. In such cases, the agency decision may be made at the same time the notice of the final EIS is published, allowing both periods to run

concurrently. Should the FERC issue authorization for the Casotte Landing LNG Project for the proposed action, it would be subject to a 30-day rehearing period. Therefore, the FERC could issue its decision concurrently with the EPA's NOA.

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 at (202) 502-8659. The eLibrary link on the FERC Internet Web site also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

Information about the project is also available from the Coast Guard by contacting Captain James Bjostad, Captain of the Port, Sector Mobile, at (251) 441-5960.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E6-22379 Filed 12-28-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

[Project No. 2195-011]

Clackamas River Hydroelectric Project, Portland General Electric Company Clackamas County, Oregon; Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Clackamas River Hydroelectric Project

December 21, 2006.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) regulations contained in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)(18 CFR Part 380 [FERC Order No. 486, 52 FR 47897]) the Office of Energy Projects staff (staff) reviewed the application for a New Major License for the Clackamas River Hydroelectric Project located on the Clackamas River, Clackamas County, Oregon. On June 16, 2006, a draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) was issued for the project. The public

was invited to comment on the DEIS. Staff has reviewed and responded to comments received and have prepared a final environmental impact statement (FEIS) for the project.

The FEIS contains staff's analysis of the potential environmental effects of the project and concludes that licensing the project, with staff's recommended measures, would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. Copies of the FEIS have been sent to federal, state, and local agencies; public interest groups; and individuals on the Commission's mailing list.

A copy of the FEIS is available for review at the Commission's Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "e-Library" link. Enter the docket number (P-2195), to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll-free at (866) 208-2376, or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Blair at (202) 502-6092 or at john.blair@ferc.gov.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E6-22361 Filed 12-28-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project Nos.: P-2197-073 and P-2206-030]

Alcoa Power Generating, Inc., Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Notice of Scoping Meetings and Site Visit and Soliciting Scoping Comments

December 21, 2006.

Take notice that the following hydroelectric applications have been filed with Commission and are available for public inspection:

a. *Type of Applications:* New Major Licenses.

b. *Project Nos.:* P-2197-073 and P-2206-030.

c. *Dates filed:* April 25, 2006 and April 26, 2006.

d. *Applicants:* Alcoa Power Generating, Inc. and Carolina Power and Light Company d/b/a/ Progress Energy Carolinas, Inc.

e. *Names of Projects:* Yadkin Hydroelectric Project and Yadkin-Pee Dee River Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Locations:* The Yadkin Project is located on the Yadkin River in

Davidson, Davie, Montgomery, Rowan, and Stanly Counties, North Carolina. The Yadkin-Pee Dee River Project is located on the Yadkin and Pee Dee Rivers in Anson, Montgomery, Richmond, and Stanly Counties, North Carolina. There are no federal lands affected by these projects.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act, 16 U.S.C. 791(a)—825(r).

h. *Applicant Contacts:* Yadkin Project-Mr. Gene Ellis, Licensing and Property Manager, Alcoa Power Generating, Inc., Yadkin Division, P.O. Box 576, NC Highway 740, Badin, NC 28009-0576.

Yadkin-Pee Dee Project-E. Michael Williams, Senior Vice President Power Operations, Progress Energy, 410 S. Wilmington Street PEB 13, Raleigh, North Carolina 27602; Telephone (919) 546-6640.

i. *FERC Contacts:* Stephen Bowler at (202) 502-6861 or stephen.bowler@ferc.gov, or Lee Emery at (202) 502-8379 or lee.emery@ferc.gov.

j. *Deadline for filing scoping comments:* February 26, 2007.

All documents (original and eight copies) should be filed with: Magalie R. Salas, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426.

The Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure require all intervenors filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person on the official service list for the project. Further, if an intervenor files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, they must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency.

Scoping 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 the instructions on the Commission's Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>) under the

- I11 "e-Filing" link.

k. This application is not ready for environmental analysis at this time.

l. The existing Yadkin Project consists of four developments on the Yadkin River: High Rock, Tuckertown, Narrows, and Falls. The High Rock development is the furthest upstream development, located at river mile (RM 253, and includes the following existing facilities: (1) A dam and spillway; (2) 10 flood gates; (3) a 14,400-acre reservoir, with a normal pool elevation of 623.9 feet U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) datum and a usable storage capacity of 217,400 acre-feet; and (4) a powerhouse,

integral to the dam, containing three turbine-generator units with a total installed capacity of 32 megawatts (MW).

The Tuckertown development (RM 244.3) includes the following existing facilities: (1) dam; (2) spillway with 11 gates; (3) a 2,560-acre reservoir, with a normal pool elevation of 564.7 feet USGS and a usable storage capacity of 6,700 acre-feet; and (4) a powerhouse, integral to the dam, containing three turbine-generator units with a total installed capacity of 38 MW.

The Narrows development (RM 236.5) includes the following existing facilities: (1) A dam and spillway; (2) 22 flood gates and a trash gate; (3) an intake structure with four openings each with two gates; (4) four penstocks; (5) a powerhouse downstream of the dam; (6) a bypass spillway with 10 control gates and a trash gate; (7) a 5,355-acre reservoir, with a normal pool elevation of 509.8 feet USGS and a usable storage capacity of 129,100 acre-feet; and (8) four turbine-generators with a total installed capacity of 108 MW.

The Falls development (RM 234) includes the following constructed facilities: (1) A dam; (2) a spillway with 12 flood gates and a trash gate; (3) a 204-acre reservoir, with a normal pool elevation of 332.8 feet USGS and a usable storage capacity of 940 acre-feet; and (4) a powerhouse, integral to the dam, and containing three turbine-generators with a total installed capacity of 31 MW.

Alcoa Generating operates the High Rock development in a store-and-release mode and the Tuckertown, Narrows, and Falls developments in a run-of-river mode on a daily basis. The High Rock development provides storage for the three downstream developments. The maximum annual drawdown for High Rock is 13 feet.

The existing Yadkin-Pee Dee Project consists of the Tillery development on the Yadkin and Pee Dee Rivers and the Blewett Falls development on the Pee Dee River. The Tillery development (RM 218) includes the following existing facilities: (1) a dam and spillway; (2) 18 flood gates; (3) a trash sluice gate; (4) a 5,697-acre reservoir, with a normal pool elevation of 277.3 feet North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD 88) and a usable storage capacity of 84,150 acre-feet; (5) a powerhouse, integral to the dam, containing four turbine-generators with a total installed capacity of 84 MW; and (6) a small turbine powering a "house generator" with an installed capacity of 360 kW.

The Blewett Falls development (RM 188.2) includes the following existing facilities: (1) A dam and spillway; (2)