

rules require that persons filing comments in opposition to the project provide copies of their protests only to the party or parties directly involved in the protest.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings of comments, protests, and interventions via the internet in lieu of paper. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>) under the "e-Filing" link. Persons unable to file electronically should submit an original and 14 copies of the protest or intervention to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426.

Comment Date: October 17, 2008.

Kimberly D. Bose,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. E8-23211 Filed 10-1-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. CP07-62-000; CP07-63-000]

AES Sparrows Point LNG, LLC, Mid-Atlantic Express, L.L.C.; Notice of Availability of the Draft General Conformity Determination and Notice of Public Comment for the Proposed Sparrows Point LNG Project

September 26, 2008.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared this Draft General Conformity Determination to assess the potential air quality impacts associated with the construction and operation of a liquefied natural gas (LNG) import terminal and natural gas pipeline proposed by AES Sparrows Point LNG, LLC and Mid-Atlantic Express, LLC, collectively referred to as AES, in the dockets referenced below.

This Draft General Conformity Determination was prepared to satisfy the requirements of the Clean Air Act.

Comment Procedures

Any person wishing to comment on this Draft General Conformity Determination may do so. To ensure consideration of your comments in the Final General Conformity Determination, it is important that we receive your comments before the date specified below. For your convenience, there are three methods in which you can use to submit your comments to the Commission. In all instances please reference the project docket numbers

Docket No. CP07-62-000 and CP07-63-000 with your submission. The docket number can be found on the front of this notice. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing of any comments on this Draft General Conformity Determination and has dedicated eFiling expert staff available to assist you at 202-502-8258 or efiling@ferc.gov.

1. You may file your comments electronically by using the Quick Comment feature, which is located on the Commission's Internet Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the link to Documents and Filings. A Quick Comment is an easy method for interested persons to submit text-only comments on a project;

2. You may file your comments electronically by using the eFiling feature, which is located on the Commission's Internet Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the link to Documents and Filings. FERC's eFiling involves preparing your submission in the same manner as you would if filing on paper, and then saving the file on your computer's hard drive. You will attach that file as your submission. New eFiling users must first create an account by clicking on "Sign up" or "eRegister." You will be asked to select the type of filing you are making. A comment on a particular project is considered a "Comment on a Filing"; or

3. You may file your comments via mail to the Commission by sending an original and two copies of your letter to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., NE., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426.

- Reference Docket Nos. CP07-62-000 and CP07-63-000 on the original and both copies;
- Label one copy of your comments for the attention of Gas Branch 2; PJ11.2; and
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before November 3, 2008.

After all comments are reviewed, the staff will publish and distribute a Final General Conformity Determination for the Project.

Kimberly D. Bose,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. E8-23217 Filed 10-1-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. EG08-75-000; EG08-76-000; FC08-6-000; FC08-7-000; FC08-8-000; FC08-9-000]

Notrees Windpower, LP; Windthorst-1, LLC; SunEdison International, LLC; P.P.C. Limited; Atlantic Equipment & Power (Turks and Caicos) Ltd.; Belize Electric Company Limited; Notice of Effectiveness of Exempt Wholesale Generator or Foreign Utility Company Status

September 26, 2008.

Take notice that during the month of August 2008, the status of the above-captioned entities as Exempt Wholesale Generators or Foreign Utility Companies became effective by operation of the Commission's regulations 18 CFR 366.7(a).

Kimberly D. Bose,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. E8-23212 Filed 10-1-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 4306-017—Minnesota]

City of Hastings; Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment

September 26, 2008.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) regulations (18 CFR Part 380), the Office of Energy Projects has prepared an environmental assessment (EA) regarding the City of Hastings' (City's) request to install two hydrokinetic turbines at the Mississippi Lock and Dam No. 2 Hydroelectric Project. The project is located on the Mississippi River in Dakota County, Minnesota. This EA concludes that the Proposed Action, with staff's recommended mitigation measures, would not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

Copies of the EA are available for review in the Public Reference Room of the Commission's offices at 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC. The EA also may be viewed on the Commission's Internet Web site (www.ferc.gov) using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number "P-4306"

in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance with eLibrary, contact FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or call toll-free at (866) 208-3372, or for TTY contact (202) 502-8659.

For further information regarding this notice, please contact Andrea Claros at (202) 502-8171 or by e-mail at andrea.claros@ferc.gov.

Kimberly D. Bose,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. E8-23215 Filed 10-1-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[FERC Docket No. PF08-9-000]

Ruby Pipeline, L.L.C.; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Land and Resource Management Plan Amendment for the Proposed Ruby Pipeline Project, Request for Comments on Environmental Issues, and Notice of Public Scoping Meetings

September 26, 2008.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) that will discuss the environmental impacts of Ruby Pipeline, L.L.C.'s (Ruby) proposed Ruby Pipeline Project in Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, and Oregon. The project facilities would consist of about 677 miles of 42-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline, four new compressor stations, and related facilities as described below. The EIS will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine if the project is in the public convenience and necessity.

This notice explains the scoping process that is being used to gather input from the public and interested agencies on the project. Your input will help determine the issues that need to be evaluated in the EIS. Please note that this scoping period will close on October 29, 2008.

Comments may be submitted in writing or verbally. Details on how to submit written comments are provided in the "Public Participation" section of this notice. In lieu of or in addition to sending written comments, you are invited to attend any of the four public scoping meetings to verbally comment on the project. The dates and locations of the meetings are listed below and will be posted on the Commission's calendar at <http://www.ferc.gov/EventCalendar/>

EventsList.aspx. All meetings are scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. in the time zone in which they are being held.

October 14, 2008—Montpelier, Idaho, Oregon-California Trail Center, 320 N 4th Street, (208) 847-3800.

October 15, 2008—Hyrum, Utah, Civic Center, 83 W Main Street, (435) 245-6033.

October 16, 2008—Brigham City, Utah, Brigham City Senior Center, 24 N 300 W, (435) 723-3303.

October 22, 2008—Lakeview, Oregon, Elks Lodge, 323 N. F Street, (541) 947-2258.

If a significant number of people are interested in commenting at the meetings, each commenter will be limited to a three to five minute comment period to ensure that all people wishing to comment have the opportunity in the time allotted for the meeting. If time limits on comments are implemented, they will be strictly enforced.

The Ruby Pipeline Project is currently in the "Pre-filing" stage and at this time a formal application has not been filed with the Commission. For this proposal, the Commission is initiating its National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review prior to receiving the application. The Commission's Pre-filing Process allows interested stakeholders to become involved early in the project planning with the intent of identifying and resolving issues before a formal application is filed with the FERC.¹ A docket number (PF08-9-000) has been established to place information filed by Ruby and related documents issued or received by the Commission into the public record. Once a formal application is filed with the FERC, a new docket number will be established.

The FERC is the lead federal agency for the preparation of the EIS. The U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is participating as a cooperating agency in the preparation of the EIS because the project would cross federally administered lands in Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, and Oregon. The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) also is participating as a cooperating agency because the project would cross the Wasatch-Cache and Fremont-Winema National Forests in Utah and Oregon, respectively.

As a cooperating agency, the BLM intends to adopt the EIS per Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1506.3, to meet its NEPA responsibilities for Ruby's application for a Right-of-Way Grant and Temporary

Use Permit for crossing federally administered lands, including the Wasatch-Cache and Fremont-Winema National Forests. The concurrence or non-concurrence of the USFS would be considered in the BLM's decision as well as impacts on resources and programs and the project's conformance with land use plans.

As proposed, the Ruby Pipeline Project does not follow a designated utility corridor through the Wasatch-Cache National Forest; therefore, if Ruby's proposed route were authorized, the *Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Land and Resource Management Plan* (2003) (Forest Plan) would need to be amended. The USFS will use the EIS to consider amending the Forest Plan to allow pipeline construction outside of designated utility corridors.

With this notice, we² are asking other federal, state, and local agencies with jurisdiction and/or special expertise with respect to environmental issues in the project area to formally cooperate with us in the preparation of the EIS. These agencies may choose to participate once they have evaluated Ruby's proposal relative to their responsibilities. Agencies that would like to request cooperating status should follow the instructions for filing written comments described later in this notice and describe the extent to which they would like to be involved as a cooperating agency. We also encourage government representatives to notify their constituents of this project and encourage them to comment on their areas of concern.

If you are a landowner receiving this notice, you may be contacted by a pipeline company representative about the acquisition of an easement to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed facilities. If so, Ruby and the affected landowners should seek to negotiate a mutually acceptable agreement. However, if the project is approved by the Commission, that approval conveys with it the right of eminent domain for securing easements for the facilities. Therefore, if easement negotiations fail to produce an agreement, Ruby could initiate condemnation proceedings in accordance with state law.

This notice is being sent to potentially affected landowners crossed by and adjacent to the project route; landowners within 0.5 mile of proposed compressor station sites; federal, state, and local government agencies; elected

¹ This notice announces the second scoping period the Commission has opened for the Ruby Pipeline Project. See page 5 for details.

² "We," "us," and "our" refer to the environmental staff of the Commission's Office of Energy Projects.