

considering two action alternatives for evaluation in the EIS. The alternatives propose a combination of sites used in the feasibility study and new hatchery sites and juvenile rearing sites. The difference between the alternatives is largely the number and distribution of juvenile rearing sites.

- **Master Plan Alternative:** The Master Plan alternative would follow the steps and transition points for the reintroduction phases described in the Master Plan. This alternative would include 20 juvenile rearing sites distributed throughout the Wenatchee and Methow basins. The number and distribution is intended to optimize the use of resources and result in efficient distribution of returning adults to the best habitat while minimizing potential interactions with other salmon species.

- **Reduced Production Alternative:** This alternative would follow the same implementation steps as described in the Master Plan, but would use fewer juvenile rearing sites with a corresponding decrease in released juveniles. This is intended to further reduce inter-species competition and potential water quality effects.

BPA is also considering the No Action Alternative, that is, not funding the YN's proposal. Under the no action alternative the YN would use internal non-federal funding to implement their proposal but the scope of the proposed activities would be less than the Reduced Production Alternative. Other alternatives may be identified through the scoping process.

**Public Participation and Identification of Environmental Issues.** The potential environmental issues identified for this reintroduction project include threatened and endangered species, sensitive plants and animals, fisheries, water quality and quantity, land use, socioeconomic, cultural resources, soil erosion, wetlands, and floodplains. BPA has established a 45-day scoping period during which tribes, affected landowners, concerned citizens, special interest groups, local and Federal governments, and any other interested parties are invited to comment on the scope of the proposed EIS, including potential alternatives to be considered and environmental impacts to be evaluated. Scoping will help BPA ensure that a full range of issues related to this proposal is addressed in the EIS, and also will identify significant or potentially significant impacts that may result from the proposed project. When completed, the Draft EIS will be circulated for review and comment, and BPA will hold public meetings to answer questions and receive comments. BPA

will consider and respond to comments received on the Draft EIS in the Final EIS. The Final EIS is expected to be published in late summer 2011. BPA's decision will be documented in a Record of Decision that will follow the Final EIS.

Issued in Portland, Oregon, on July 22, 2009.

**Stephen J. Wright,**

*Administrator and Chief Executive Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2232-522]

#### Duke Power Company, LLC; North Carolina and South Carolina; Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Catawba-Wateree Hydroelectric Project

July 23, 2009.

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 Catawba-Wateree Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2232), located on the Catawba River in the counties of Burke, McDowell, Caldwell, Catawba, Alexander, Iredell, Mecklenburg, Lincoln, and Gaston in North Carolina, and the counties of York, Lancaster, Chester, Fairfield, and Kershaw in South Carolina, and has prepared a Final Environmental Impact Statement (final EIS) for the project.

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

A copy of the final EIS is available for review in the Commission's Public Reference Branch, Room 2A, located at 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. The final EIS also may be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the eLibrary link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll-

free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, (202) 502-8659.

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.

For further information, contact Sean Murphy at (202) 502-6145 or at [sean.murphy@ferc.gov](mailto:sean.murphy@ferc.gov).

**Kimberly D. Bose,**

*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RR09-7-000]

#### North American Electric Reliability Corporation; Notice of Filing

July 23, 2009.

Take notice that on July 20, 2009, the North American Electric Reliability Corporation filed a Three-Year Electric Reliability Organization Performance Assessment Report, pursuant to section 215(c) of the Federal Power Act and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission regulations, 18 CFR 39.3(c).

Any person desiring to intervene or to protest this filing must file in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211, 385.214). Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a notice of intervention or motion to intervene, as appropriate. Such notices, motions, or protests must be filed on or before the comment date. On or before the comment date, it is not necessary to serve motions to intervene or protests on persons other than the Applicant.

The Commission encourages electronic submission of protests and interventions in lieu of paper using the "eFiling" link at <http://www.ferc.gov>. 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.

This filing is accessible on-line at <http://www.ferc.gov>, using the "eLibrary" link and is available for review in the Commission's Public