

Signed in Washington, DC, on February 4, 2020.

LaTanya Butler,

Deputy Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 2020-02555 Filed 2-7-20; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. UL20-1-000]

Northern States Power Company—Wisconsin: Notice of Pending Jurisdictional Inquiry and Soliciting Comments, Protests, and Motions To Intervene

On December 30, 2019, and supplemented on January 22, 2020, Northern States Power Company—Wisconsin filed a preliminary application document (PAD) and notice of intent to file a license application for the Saxon Falls and Superior Falls Hydroelectric Projects (FERC Project Nos. 2610 and 2587, respectively). Commission staff's review of the PAD found information stating that the Gile Flowage was created to augment river flows in the Montreal River during the summer and winter low-flow periods at the downstream Saxon Falls and Superior Falls Projects, and that both projects depend on flow augmentation from Gile Flowage during these periods. The Gile Flowage is in Iron County, Wisconsin. As a result, the Commission is beginning a review of the Gile Flowage to determine whether it is subject to the Commission's mandatory licensing jurisdiction under section 23 of the Federal Power Act (FPA).

Pursuant to section 23(b)(1) of the FPA, 16 U.S.C. 817(1) (2018), a non-federal hydroelectric project must be licensed (unless it has a still-valid pre-1920 federal permit) if it: (1) Is located on a navigable water of the United States, (2) occupies lands or reservations of the United States, (3) uses the surplus water or water power from a government dam; or (4) is located on a stream over which Congress has Commerce Clause jurisdiction, is constructed or modified on or after August 26, 1935, and affects the interests of interstate or foreign commerce.

Section 4(e) of the FPA authorizes the Commission to issue licenses for hydroelectric project works, including reservoirs. Section 23(b)(1) of the FPA requires (with exceptions not relevant here) a Commission license for the operation of non-federal hydroelectric project works, including reservoirs, that

are used to generate electric power on any navigable waters of the United States. Storage reservoirs that are not directly connected to other project works must be licensed if they are necessary or appropriate in the maintenance and operation of a complete unit of hydropower improvement or development. The Commission makes this finding by examining the facts in each case, considering the reservoir's effect on downstream generation and its storage capacity, location, and purpose, to determine if there are significant generation benefits to a downstream project or projects. The Commission has found, and the D.C. Circuit has affirmed, that a contribution to downstream electric generation of at least 2 percent amounts to a significant generation benefit.¹

The Commission is soliciting comments, motions to intervene, and protests in these proceedings. Comments, motions to intervene, and protests must be filed by thirty (30) days from notice or March 2, 2020. Anyone may submit comments, a protest, or a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of Rules and Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.210, 211, and 214. In determining the appropriate action to take, the Commission will consider all protests or comments filed, but only those who file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules may become a party to the proceeding. Any comments, protests, or motions to intervene must be received on or before the specified comment date.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file comments, protests, and motions to intervene using the Commission's eFiling system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ecomment.asp>. You must include your name and contact information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, (866) 208-3676 (toll free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY). In lieu of electronic filing, please send a paper copy to: Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426. The first page of any filing should include docket number UL20-1-000.

¹ See *Domtar Maine Corp., Inc. v. FERC*, 347 F.3d 304, 309 (D.C. Cir. 2003); *Chippewa and Flambeau Improvement Co. v. FERC*, 325 F.3d 353 (D.C. Cir. 2003).

For further information, please contact Jennifer Polardino at (202) 502-6437 or Jennifer.Polardino@ferc.gov.

Dated: January 31, 2020.

Kimberly D. Bose,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2020-02582 Filed 2-7-20; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. EL20-20-000; QF14-782-001]

GRE 314 East Lyme LLC; Notice of Petition for Declaratory Order

Take notice that on February 3, 2020, pursuant to Rule 207(a)(2) of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.207(a)(2) (2019), GRE 314 East Lyme LLC (Petitioner), filed a petition for declaratory order seeking requirements applicable to qualifying small power production facilities set forth in section 292.203(a)(3) for the period June 6, 2014 to September 18, 2014, as more fully explained in the petition.

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. Anyone filing a motion to intervene or protest must serve a copy of that document on the Petitioner.

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 5 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 Reference Room in Washington, DC. There is an "eSubscription" link on the website that enables subscribers to receive email notification when a document is added to a subscribed

docket(s). For assistance with any FERC Online service, please email FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, or call (866) 208-3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502-8659.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. Eastern time on March 4, 2020.

Dated: February 4, 2020.

Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2020-02558 Filed 2-7-20; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP20-27-000]

North Baja Pipeline, LLC; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed North Baja Xpress Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) that will discuss the environmental impacts of the North Baja Xpress Project involving construction and operation of facilities by North Baja Pipeline, LLC (North Baja) in La Paz County, Arizona and Imperial County, California. The Commission will use this EA in its decision-making process to determine whether the project is in the public convenience and necessity.

This notice announces the opening of the scoping process the Commission will use to gather input from the public and interested agencies about issues regarding the project. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires the Commission to take into account the environmental impacts that could result from its action whenever it considers the issuance of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity. NEPA also requires the Commission to discover concerns the public may have about proposals. This process is referred to as "scoping." The main goal of the scoping process is to focus the analysis in the EA on the important environmental issues. By this notice, the Commission requests public comments on the scope of issues to address in the EA. To ensure that your comments are timely and properly recorded, please submit your comments so that the Commission receives them in Washington, DC on or before 5:00pm Eastern Time on March 2, 2020.

You can make a difference by submitting your specific comments or

concerns about the project. Your comments should focus on the potential environmental effects, reasonable alternatives, and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impacts. Your input will help the Commission staff determine what issues they need to evaluate in the EA. Commission staff will consider all filed comments during the preparation of the EA.

If you sent comments on this project to the Commission before the opening of this docket on December 16, 2019, you will need to file those comments in Docket No. CP20-27-000 to ensure they are considered as part of this proceeding.

This notice is being sent to the Commission's current environmental mailing list for this project. State and local government representatives should notify their constituents of this proposed project and encourage them to comment on their areas of concern.

If you are a landowner receiving this notice, a pipeline company representative may contact you about the acquisition of an easement to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed facilities. The company would seek to negotiate a mutually acceptable easement agreement. You are not required to enter into an agreement. However, if the Commission approves the project, that approval conveys with it the right of eminent domain. Therefore, if you and the company do not reach an easement agreement, the pipeline company could initiate condemnation proceedings in court. In such instances, compensation would be determined by a judge in accordance with state law.

North Baja provided landowners with a fact sheet prepared by the FERC entitled "An Interstate Natural Gas Facility On My Land? What Do I Need To Know?" This fact sheet addresses a number of typically asked questions, including the use of eminent domain and how to participate in the Commission's proceedings. It is also available for viewing on the FERC website (www.ferc.gov) at <https://www.ferc.gov/resources/guides/gas/gas.pdf>.

Public Participation

The Commission offers a free service called eSubscription which makes it easy to stay informed of all issuances and submittals regarding the dockets/projects to which you subscribe. These instant email notifications are the fastest way to receive notification and provide a link to the document files which can reduce the amount of time you spend researching proceedings. To sign up go

to www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp.

For your convenience, there are three methods you can use to submit your comments to the Commission. The Commission encourages electronic filing of comments and has staff available to assist you at (866) 208-3676 or FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov. Please carefully follow these instructions so that your comments are properly recorded.

(1) You can file your comments electronically using the *eComment* feature, which is located on the Commission's website (www.ferc.gov) under the link to *Documents and Filings*. Using *eComment* is an easy method for submitting brief, text-only comments on a project;

(2) You can file your comments electronically by using the *eFiling* feature, which is located on the Commission's website (www.ferc.gov) under the link to *Documents and Filings*. With *eFiling*, you can provide comments in a variety of formats by attaching them as a file with your submission. New *eFiling* users must first create an account by clicking on "*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 can file a paper copy of your comments by mailing them to the following address. Be sure to reference the project docket number (CP20-27-000) with your submission: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426.

Please note this is not your only public input opportunity; please refer to the review process flow chart in appendix 1.¹

Summary of the Proposed Project

The North Baja Xpress Project would consist of the following facility modifications in La Paz County, Arizona:

- The installation of one new 31,900 ISO horsepower Solar Turbine Titan 250 compressor unit and the restaging of two existing 7,700 ISO horsepower Solar Taurus 60 turbine compressor units to provide second-stage compression in series flow at the existing Ehrenberg Compressor Station; and

¹ The appendices referenced in this notice will not appear in the **Federal Register**. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail and are available at www.ferc.gov using the link called "eLibrary" or from the Commission's Public Reference Room, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426, or call (202) 502-8371. For instructions on connecting to eLibrary, refer to the last page of this notice.