

Francis-type pump-turbine units for a total installed capacity of 1,200 MW; (5) a 0.48-acre underground transformer cavern adjacent to the powerhouse containing intermediate step-up transformers that will step up the voltage from 18 kilovolts (kV) to 115 kV; (6) two 30-foot-diameter tunnels for accessing the powerhouse and transformer caverns; (7) a 0.84-mile-long, 115-kV underground transmission line extending from the transformer gallery through the combined access/transmission tunnel to where it emerges aboveground near the west side of the lower reservoir and extending an additional 0.27 miles to an outdoor 7.3-acre substation/switchyard where the voltage would be stepped up to 500 kV; (8) a 3.13-mile-long, 500-kV transmission line routed from the substation/switchyard south across the Columbia River and connecting to Bonneville Power Administration's existing John Day Substation; (9) a buried 30-inch-diameter water fill line leading from a shut-off and throttling valve within a non-project water supply vault owned by Klickitat Public Utility District (KPUD) to an outlet structure within the lower reservoir to convey water to fill the reservoirs; and (10) appurtenant facilities. The project would also include an existing 0.7-mile road for accessing the lower reservoir site and an existing 8.6-mile-long road for accessing the upper reservoir site both of which may be modified to provide access for construction vehicles.

The water supply used to initially fill the lower reservoir as well as to provide make-up water would be purchased from KPUD and would be obtained from KPUD's existing intake pond on the Columbia River. The project water fill line would connect to a new KPUD-owned flanged water supply service connection in a water supply vault located near the lower reservoir. Within the vault, and just downstream of the service connection, there would be a project shut-off and throttling valve to allow control of the initial fill and make-up water flow rate into the lower reservoir. The initial fill would require 7,640 acre-feet of water and would be completed in about six months at an average flow rate of approximately 21 cubic feet per second (maximum flow rate available is 35 cubic feet per second). It is estimated that the project would need 360 acre-feet of water each year to replenish water lost through evaporation.

m. A copy of the application is available for review via the internet through the Commission's Home Page (<http://www.ferc.gov>), using the eLibrary link. Enter the docket number,

excluding the last three digits in the docket number field, to access the document. At this time, the Commission has suspended access to the Commission's Public Reference Room due to the proclamation declaring a National Emergency concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), issued by the President on March 13, 2020. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

You may also register online at <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/FERCOnline.aspx> to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

n. Anyone may submit a protest or a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.210, 385.211, and 385.214. In determining the appropriate action to take, the Commission will consider all protests 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 protests or motions to intervene must be received on or before the specified deadline date for the particular application.

All filings must (1) bear in all capital letters the title PROTEST or MOTION TO INTERVENE; (2) set forth in the heading the name of the applicant and the project number of the application to which the filing responds; (3) furnish the name, address, and telephone number of the person protesting or intervening; and (4) otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 385.2001 through 385.2005. Agencies may obtain copies of the application directly from the applicant. A copy of any protest or motion to intervene must be served upon each representative of the applicant specified in the particular application.

o. *Procedural schedule:* The application will be processed according to the following preliminary Hydro Licensing Schedule. Revisions to the schedule will be made as appropriate.

Comments on Scoping Document 1 Due.	December 2020.
Issue Scoping Document 2 (if necessary).	January 2021.
Request Additional Information (if necessary).	January 2021.
Issue Notice of Ready for Environmental Analysis.	April 2021.

Dated: December 17, 2020.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**  
Secretary.

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. EL21-32-000]

#### Invenergy Solar Development North America LLC v. Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.; Notice of Complaint

Take notice that on December 16, 2020, pursuant to sections 206 and 306 of the Federal Power Act, 16 U.S.C. 824e, 825e, and Rule 206 of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.206, Invenergy Solar Development North America LLC (Complainant) filed a formal complaint against Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc., (Respondent) requesting that the Commission find improper the practice of the Respondent's processing of its interconnection and transmission service queues in a manner inconsistent with Commission policy and that gives preference to Tri-State's contracted generation, all as more fully explained in the complaint.

The Complainant certifies that copies of the complaint were served on the contacts listed for Respondent in the Commission's list of Corporate Officials.

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. The Respondent's answer and all interventions, or protests must be filed on or before the comment date. The Respondent's answer, motions to intervene, and protests must be served on the Complainants.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings of comments, protests and interventions in lieu of paper using the eFiling link at <http://www.ferc.gov>. Persons unable to file electronically may mail similar pleadings to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426. Hand delivered submissions in docketed proceedings should be delivered to Health and Human Services, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

In addition to publishing the full text of this document in the **Federal Register**, the Commission provides all

interested persons an opportunity to view and/or print the contents of this document via the internet through the Commission's Home Page (<http://ferc.gov>) using the eLibrary link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. At this time, the Commission has suspended access to the Commission's Public Reference Room, due to the proclamation declaring a National Emergency concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), issued by the President on March 13, 2020. For assistance, contact the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov), or call toll-free, (886) 208-3676 or TTY, (202) 502-8659.

*Comment Date:* 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on January 5, 2021.

Dated: December 17, 2020.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2020-28391 Filed 12-22-20; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. PL20-3-000]

#### Actions Regarding the Commission's Policy on Price Index Formation and Transparency, and Indices Referenced in Natural Gas and Electric Tariffs

**AGENCY:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Proposed revised policy statement on natural gas and electric indices.

**SUMMARY:** The Commission's price index policy is set forth in its *Policy Statement on Natural Gas and Electric Price Indices*. The Commission proposes several revisions to that policy to encourage more market participants to report their transactions to price index developers and to provide greater transparency into the natural gas price formation process to increase confidence in the accuracy and reliability of wholesale natural gas prices. First, the Commission proposes to allow data providers (market participants that report transaction data to price index developers) to report either their non-index based next-day natural gas transactions, their non-index based next-month natural gas transactions, or both, to price index developers. In addition, the Commission proposes to encourage data providers to

report to all available Commission approved price index developers and also allow data providers to self-audit on a biennial basis. The Commission also proposes to modify the Commission's standards to remain an approved natural gas price index developer such that price index developers should: Indicate whether a published index price is assessed in their published indices and obtain recertification in order for their indices to continue to be included in FERC-jurisdictional tariffs. Finally, the Commission proposes to clarify the review period for assessing the liquidity of price indices submitted for reference in FERC-jurisdictional tariffs.

**DATES:** Initial Comments are due March 23, 2021.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments, identified by docket number, may be filed electronically at <http://www.ferc.gov> in acceptable native applications and print-to-PDF, but not in scanned or picture format. For those unable to file electronically, comments may be filed by mail addressed to: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Secretary of the Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426. Hand-delivered comments must be delivered to: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852. The Comment Procedures Section of this document contains more detailed filing procedures.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Evan Oxhorn (Legal Information), Office of the General Counsel, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426, (202) 502-8183, [Evan.Oxhorn@ferc.gov](mailto:Evan.Oxhorn@ferc.gov).

Eric Primosch (Technical Information), Office of Energy Policy and Innovation, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426, (202) 502-6483, [Eric.Primosch@ferc.gov](mailto:Eric.Primosch@ferc.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

1. The Commission's price index policy is set forth in its *Policy Statement on Natural Gas and Electric Price Indices*.<sup>1</sup> We propose several revisions to that policy to encourage more market participants to report their transactions to price index developers and to provide greater transparency into the natural gas price formation process to increase confidence in the accuracy and reliability of wholesale natural gas

prices. First, we propose to allow data providers (market participants that report transaction data to price index developers) to report either their non-index based next-day natural gas transactions, their non-index based next-month natural gas transactions, or both, to price index developers. In addition, we propose to: (1) Encourage data providers to report to all available Commission approved price index developers and (2) allow data providers to self-audit on a biennial basis.<sup>2</sup> We also propose to modify the Commission's standards to remain an approved natural gas price index developer such that price index developers should: (1) Indicate whether a published index price is assessed in their published indices and (2) obtain recertification in order for their indices to continue to be included in FERC-jurisdictional tariffs. Finally, we propose to clarify the review period for assessing the liquidity of price indices submitted for reference in FERC-jurisdictional tariffs. We seek comment on these proposed revisions.

#### I. Background

##### A. The Use of Natural Gas Price Indices in Commission Jurisdictional Activities

2. Natural gas price indices play a vital role in the energy industry, as they are used to price billions of dollars of natural gas and electricity transactions annually in both the physical and financial markets. A natural gas price index is a weighted average price derived from a set of fixed-price natural gas transactions<sup>3</sup> within distinct geographical boundaries that market participants voluntarily report to a price index developer.

3. Natural gas price indices serve as a proxy for the locational cost of natural gas in the daily and monthly markets, as many market participants reference natural gas index prices in their physical and financial transactions. Interstate natural gas pipelines, public utilities, Independent System Operators (ISOs), and Regional Transmission

<sup>2</sup> S&P Global Platts (Platts), Natural Gas Intelligence (NGI), Argus Media, and Natural Gas Week are examples of price index developers.

<sup>3</sup> The term "fixed-price natural gas transactions" refers to fixed-price next-day delivery, fixed-price next-month delivery, and physical basis transactions (for next-month delivery). These transaction types are defined in the FERC Form No. 552: Annual Report of Natural Gas Transactions (FERC Form No. 552) instructions. The FERC Form No. 552 requires market participants that annually buy or sell more than 2.2 trillion British Thermal Units (Btu) of physical natural gas to provide aggregated data related to their fixed-price, physical basis, Nymex plus, and index-based transactions made in the next-day and next-month (bidweek) markets.

<sup>1</sup> 104 FERC ¶ 61,121 (*Initial Policy Statement*), clarified, *Order on Clarification of Policy Statement on Natural Gas and Electric Price Indices*, 105 FERC ¶ 61,282 (2003) (*2003 Clarification Order*), clarified, *Order Further Clarifying Policy Statement on Natural Gas and Electric Price Indices*, 112 FERC ¶ 61,040 (2005) (*2005 Clarification Order*) (collectively, *Policy Statement*).