

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. ET 2/12/24.

Any person desiring to protest in any the above proceedings must file in accordance with Rule 211 of the Commission's Regulations (18 CFR 385.211) on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on the specified comment date.

The filings are accessible in the Commission's eLibrary system (<https://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/search/fercgensearch.asp>) by querying the docket number.

eFiling is encouraged. More detailed information relating to filing requirements, interventions, protests, service, and qualifying facilities filings can be found at: <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling/filing-req.pdf>. For other information, call (866) 208-3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502-8659.

The Commission's Office of Public Participation (OPP) supports meaningful public engagement and participation in Commission proceedings. OPP can help members of the public, including landowners, environmental justice communities, Tribal members and others, access publicly available information and navigate Commission processes. For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, the public is encouraged to contact OPP at (202) 502-6595 or [OPP@ferc.gov](mailto:OPP@ferc.gov).

Dated: February 1, 2024.

**Debbie-Anne A. Reese,**  
*Acting Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2024-02467 Filed 2-6-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Western Area Power Administration

#### Loveland Area Projects, Western Area Colorado Missouri Balancing Authority, and Colorado River Storage Project—Rate Order No. WAPA-214

**AGENCY:** Western Area Power Administration, DOE.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed extension of transmission and ancillary services formula rates.

**SUMMARY:** The Rocky Mountain Region (RM) of the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) proposes to extend existing formula rates (without any changes) for the Loveland Area Projects (LAP), the Western Area Colorado Missouri Balancing Authority (WACM), and the Colorado River Storage Project (CRSP) through September 30, 2026. The existing rates RM proposes to extend are: L-NT1 (network), L-FPT1 (firm point-to-

point), L-NFPT1 (non-firm point-to-point), L-NFJD1 (joint dispatch transmission), L-UU1 (unreserved use), L-AS1 (scheduling and dispatch), L-AS2 (reactive supply and voltage control (VAR) support), L-AS3 (regulation), L-AS4 (energy imbalance), L-AS5 (spinning reserves), L-AS6 (supplemental reserves), L-AS7 (balancing authority (BA) real power losses), and L-AS9 (generator imbalance). The existing rates expire on September 30, 2024.

**DATES:** A consultation and comment period will begin February 7, 2024, and end March 8, 2024. RM will accept written comments at any time during the consultation and comment period.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and requests to be informed of Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) actions concerning the proposed extension submitted by WAPA to FERC for approval should be sent to: Barton V. Barnhart, Regional Manager, Rocky Mountain Region, Western Area Power Administration, 5555 East Crossroads Boulevard, Loveland, CO 80538-8986, or email: [LAPtransadj@wapa.gov](mailto:LAPtransadj@wapa.gov). RM will post information about the proposed formula rate extension and written comments received to its website at: [www.wapa.gov/2025-transmission-and-ancillary-services-rate-extension](http://www.wapa.gov/2025-transmission-and-ancillary-services-rate-extension).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Sheila D. Cook, Rates Manager, Rocky Mountain Region, Western Area Power Administration, 5555 East Crossroads Boulevard, Loveland, CO 80538-8986, (970) 685-9562 or email: [LAPtransadj@wapa.gov](mailto:LAPtransadj@wapa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On March 9, 2017, FERC approved and confirmed LAP transmission and LAP, WACM, and CRSP ancillary services formula rates under Rate Schedules L-NT1, L-FPT1, L-NFPT1, L-UU1, L-AS1, L-AS2, L-AS3, L-AS4, L-AS5, L-AS6, L-AS7, and L-AS9 under Rate Order No. WAPA-174 for a 5-year period through September 30, 2021.<sup>1</sup>

On December 29, 2020, WAPA's Administrator approved rates for short-term sales for RM to use under the Western Energy Imbalance Service (WEIS) Market, which superseded rate schedules L-AS4, L-AS9, and L-AS7 (BA real power losses), for the 8-month period of February 1, 2021, through September 30, 2021.

On March 10, 2022, FERC confirmed and approved Rate Order No. WAPA-196 extending Rate Schedules L-NT1,

<sup>1</sup> *Order Confirming and Approving Rate Schedules on a Final Basis*, FERC Docket Nos. EF16-5-000 and EF16-5-001, 158 FERC ¶ 62,181 (2017).

L-FPT1, L-NFPT1, L-UU1, L-AS1, L-AS2, L-AS3, L-AS5, and L-AS6 through September 30, 2024, on a final basis.<sup>2</sup>

On March 29, 2022, FERC confirmed and approved Rate Order No. WAPA-197, putting long-term rates in place for RM to use under the WEIS Market under Rate Schedules L-AS4, L-AS9, L-AS7, and L-NFJD1 through September 30, 2024, on a final basis.<sup>3</sup>

In accordance with 10 CFR 903.23(a),<sup>4</sup> RM is proposing to extend the existing formula rates under Rate Schedules L-NT1, L-FPT1, L-NFPT1, L-NFJD1, L-UU1, L-AS1, L-AS2, L-AS3, L-AS4, L-AS5, L-AS6, L-AS7, and L-AS9 for the period of October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2026. The existing formula rates are viewable on WAPA's website at: [www.wapa.gov/about-wapa/regions/rm/rm-rates/rate-schedules](http://www.wapa.gov/about-wapa/regions/rm/rm-rates/rate-schedules). The existing formula rates provide sufficient revenue to pay all annual costs, including interest expense, and repay investment within the allowable period consistent with the cost recovery criteria set forth in Department of Energy (DOE) Order RA 6120.2.

On April 28, 2023, WAPA published a **Federal Register** notice titled "Recommendation for Western Area Power Administration's Rocky Mountain Region and Colorado River Storage Project Management Center to Pursue Final Negotiations Regarding Membership in the Southwest Power Pool Regional Transmission Organization and for the Upper Great Plains Region to Expand Its Participation".<sup>5</sup> On September 8, 2023, WAPA's Administrator authorized staff to move forward with the recommendation to pursue final negotiations for membership and expanded participation in the Southwest Power Pool Regional Transmission Organization (SPP RTO). RM and CRSP Management Center's (MC) membership in the SPP RTO would have significant impacts on the above rate methodologies. Extending the existing rates for two years would allow RM and CRSP MC time to evaluate rate methodologies and then conduct major rate adjustment processes to put new rates in place that would become effective upon RM and CRSP MC joining

<sup>2</sup> *Order Confirming and Approving Rate Schedules on a Final Basis*, FERC Docket Nos. EF21-8-000 and EF21-10-000, 178 FERC ¶ 62,147 (2022).

<sup>3</sup> *Order Confirming and Approving Rate Schedules on a Final Basis*, FERC Docket No. EF21-9-000, 178 FERC ¶ 62,177 (2022).

<sup>4</sup> 50 FR 37835 (Sept. 18, 1985) and 84 FR 5347 (Feb. 21, 2019).

<sup>5</sup> 88 FR 26298 (Apr. 28, 2023).

the SPP RTO (currently planned on April 1, 2026).

In accordance with 10 CFR 903.23(a), RM has determined that it is not necessary to hold public information or public comment forums for this rate action but is initiating a 30-day consultation and comment period to give the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed extension. RM will review and consider all timely public comments at the conclusion of the consultation and comment period and adjust the proposal as appropriate.

#### Legal Authority

By Delegation Order No. S1–DEL–RATES–2016, effective November 19, 2016, the Secretary of Energy delegated: (1) the authority to develop power and transmission rates to WAPA’s Administrator; (2) the authority to confirm, approve, and place such rates into effect on an interim basis to the Deputy Secretary of Energy; and (3) the authority to confirm, approve, and place into effect on a final basis, or to remand or disapprove such rates to FERC. By Delegation Order No. S1–DEL–S3–2023, effective April 10, 2023, the Secretary of Energy also delegated the authority to confirm, approve, and place such rates into effect on an interim basis to the Under Secretary for Infrastructure. By Redelegation Order No. S3–DEL–WAPA1–2023, effective April 10, 2023, the Under Secretary for Infrastructure further redelegated the authority to confirm, approve, and place such rates into effect on an interim basis to WAPA’s Administrator.

#### Ratemaking Procedure Requirements

##### Environmental Compliance

Categorical exclusion determinations were previously issued for these rates under the following categorical exclusion listed in appendix B to subpart D of 10 CFR part 1021: B4.3 (Electric power marketing rate changes).<sup>6</sup> Those categorical exclusion determinations are also applicable to this rate action. Copies of the categorical exclusion determinations are available on WAPA’s website at: [www.wapa.gov/about-wapa/regions/rm/rm-environment/cx2016/and](http://www.wapa.gov/about-wapa/regions/rm/rm-environment/cx2016/and) [www.wapa.gov/about-wapa/regions/rm/rm-environment/2021-cx/](http://www.wapa.gov/about-wapa/regions/rm/rm-environment/2021-cx/). Look for files titled, “2016–077 Proposed Formula Rate Adjustment for Transmission Ancillary Services and Sale of Surplus”

<sup>6</sup> The determination was done in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 4321–4347, the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500–1508); and DOE NEPA Implementing Procedures and Guidelines (10 CFR part 1021).

and “2021–088 Rate Change Categorical Exclusion Determination-WAPA–197.08052021.”

#### Determination Under Executive Order 12866

WAPA has an exemption from centralized regulatory review under Executive Order 12866; accordingly, no clearance of this notice by the Office of Management and Budget is required.

#### Signing Authority

This document of the Department of Energy was signed on January 26th, 2024, by Tracey A. LeBeau, Administrator, Western Area Power Administration, pursuant to delegated authority from the Secretary of Energy. That document, with the original signature and date, is maintained by DOE. For administrative purposes only, and in compliance with requirements of the Office of the Federal Register, the undersigned DOE Federal Register Liaison Officer has been authorized to sign and submit the document in electronic format for publication, as an official document of the Department of Energy. This administrative process in no way alters the legal effect of this document upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

Signed in Washington, DC, on February 2, 2024.

**Treena V. Garrett,**

*Federal Register Liaison Officer, U.S. Department of Energy.*

[FR Doc. 2024–02462 Filed 2–6–24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6450–01–P**

#### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–11700–01–OA]

#### Public Meeting of the Science Advisory Board

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Science Advisory Board (SAB) Staff Office is announcing a public meeting of the chartered Science Advisory Board. The purpose of the meeting is to: receive a briefing from EPA on the Agency’s Scientific Integrity Policy; conduct a quality review of the draft SAB report titled: *Review of the Clean Air Status and Trends Ambient Air Monitoring Network (CASTNet)*; discuss the draft SAB report on the proposed rule titled *New Source Performance Standards: Greenhouse Gas Emissions from New, Modified, and*

*Reconstructed Fossil Fuel-Fired Electric Generating Units; Emission Guidelines for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Existing Fossil Fuel-Fired Electric Generating Units; and Repeal of the Affordable Clean Energy Rule* (RIN 2060–AV09); and discuss recommendations received from the SAB Work Group for Review of Science Supporting EPA Decisions concerning SAB review of EPA planned regulatory actions.

**DATES:** *Public meeting:* The chartered Science Advisory Board will meet on Thursday, February 29, 2024, from 12–5 p.m. eastern time.

*Comments:* See the section titled “Procedures for providing public input” under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for instructions and deadlines.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be conducted virtually. Please refer to the SAB website at <https://sab.epa.gov> for information on how to attend the meeting.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Any member of the public who wants further information concerning this notice may contact Dr. Thomas Armitage, Designated Federal Officer (DFO), via telephone (202) 564–2155, or email at [armitage.thomas@epa.gov](mailto:armitage.thomas@epa.gov). General information about the SAB, as well as any updates concerning the meeting announced in this notice, can be found on the SAB website at <https://sab.epa.gov>.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Background:* The SAB was established pursuant to the Environmental Research, Development, and Demonstration Authorization Act (ERDDAA), codified at 42 U.S.C. 4365, to provide independent scientific and technical advice to the EPA Administrator on the scientific and technical basis for agency positions and regulations. The SAB is a Federal Advisory Committee chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S. Code 10. The SAB will comply with the provisions of FACA and all appropriate SAB Staff Office procedural policies. Pursuant to FACA and EPA policy, notice is hereby given that the chartered Science Advisory Board will hold a public meeting to receive a briefing from EPA on the Agency’s Scientific Integrity Policy and discuss the following topics. (1) The SAB will conduct a quality review of a draft report developed by an SAB panel. The draft report is titled: *Review of the Clean Air Status and Trends Ambient Air Monitoring Network (CASTNet)*. The SAB quality review process ensures that draft reports developed by SAB panels,