

filing refers. Any of the above-named documents must be filed by providing the original and the number of copies provided by the Commission's regulations to: The Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426. A copy of any motion to intervene must also be served upon each representative of the Applicant specified in the particular application.

Agency Comments—Federal, state, and local agencies are invited to file comments on the described application. A copy of the application may be obtained by agencies directly from the Applicant. If an agency does not file comments within the time specified for filing comments, it will be presumed to have no comments. One copy of an agency's comments must also be sent to the Applicant's representatives.

David P. Boergers,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-21600 Filed 8-23-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Application Accepted for Filing and Soliciting Motions to Intervene, Protests, and Comments

August 17, 2000.

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection:

a. *Type of Application:* Preliminary Permit.

b. *Project No.:* 11846-000.

c. *Date filed:* July 17, 2000.

d. *Applicant:* Ketchikan Electric Company.

e. *Name of Project:* Connell Lake Project.

f. *Location:* On Connell Lake and Ward Creek, in Ketchikan Gateway Borough, Alaska. The project would utilize federal lands within Tongass National Forest.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act, 16 USC 791(a)-825(r).

h. *Applicant Contact:* Robert S. Grimm, President, Ketchikan Electric Company, P.O. Box 3222, Port Townsend, WA 98368, (360) 385-1733, Ext 120.

i. *FERC Contact:* Robert Bell, (202) 219-2806.

j. *Deadline for filing motions to intervene, protests and comments:* 60 days from the issuance date of this notice.

All documents (original and eight copies) should be filed with: David P. Boergers, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20426.

The Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure require all interveners filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person in the official service list for the project. Further, if an intervener files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, they must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency.

k. *Description of Project:* The proposed project would consist of: (1) a 600-foot-long, 70-foot-high concrete gravity dam; (2) an impoundment with a surface area of 400 acres and storage capacity of 13,000 acre-feet, with normal water surface elevation of 254 feet msl; (3) an intake structure; (4) a 2.4-mile-long, 60-inch wood stave pipe; (5) a 0.3-mile-long concrete lined tunnel; (6) a 0.3-mile-long, 48-inch wood stave Pipe; (7) a 0.1-mile-long, 48-inch-diameter steel pipe; (8) a surge tank; (9) a 2,300-foot-long, 48-inch-diameter steel penstock; (10) a powerhouse containing one generating unit with an installed capacity of 1.7 MW; (11) a tailrace; (12) a 200-foot-long, 115 kV transmission line; and (13) appurtenant facilities.

The project would have an annual generation of 10,800 NWh that would be sold to a local utility.

l. A copy of the application is available for inspection and reproduction at the Commission's Public Reference Room, located at 888 First Street, NE, Room 2A, Washington, D.C. 20426, or by calling (202) 208-1371. The application may be viewed on <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call (202) 208-2222 for assistance). A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in item h above.

Preliminary Permit—Anyone desiring to file a competing application for preliminary permit for a proposed project must submit the competing application itself, or a notice of intent to file such an application, to the Commission on or before the specified comment date for the particular application (see 18 CFR 4.36). Submission of a timely notice of intent allows an interested person to file the competing preliminary permit application no later than 30 days after the specified comment date for the particular application. A competing preliminary permit application must conform with 18 CFR 4.30(b) and 4.36.

Preliminary Permit—Any qualified development applicant desiring to file a competing development application must submit to the Commission, on or before a specified comment date for the particular application, either a competing development application or a notice of intent to file such an application. Submission of a timely notice of intent to file a development application allows an interested person to file the competing application no later than 120 days after the specified comment date for the particular application. A competing license application must conform with 18 CFR 4.30(b) and 4.36.

Notice of intent—A notice of intent must specify the exact name, business address, and telephone number of the prospective applicant, and must include an unequivocal statement of intent to submit, if such an application may be filed, either a preliminary permit application or a development application (specify which type of application). A notice of intent must be served on the applicant(s) named in this public notice.

Proposed Scope of Studies under Permit—A preliminary permit, if issued, does not authorize construction. The term of the proposed preliminary permit would be 36 months. The work proposed under the preliminary permit would include economic analysis, preparation of preliminary engineering plans, and a study of environmental impacts. Based on the results of these studies, the Applicant would decide whether to proceed with the preparation of a development application to construct and operate the project.

Comments, Protests, or Motions to Intervene—Anyone may submit comments, a protest, or a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.210, .211, .214. In determining the appropriate action to take, the Commission will consider all protests or other 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 for the particular application.

Filing and Service of Responsive Documents—Any filings must bear in all capital letters the title "COMMENTS", "NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE COMPETING APPLICATION", "COMPETING APPLICATION", "PROTEST", "MOTION TO INTERVENE", as applicable, and the Project Number of the particular

application to which the filing refers. Any of the above-named documents must be filed by providing the original and the number of copies provided by the Commission's regulations to: The Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426. An additional copy must be sent to Director, Division of Hydropower Administration and Compliance, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, at the above-mentioned address. A copy of any notice of intent, competing application or motion to intervene must also be served upon each representative of the Applicant specified in the particular application.

Agency Comments—Federal, state, and local agencies are invited to file comments on the described application. A copy of the application may be obtained by agencies directly from the Applicant. If an agency does not file comments within the time specified for filing comments, it will be presumed to have no comments. One copy of an agency's comments must also be sent to the Applicant's representatives.

David P. Boergers,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Interstate Natural Gas Facility-Planning Seminar

August 18, 2000.

The Office of Energy Projects is initiating a series of public meetings around the country for the purposes of exploring and enhancing strategies for constructive public participation in the earliest stages of natural gas facility planning. The first meeting will be held in Albany, New York on Tuesday, September 26, 2000. We are inviting interstate natural gas companies; Federal, state and local agencies; landowners and other non-governmental organizations with an interest in developing a new way of doing business to join us in this effort. We will discuss the facility planning process, not the merits of any pending or planned pipelines projects.

Presentations will be made by the staff of the Commission's Office of Energy Projects, various Federal and state agencies, representatives from natural gas companies, and private landowners who have had relevant experiences. Join us as we explore how the natural gas industry has responded

to the recent Commission regulations governing project notification for affected parties and learn about new strategies being employed within various gas companies to engage the public and agencies in participatory project design. There will be substantial opportunity for the sharing of experiences and knowledge in interactive "brainstorming" sessions, so bring your ideas with you and prepare to share them.

The objectives of the meeting are:

- To explore ways of resolving issues during the applicant's pre-filing route planning, when the parties directly involved with and affected by natural gas facility siting and/or permitting can work together.
- To explore the best avenues for fostering settlements through creative issue resolution.
- To reduce the Commission's application processing time by encouraging the submission of filings with no or few contested issues.

The result will be the development of a toolbox of the best options to take to achieve faster approval by the Commission for projects required by the public convenience and necessity, fewer conditions, and a more direct path to commencement of construction.

The meeting in Albany, New York will be held at the Albany Marriott located at 189 Wolf Road, (518) 458-8444. The meeting is scheduled to start at 10:00 AM and finish at 4:00 PM. A preliminary agenda and directions to the hotel are enclosed. See attachment 2 regarding the selection of locations of future meetings.

If you plan to attend or have suggestions for the agenda, please respond by September 8, 2000 via facsimile to Pennie Louis-Pardee at 202/219-2722, or you can email our team at: gasoutreach@ferc.fed.us. Please include in the response the names, addresses, and the telephone numbers of all attendees from your organization.

To help us enhance our panel discussions, please consider issues and/or questions you would like to have addressed at the meetings. If you have any questions, you may contact any of the staff listed below:

Richard Hoffmann 202/208-0066

Lauren O'Donnell 202/208-0325

Jeff Shenot 202/219-2178

Howard Wheeler 202/208-2299

J. Mark Robinson, Director,
Director, Division of Environmental & Engineering Review, Office of Energy Projects.

Appendix 1

Agenda

Interstate Natural Gas Facility Planning Seminar, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Albany Meeting

September 26, 2000—10:00 am to 4:00 pm

10:00—Introductions

Welcome: Mark Robinson, Director, Division of Environmental & Engineering Review, Office of Energy Projects, FERC
Rich Hoffmann, Office of Energy Projects, FERC
Maureen Helmer, Chairman, New York PSC

10:15—The Pipeline Planning/Approval Process

Where FERC fits in
Who's involved and when

10:45—Perspectives on Pipeline Planning

Panel #1—Initial Project Announcement
Industry Representative
Citizen Representative
Agency Representative

11:15—Break

11:25—Perspectives on Pipeline Planning

Panel #2—General Route Planning

Agency Representative
Industry Representative
Citizen Representative

11:55—Morning Summary and Lunchtime Homework Assignment

12:00—Lunch

1:30—Perspectives on Pipeline Planning

Panel #3—Detailed Route Planning

Citizen Representative
Agency Representative
Industry Representative

2:00—Brainstorming Session

Pre-filing BMPs from and Industry

Perspective

- First announcement of the project
- How best to work with the communities

Pre-filing BMPs from an Agency

Perspective

- How best to work with applicants
- How to get agency requests on the table and implemented
- How to coordinate with multiple agencies/jurisdictions

• How to work with agencies early in the process

Pre-filing BMPs from a Citizen Perspective

- How best to engage landowners
- How to get information on the need for a project

• How to describe workspace/right-of-way requirements

3:30—Closing summary

Directions to the Albany Marriott: 158 Wolf Rd, Albany, NY 12205; (518) 458-8444.

Taxis and rental cars are available at the Albany International Airport, or call the Marriott from the courtesy phone located near the baggage claim for complimentary shuttle service.

By car: From I-90 take I-87 North for three miles to exit 4 (Wolf Rd.—Albany Airport). At foot of exit, turn right at light onto Wolf Rd. and proceed to Marriott 1/2 mile on left.