

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* 18 CFR Part 5 of the Commission's Regulations.

h. *Applicant Contact:* Neal Suess, President/CEO, Loup Power District, P.O. Box 988, 2404 15th Street, Columbus, Nebraska 68602; (866) 869-2087.

i. *FERC Contact:* Kim Nguyen (202) 502-6015 or via e-mail at kim.nguyen@ferc.gov.

j. We are asking Federal, State, local, and tribal agencies with jurisdiction and/or special expertise with respect to environmental issues to cooperate with us in the preparation of the environmental document. Agencies who would like to request cooperating status should follow the instructions for filing comments described in paragraph o below. Cooperating agencies should note the Commission's policy that agencies that cooperate in the preparation of the environmental document cannot also intervene. *See*, 94 FERC ¶ 61,076 (2001).

k. With this notice, we are initiating informal consultation with: (a) The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or NOAA Fisheries under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and the joint agency regulations thereunder at 50 CFR, Part 402 and (b) the State Historic Preservation Officer, as required by Section 106, National Historical Preservation Act, and the implementing regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation at 36 CFR 800.2.

l. With this notice, we are designating Loup Power District as the Commission's non-federal representative for carrying out informal consultation, pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

m. Loup Power District filed a Pre-Application Document (PAD; including a proposed process plan and schedule) with the Commission, pursuant to 18 CFR 5.6 of the Commission's regulations.

n. A copy of the PAD is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's Web site (<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. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll free at 1-866-208-3676, for TTY, (202) 502-8659. A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in paragraph h.

Register online at <http://ferc.gov/esubscribenow.htm> to be notified via e-mail of new filing and issuances related

to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

o. With this notice, we are soliciting study requests. All study requests should be sent to the address above in paragraph h. In addition, all study requests, requests for cooperating agency status, and all communications to and from Commission staff related to the merits of the potential application (original and eight copies) must be filed with the Commission at the following address: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. All filings with the Commission must include on the first page, the project name (Loup River Hydroelectric Project) and number (P-1256-029), and bear the heading "Study Requests," "Request for Cooperating Agency Status," or "Communications to and from Commission Staff." Any individual or entity interested in submitting study requests and any agency requesting cooperating status must do so by February 10, 2009.

Study requests, requests for cooperating agency status, and other permissible forms of communications with the Commission may be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings. *See* 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>) under the "e-filing" link.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E8-30398 Filed 12-22-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. RR08-6-002; RR07-14-003]

North American Electric Reliability Corporation; Notice of Filing

December 16, 2008.

Take notice that on December 15, 2008, the North American Electric Reliability Corporation submitted a compliance filing in response to the Commission's October 16, 2008 Order concerning the 2009 Business Plans and Budgets. *North American Electric Reliability Corporation*, 125 FERC ¶ 61,056 (2008).

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 Reference Room in Washington, DC. There is an "eSubscription" link on the Web site that enables subscribers to receive e-mail notification when a document is added to a subscribed docket(s). For assistance with any FERC Online service, please e-mail FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, or call (866) 208-3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502-8659.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. Eastern Time on January 14, 2009.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E8-30391 Filed 12-22-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 12642-001]

Wilkesboro Hydroelectric Company, LLC; Notice of Intent To File License Application, Filing of Pre-Application Document, and Approving Use of the Traditional Licensing Process

December 16, 2008.

a. *Type of Filing:* Notice of Intent to File License Application and Request to Use the Traditional Licensing Process.

b. *Project No.:* 12642-001.

c. *Date Filed:* October 1, 2008.

d. *Submitted by:* Wilkesboro Hydroelectric Company, LLC (Wilkesboro).

e. *Name of Project:* W. Kerr Scott Hydropower Project.

f. *Location*: At the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' W. Kerr Scott Dam on the Yadkin River near Wilkesboro, Wilkes County, North Carolina.

g. *Filed Pursuant to*: 18 CFR 5.3 of the Commission's Regulations

h. *Potential Applicant Contact*: Kevin Edwards, Manager, Wilkesboro Hydroelectric Company, LLC, P.O. Box 143, Mayodan, NC 27027; (336) 589-6138; e-mail—ph@piedmonthhydropower.com.

i. *FERC Contact*: Allyson Conner (202) 502-6082 or by e-mail at allyson.conner@ferc.gov.

j. Wilkesboro filed its request to use the Traditional Licensing Process on October 1, 2008. Wilkesboro filed public notice of its request on October 23, 2008. In a letter dated December 16, 2008, the Director of the Office of Energy Projects approved Wilkesboro's request to use the Traditional Licensing Process.

k. With this notice, we are initiating informal consultation with: (a) The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and the joint agency regulations thereunder at 50 CFR, Part 402; (b) NMFS under section 305(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and implementing regulations at 50 CFR 600.920; and (c) the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Officer, as required by section 106, National Historical Preservation Act, and the implementing regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation at 36 CFR 800.2.

l. Wilkesboro filed a Pre-Application Document (PAD; including a proposed process plan and schedule) with the Commission, pursuant to 18 CFR 5.6 of the Commission's Regulations.

m. A copy of the PAD is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's Web site (<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. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, or toll-free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, (202) 502-8659. A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in paragraph h.

n. Register online at <http://ferc.gov/esubscribenow.htm> to be notified via e-mail of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects.

For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E8-30400 Filed 12-22-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP09-18-000]

Dominion Transmission, Inc.; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Dominion Hub III Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

December 16, 2008.

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 Dominion Hub III Project (Dominion Hub III) involving construction and operation of facilities by Dominion Transmission, Inc. (DTI) in Green County, Pennsylvania, and Wetzel County, West Virginia.¹ This EA will be used by the Commission 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 we will use to gather input from the public and interested agencies on the project. Your input will help the Commission staff determine which issues need to be evaluated in the EA. Please note that the scoping period will close on January 15, 2009.

This notice is being sent to affected landowners; Federal, State, and local government representatives and agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Native American Tribes; other interested parties; and local libraries and newspapers. State and local government representatives are asked to notify their constituents of this planned project and encourage them to comment on their areas of concern.

If you are a landowner receiving this notice, you may be contacted by a DTI representative about survey permission and/or the acquisition of an easement to construct, operate, and maintain the

proposed facilities. The company would seek to negotiate a mutually acceptable agreement. However, if the project is approved by the Commission, that approval conveys with it the right of eminent domain. Therefore, if easement negotiations fail to produce an agreement, the natural gas company could initiate condemnation proceedings in accordance with state law.

A fact sheet prepared by the FERC entitled "An Interstate Natural Gas Facility On My Land? What Do I Need To Know?" is available for viewing on the FERC Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>). 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 available for viewing on the FERC Internet Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>).

Summary of the Proposed Project

DTI propose to create the capability for an additional 224,000 dekatherms (dt) per day of natural gas to enter the DTI pipeline system supplies to meet the growing gas demands of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic markets. The completion of the project would provide DTI customers access to natural gas from the Rocky Mountain area. DTI is proposing to:

- Install about 9.78 miles of 24-inch diameter natural gas loop² pipeline (TL-492 Ext. 4, in Greene County, Pennsylvania). The pipeline begins near Bluff, Pennsylvania, and extends northeast through Wayne, Center, and Franklin Townships to Cargo Avenue, south of Waynesburg, Pennsylvania. TL-492 Ext. 4 is an extension of TL-492 which is currently under construction;
- install a 24-inch diameter valve assembly with blow-offs at each end of TL-492 Ext. 4 in Greene County, Pennsylvania;
- install a 24-inch diameter pig receiver at the northeast end of TL-492 Ext. 4, near Cargo Avenue in Greene County, Pennsylvania; and
- rewheel the turbine at the Mockingbird Hill Compressor Station in Wetzel County, West Virginia.

The general location of the project facilities is shown in Appendix 1.³

² A pipeline loop is constructed parallel to an existing pipeline to increase capacity.

³ The appendices referenced in this notice are not being printed in the **Federal Register**. Copies of all appendices, other than Appendix 1 (maps), are available on the Commission's Web site at the "eLibrary" link 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. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.

¹ On October 31, 2008, DTI filed its application with the Commission under section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations. The Commission issued its Notice of Application on November 13, 2008.