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Magalie R. Salas,

Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. AD04-13-000]

Assessing the State of Wind Energy in Wholesale Electricity Markets; Notice of Technical Conference

October 4, 2004.

Take notice that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission will host a technical conference on Wednesday, December 1, 2004 to assess the state of wind energy in wholesale electricity markets. The workshop will be held at the Adams Mark Denver Hotel, 1550 Court Place, Denver, Colorado 80202. The workshop is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. and end at approximately 5 p.m. (Mountain Standard Time). The Commissioners will attend and participate.

The goal of the technical conference is to explore possible policy changes that would better accommodate the participation of wind energy in wholesale markets. Topics may include:

- The interest in and need for reform to the transmission service options under open-access transmission tariffs to better accommodate intermittent resources like wind;
- Whether the current methodology for determining imbalance charges unduly penalizes intermittent resources;
- The role of regional transmission planning processes;
- The inclusion of wind energy in State resource adequacy plans and installed capacity markets; and
- Experiences of transmission providers that currently transmit wind energy.

An agenda will be made available at a later time.

The conference is open for the public to attend, and registration is not required; however, in-person attendees are asked to register for the conference on-line by close of business on Monday, November 29, 2004 at <http://www.ferc.gov/whats-new/registration/wind-1201-form.asp>.

Transcripts of the conference will be immediately available from Ace Reporting Company (202) 347-3700 or 1-800-336-6646) for a fee. They will be available for the public on the Commission's eLibrary system seven calendar days after FERC receives the transcript. Additionally, Capitol Connection offers the opportunity for remote listening of the conference via the Internet or a Phone Bridge Connection for a fee. Interested persons should make arrangements as soon as possible by visiting the Capitol Connection Web site at <http://www.capitolconnection.gmu.edu> and clicking on "FERC." If you have any questions contact David Reininger or Julia Morelli at the Capitol Connection (703-993-3100).

For more information about the conference, please contact Sarah McKinley at (202) 502-8004, sarah.mckinley@ferc.gov.

Magalie R. Salas,

Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Western Area Power Administration

Post-2005 Resource Pool, Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program—Eastern Division

AGENCY: Western Area Power Administration, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of final power allocations.

SUMMARY: The Western Area Power Administration's (Western) Upper Great Plains Customer Service Region, a Federal power marketing agency of the Department of Energy, announces the Post-2005 Resource Pool Power Allocations (Power Allocations) to fulfill the requirements of the Energy Planning and Management Program (Program). The Power Allocations come from a Federal power resource pool of the long-term marketable resource of the Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program—Eastern Division (P-SMBP—ED) that will become available January 1, 2006. This notice also includes Western's responses to public comments on proposed allocations published March 29, 2004.

Final Power Allocations are published to show Western's decisions prior to beginning the contractual phase of the process. Firm electric service contracts, between Western and the allottees in this notice, will provide for allocations of power from the January 2006 billing

period through the December 2020 billing period.

DATES: The Power Allocations are effective November 12, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Information about these Power Allocations, including comments, letters, and other supporting documents made or kept by Western in developing the final allocations, are available for public inspection and copying at the Upper Great Plains Customer Service Region, Western Area Power Administration, located at 2900 4th Avenue North, P.O. Box 35800, Billings, MT 59107-5800. Public comments are available online at <http://www.wapa.gov/ugp/contracts/post2005/comments.htm>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nancy Senitte, Public Utilities Specialist, Upper Great Plains Customer Service Region, Western Area Power Administration, 2900 4th Avenue North, Billings, MT 59107-1266, telephone (406) 247-7429, e-mail senitte@wapa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Western published the final Post-2005 Resource Pool Allocation Procedures (Procedures) in the **Federal Register** (68 FR 67414, December 2, 2003), to implement Subpart C—Power Marketing Initiative of the Program's Final Rule (10 CFR 905), published in the **Federal Register** (60 FR 54151, October 20, 1995). The Program, developed in part to implement section 114 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992, became effective on November 20, 1995. The goal of the Program is to require planning for efficient electric energy use by Western's long-term firm power customers and to extend Western's firm power resource commitments. One aspect of the Program is to establish project-specific power resource pools and allocate power from these pools to new preference customers.

Western published its proposed allocations in the **Federal Register** (69 FR 16247, March 29, 2004), and initiated a public comment period. Public information and comment forums on the proposed allocations were held on April 27 and 28, 2004. The public comment period ended on June 28, 2004.

The Procedures, in conjunction with the Post-1985 Marketing Plan (45 FR 71860, October 30, 1980), establish the framework for allocating power from the P-SMBP—ED.

Response to Comments on Proposed Post-2005 Resource Pool Allocations

The comments and responses regarding the allocations of power, paraphrased for brevity when not