

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY****Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

[Docket No. ER01-1305-002]

**Westar Generating, Inc.; Notice of Filing**

March 28, 2001.

Take notice that on March 15, 2001, Westar Generating, Inc., tendered for filing corrections to its February 23, 2001, filing in the above-referenced docket number.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest such filing should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214). All such motions and protests should be filed on or before April 6, 2001. Protests will be considered by the Commission to determine the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceedings. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection. This filing may also be viewed on the Internet at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call 202-208-2222 for assistance). Comments, protests and interventions may be filed electronically via the internet in lieu of paper. See, 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's web site at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/efi/doorbell.htm>.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY****Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

[Docket No. EG01-151-000, et al.]

**Escatawpa Funding, Limited Partnership, et al.; Electric Rate and Corporate Regulation Filings**

March 27, 2001.

Take notice that the following filings have been made with the Commission:

**1. Escatawpa Funding, Limited Partnership**

[Docket No. EG01-151-000]

Take notice that on March 13, 2001, Escatawpa, Limited Partnership (Escatawpa) tendered for filing pursuant to Part 365 of the Commission's Regulations, 18 CFR Section 365, its application for determination of exempt wholesale generator status.

Escatawpa will own the Plant Daniel Combined Cycle New Generation project which consists of two generating units in Jackson County, Mississippi with a total output of 1064 MW.

*Comment date:* April 17, 2001, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice. The Commission will limit its consideration of comments to those that concern the adequacy or accuracy of the application.

**2. Public Utility Commission of Texas**

[Docket No. EL01-60-000]

Take notice that on March 26, 2001, the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Texas PUC) filed a petition requesting waiver, pursuant to 18 CFR 292.402, of Commission Rules under the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (PURPA) that require public utilities to purchase power from qualifying facilities (QFs) and sell power to QFs and prescribe methods for establishing the cost of purchases by electric utilities from QFs. The Texas PUC states that legislation has been enacted in Texas to introduce retail competition beginning in January 2002. It also states in the restructured electric industry in Texas, the obligations imposed on utilities by the Commission's rules are unnecessary to meet the goals of PURPA and would impede the efficient functioning of a competitive market.

*Comment date:* April 24, 2001, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

**3. American Transmission Co., LLC**

[Docket No. ER01-1577-001]

Take notice that on March 22, 2001, American Transmission Company LLC (ATCLLC) tendered for filing substitute tariff sheets to its Open Access Transmission Tariff to correct errors in the tariff sheets submitted with its filing on March 19, 2001. ATCLLC requests an effective date of June 1, 2001.

*Comment date:* April 12, 2001, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

**4. Illinois Power Co.**

[Docket No. ER01-1598-000]

Take notice that on March 22, 2001, Illinois Power Company (Illinois Power), 500 South 27th Street, Decatur,

Illinois 62521-2200, tendered for filing the First Amendment to Service Agreement for Network Integration Transmission Service with Central Illinois Light Company (CILCO) entered into pursuant to Illinois Power's Open Access Transmission Tariff. Illinois Power requests an effective date of March 1, 2001 for the First Amendment and accordingly seeks a waiver of the Commission's notice requirement. Illinois Power states that a copy of this filing has been sent to CILCO.

*Comment date:* April 12, 2001, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

**5. Mid-Continent Area Power Pool**

[Docket No. ER01-1599-000]

Take notice that on March 22, 2001, the Mid-Continent Area Power Pool (MAPP), tendered for filing jurisdiction as public utilities under Section 201(e) of the Federal Power Act, filed an amendment to the Restated Agreement, FERC Electric Tariff, Original Volume No. 2 that reduces the time required to amend or terminate the Restated Agreement.

*Comment date:* April 12, 2001, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

**6. Maine Electric Power Co.**

[Docket No. ER01-1600-000]

Please take notice that on March 22, 2001, Maine Electric Power Company (MEPCO) tendered for filing a service agreement for Long-Term Firm Point-to-Point transmission service entered into with FPL Energy Power Marketing, Inc. Service will be provided pursuant to MEPCO's Open Access Transmission Tariff, designated rate schedule MEPCO—FERC Electric Tariff, Original Volume No. 1, as supplemented, Original Service Agreement No. 67.

*Comment date:* April 12, 2001, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

**7. In Black Hills Corp., n/k/a Black Hills Power**

[Docket No. ER01-1601-000]

Take notice that Black Hills Corporation, n/k/a Black Hills Power, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Black Hills Corporation, Inc. (a South Dakota holding corporation), on March 22, 2001, tendered for filing its Contract for Interconnection and Maintenance with the United States Department of Energy, Western Area Power Administration, and its Contract for Electric Service (Nonfirm Energy Service) with the United States Department of Energy, Western Area Power Administration. These contracts

amend and extend the interconnection, maintenance and sale of nonfirm electric service provisions of the parties' previous agreement dated November 14, 1988, Contract No. 88-BAO-307.

Copies of these filings were supplied to Western Area Power Administration.

*Comment date:* April 12, 2001, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

#### 8. Entergy Services, Inc.

[Docket No. ER01-1602-000]

Take notice that on March 22, 2001, Entergy Services, Inc., on behalf of Entergy Gulf States, Inc., tendered for filing an Interconnection and Operating Agreement with The Dow Chemical Company (Dow), and a Generator Imbalance Agreement with Dow.

*Comment date:* April 12, 2001, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

#### Standard Paragraph

E. Any person desiring to be heard or to protest such filing should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214). All such motions or protests should be filed on or before the comment date. 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 motion to intervene. Copies of these filings are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection. This filing may also be viewed on the Internet at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call 202-208-2222 for assistance). Comments, protests, and interventions may be filed electronically via the internet in lieu of paper. See, 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's web site at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/efi/doorbell.htm>.

**David P. Boergers,**

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-8111 Filed 4-2-01; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP01-70-000]

#### Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed West Lorain Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

March 28, 2001.

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 West Lorain Project involving construction and operation of facilities by Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation (Columbia) in Lorain and Holmes Counties, Ohio.<sup>1</sup> Columbia would increase the operating pressure of Columbia's existing 14-mile-long 20-inch diameter Line L-2542 from 440 pounds per square inch gauge (psig) to 630 psig and increase the operating pressure on 5.5 miles of Columbia's existing 12-inch diameter Line V from 500 psig to 550 psig.

Columbia would also abandon by replacement seven existing compressor units with a combined horsepower (hp) of 4,320, four gas coolers, and an existing building and appurtenances at its Wellington Compressor Station in Lorain County, Ohio and replace the abandoned compressors with two 4,500 hp electric driven compressor units. The EA will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether the project is in the public convenience and necessity.

A fact sheet prepared by the FERC entitled "An Interstate Natural Gas Facility On My Land? What Do I Need To Know?" was attached to the project notice Columbia provided to landowners. This fact sheet addresses a number of typically asked questions, including how to participate in the Commission's proceedings. It is available for viewing on the FERC Internet website ([www.ferc.fed.us](http://www.ferc.fed.us)).

#### Summary of the Proposed Project

Columbia is proposing the West Lorain Project to provide Northeast Ohio Natural Gas Corporation with up to 140,000 Dth/d (40 Mdth/d annually) for redelivery to FirstEnergy Trading Services, Inc. both wholly owned

subsidiaries of First Energy Corp. The additional volumes of natural gas would be provided to FirstEnergy Corp. to supply installing five new combustion turbines to be installed adjacent to two existing combustion turbines at FirstEnergy Corp.'s West Lorain Plant in Lorain County, Ohio.

No ground disturbing activities would be involved with the uprating of these pipelines. All construction and ground disturbing activity would occur within the existing fenced area of the Wellington Compressor Station. The general location of Columbia's facilities is shown on the map attached as appendix 1.<sup>2</sup>

#### The EA Process

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires the Commission to take into account the environmental impacts that could result from an action whenever it considers the issuance of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity. NEPA also requires us<sup>3</sup> to discover and address concerns the public may have about proposals. We call this "scoping." The main goal of the scoping process is to focus the analysis in the EA on the important environmental issues. By this Notice of Intent, the Commission requests public comments on the scope of the issues it will address in the EA. All comments received are considered during the preparation of the EA. State and local government representatives are encouraged to notify their constituents of this proposed action and encourage them to comment on their areas of concern.

The EA will discuss impacts that could occur as a result of the construction and operation of the proposed project under these general headings:

- Cultural resources
- Reliability and safety
- Air quality and noise
- Threatened and endangered species

We will evaluate possible alternatives to the proposed project or portions of the project, and make recommendations on how to lessen or avoid impacts on the various resource areas.

<sup>2</sup> The appendices referenced in this notice are not being printed in the **Federal Register**. Copies are available on the Commission's website at the "RIMS" link or from the Commission's Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street, NE, Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426, or call (202) 208-1371. For instructions on connecting to RIMS refer to the last page of this notice. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.

<sup>3</sup> "We", "us", and "our" refer to the environmental staff of the Office of Energy Projects (OEP).

<sup>1</sup> Columbia's application was filed with the Commission on January 23, 2001, under section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations.