

To ensure your comments are considered, please carefully follow the instructions in the public participation section below.

### Currently Identified Environmental Issues

We have already identified several issues that we think deserve attention based on a preliminary review of the proposed facilities and the environmental information provided by the City. This preliminary list of issues may be changed based on your comments and our analysis.

- Twelve waterbodies and 35 wetlands would be crossed by the proposed pipeline.
- Five waterbodies would be crossed using the horizontal directional drill technique, including the St. Louis River, a tributary to the St. Louis River, an unnamed ditch, the Little Pokegama River, and the Pokegama River.
- Five federally listed endangered or threatened species may occur in the proposed project area.
- Nineteen state threatened, endangered, or special concern species may occur in the proposed project area.

### Public Participation

You can make a difference by providing us with your specific comments or concerns about the project. By becoming a commentor, your concerns will be addressed in the EA and considered by the Commission. You should focus on the potential environmental effects of the proposal, alternatives to the proposal (including alternative routes), and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impact. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. Please carefully follow these instructions to ensure that your comments are received in time and properly recorded:

Send an original and two copies of your letter to: Magalie R. Salas, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., NE., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426.

Label one copy of the comments for the attention of Gas Hydro Branch.

Reference Docket No. CP03-018-000. Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before January 24, 2003.

Please note that we are continuing to experience delays in mail deliveries from the U.S. Postal Service. As a result, we will include all comments that we receive within a reasonable time frame in our environmental analysis of this project. However, the Commission strongly encourages electronic filing of

any comments or interventions or protests to this proceeding. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the "e-Filing" link and the link to the User's Guide. Before you can file comments you will need to create a free account which can be created by clicking on "Login to File" and then "New User Account."

We might mail the EA for comment. If you are interested in receiving it, please return the Information Request (appendix 4). If you do not return the Information Request, you will be taken off the mailing list.

### Becoming an Intervenor

In addition to involvement in the EA scoping process, you may want to become an official party to the proceeding known as an "intervenor". Intervenor play a more formal role in the process. Among other things, intervenors have the right to receive copies of case-related Commission documents and filings by other intervenors. Likewise, each intervenor must provide 14 copies of its filings to the Secretary of the Commission and must send a copy of its filings to all other parties on the Commission's service list for this proceeding. If you want to become an intervenor you must file a motion to intervene according to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214) (see appendix 2).<sup>4</sup> Only intervenors have the right to seek rehearing of the Commission's decision.

Affected landowners and parties with environmental concerns may be granted intervenor status upon showing good cause by stating that they have a clear and direct interest in this proceeding which would not be adequately represented by any other parties. You do not need intervenor status to have your environmental comments considered.

### Environmental Mailing List

This notice is being sent to individuals, organizations, and government entities interested in and/or potentially affected by the proposed project. It is also being sent to all identified potential right-of-way grantors. By this notice we are also asking governmental agencies, especially those in appendix 3, to express their interest in becoming cooperating agencies for the preparation of the EA.

<sup>4</sup> Interventions may also be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. See the previous discussion on filing comments electronically.

### Additional Information

Additional information about the project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at 1-866-208-FERC or on the FERC Internet Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>) using the FERRIS link. Click on the FERRIS link, enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the Docket Number field. Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance with FERRIS, the FERRIS helpline can be reached at 1-866-208-3676, TTY (202) 502-8659, or at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov). The FERRIS link on the FERC Internet Web site also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-32963 Filed 12-27-02; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

#### Notice of Application for Surrender of Major Project License and Soliciting Comments, Motions To Intervene, and Protests

December 23, 2002.

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

a. *Application Type*: Surrender of Major Project License.

b. *Project No.*: P-10359.

c. *Date Filed*: November 13, 2002.

d. *Applicant*: Snoqualmie River Hydro Inc.

e. *Name of Project*: Youngs Creek Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location*: The project is located on Youngs Creek, near the Town of Sultan, in Snohomish County, Washington. This project does not utilize Federal or tribal lands.

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

h. *Applicant Contact*: Maureen E. O'Brien, Chief Operating Officer, Snoqualmie River Hydro, Inc., 19515 North Creek Parkway, Suite 310, Bothell, WA 98011, (425) 487-6541.

i. *FERC Contact*: Blake Condo at [blake.condo@ferc.gov](mailto:blake.condo@ferc.gov), or telephone (202) 502-8914.

j. *Cooperating agencies*: 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 item k below.

k. *Deadline for filing comments, motions, or protests and requests for cooperating agency status:* February 1, 2003.

All documents (original and eight copies) should be filed with: Magalie R. Salas, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Mail Code: DEER, PJ-11.3, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. Comments and protests 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.gov/documents/makeanelectronicfiling/doorbell.htm>.

Please include the project number (P-10359) on any comments or motions filed.

l. *Description of Project:* Snoqualmie River Hydro, licensee for the Youngs Creek Hydroelectric Project (Project), requests to surrender its major project license for the existing, un-constructed Project.

m. *Locations of the application:* 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, DC 20426, or by calling (202) 502-8371. The application may be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.gov>. Call (202) 502-8222 for assistance. A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in item h above.

n. Individuals desiring to be included on the Commission's mailing list should so indicate by writing to the Secretary of the Commission.

o. 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.

p. *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.

**Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

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**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

#### Notice of Application Tendered for Filing With the Commission, Establishing Procedural Schedule for Relicensing, and a Deadline for Submission of Final Amendments

December 23, 2002.

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

a. *Type of Application:* New Major License.

b. *Project No.:* 2177-053.

c. *Date Filed:* December 13, 2002.

d. *Applicant:* Georgia Power Company.

e. *Name of Project:* Middle Chattahoochee Project.

f. *Location:* On the Chattahoochee River, in Harris and Muscogee Counties, Georgia; Lee and Russell Counties, Alabama; near the cities of Columbus, Georgia and Phenix City, Alabama. The project does not affect Federal lands.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act 16 U.S.C. 791 (a)-825(r).

h. *Applicant Contact:* George Martin, Relicensing Project Manager, Georgia Power Company, 22nd Floor, Bin 10221, 241 Ralph McGill Blvd., NE., Atlanta, Georgia 30308, (404)-506-1357 or [gamartin@southernco.com](mailto:gamartin@southernco.com).

i. *FERC Contact:* Ron McKittrick, (770) 452-3778 or [ronald.mckittrick@ferc.gov](mailto:ronald.mckittrick@ferc.gov).

j. *Deadline for filing comments on the application:* 60 days from date of this notice.

All documents (original and eight copies) should be filed with: Magalie R. Salas, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426.

k. *Cooperating agencies:* 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 cooperation status should follow the instruction for filing

comments described in the item j above. Requests for cooperating agency status 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.

l. This application is not ready for environmental analysis at this time.

m. The proposed Middle Chattahoochee Project includes three developments: Goat Rock Development consisting of: (1) A 965-acre impoundment; (2) a 75-foot-high concrete reinforced dam located at river mile (RM) 172.2; (3) a 909.5-foot-long fixed crest spillway structure topped with 4-foot-high wooden flashboards; (4) a 200-foot-long and 77-foot-long non-overflow section; (5) a 173-foot-long combined powerhouse and intake section; (6) four trash gates on the east end of the intake having a total length of 74 feet; (7) two new horizontal generating units (to replace 2 existing units) with a nameplate rating of 8.7 MW each, one vertical generating unit with a nameplate rating of 6.9 MW, and three horizontal generating units with a nameplate rating of 5.0 MW; (8) a total generating capacity of 39.3 MW, a total hydraulic capacity of 9,877 cfs, and average annual generation of 151,120,490 kWh.

Oliver Development consisting of: (1) A 2,280-acre impoundment; (2) a 70-foot-high concrete reinforced dam located at RM 163.5; (3) a 1,324-foot-long gated spillway structure which includes 33 16-foot-high by 35-foot-long radial-arm taintor gates, and one 16-foot-high by 11-foot-long trash gate; (4) a 284-foot-long and 215-foot-long non-overflow section; (5) a 198-foot-long combined powerhouse and intake section; (6) three vertical generating units with a nameplate rating of 18 MW each, and one vertical generating unit with a nameplate rating of 6.0 MW; and (7) a total generating capacity of 60 MW, a total hydraulic capacity of 12,496 cfs, and average annual generation of 234,019,210 kWh.

North Highlands Development consisting of: (1) A 131-acre impoundment; (2) a 36-foot-high concrete reinforced dam located at RM 162.5 (3) a curved 705-foot-long spillway section topped with 3.6-foot-high flashboards; (4) a 46-foot-long and 40-foot-long non-overflow section; (5) a 193-foot-long combined power house and intake section; (6) three vertical generating units with a nameplate rating of 9.2 MW each, and one vertical generating unit with a nameplate rating