

*Comment date:* December 13, 2000, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

### 30. Entergy Services, Inc.

[Docket No. ER01-503-000]

Take notice that on November 22, 2000, Entergy Services, Inc., on behalf of Entergy Arkansas, Inc., tendered for filing an Interconnection and Operating Agreement with TPS Dell LLC, f/k/a/ GenPower Dell LLC (TPS Dell), and a Generator Imbalance Agreement with TPS Dell.

*Comment date:* December 13, 2000, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

### 31. Southwestern Electric Power Company

[Docket No. ER01-504-000]

Take notice that on November 22, 2000, Southwestern Electric Power Company (SWEPCO) filed a Restated and Amended Electric System Interconnection Agreement (Agreement) between SWEPCO and Louisiana Generating LLC (LaGen). The Agreement supersedes in its entirety the 1988 Electric System Interconnection Agreement, as amended, between SWEPCO and Cajun Electric Power Cooperative (Cajun). In March 2000, LaGen acquired Cajun.

SWEPCO seeks an effective date of June 15, 2000 and, accordingly, seeks waiver of the Commission's notice requirements.

Copies of the filing have been served on LaGen and on the Louisiana Public Service Commission.

*Comment date:* December 13, 2000, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

### 32. NEV California, L.L.C.

[Docket No. ER01-505-000]

Take notice that on November 22, 2000, NEV California, L.L.C. (NEV California) tendered for filing a notice of cancellation in operations pursuant to 18 CFR 35.14 in order to reflect the cancellation of its market-rate tariff originally accepted for filing by the Commission in Docket No. ER97-4653-000.

*Comment date:* December 13, 2000, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

### 33. NEV East, L.L.C.

[Docket No. ER01-506-000]

Take notice that on November 22, 2000, NEV East, L.L.C. (NEV East) tendered for filing a notice of cancellation in operations pursuant to 18 CFR 35.15 in order to reflect the cancellation of its market-rate tariff

originally accepted for filing by the Commission in Docket No. ER97-4652-000.

*Comment date:* December 13, 2000, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

### 34. AES New Energy, Inc.

[Docket No. ER01-507-000]

Take notice that on November 22, 2000, AES New Energy, Inc. (AES New Energy) tendered for filing a notice of succession in operations pursuant to 18 CFR 35.16, in order to reflect its name change from New Energy Ventures, Inc.

*Comment date:* December 13, 2000, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

### 35. NEV Midwest, L.L.C.

[Docket No. ER01-508-000]

Take notice that on November 22, 2000, NEV Midwest, L.L.C. (NEV Midwest) tendered for filing a notice of cancellation in operations pursuant to 18 CFR 35.15, in order to reflect the cancellation of its market-rate tariff originally accepted for filing by the Commission in Docket No. ER97-4654-000.

*Comment date:* December 13, 2000, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

### 36. Entergy Services, Inc.

[Docket No. ER01-509-000]

Take notice that on November 22, 2000, Entergy Services, Inc., on behalf of Entergy Mississippi, Inc., tendered for filing an Interconnection and Operating Agreement with Duke Energy Southaven, LLC (Duke Southaven), and a Generator Imbalance Agreement with Duke Southaven.

*Comment date:* December 13, 2000, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

### 37. Jersey Central Power & Light Company Metropolitan Edison Company Pennsylvania Electric Company

[Docket No. ER01-510-000]

Take notice that on November 24, 2000, Jersey Central Power & Light Company, Metropolitan Edison Company and Pennsylvania Electric Company (d/b/a GPU Energy), filed an executed Service Agreement between GPU Energy and El Paso Merchant Energy, L.P. (El Paso Power), dated November 22, 2000. This Service Agreement specifies that El Paso Power has agreed to the rates, terms and conditions of GPU Energy's Market-Based Sales Tariff (Sales Tariff) designated as FERC Electric Rate Schedule, Second Revised Volume No.

5. The Sales Tariff allows GPU Energy and El Paso Power to enter into separately scheduled transactions under which GPU Energy will make available for sale, surplus capacity and/or energy.

GPU Energy requests a waiver of the Commission's notice requirements for good cause shown and an effective date of November 22, 2000 for the Service Agreement.

GPU Energy has served copies of the filing on regulatory agencies in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

*Comment date:* December 15, 2000, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

### Standard Paragraphs

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).

**David P. Boergers**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 00-31121 Filed 12-6-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP01-12-000]

### El Paso Natural Gas Company; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Line No. 2039 Pipeline Relocation Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

December 1, 2000.

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 Line No. 2039 Relocation Project involving construction and operation of

facilities by El Paso Natural Gas Company (El Paso) in Maricopa County, Arizona.<sup>1</sup> These facilities would consist of about 6.88 miles of 16-inch-diameter pipeline and one meter station. 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.

If you are landowner receiving this notice, you may be contacted by a pipeline company representative about the acquisition of an easement to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed facilities. The pipeline 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 to eminent domain. Therefore, if easement negotiations fail to produce an agreement, the pipeline 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?" was attached to the project notice El Paso provided to landowners. 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 website ([www.ferc.fed.us](http://www.ferc.fed.us)).

### Summary of the Proposed Project

El Paso wants to relocate a portion of the Line No. 2039 Pipeline located on the southwest side of Phoenix, Arizona, in order to avoid residential and industrial encroachment on the existing pipeline and meet DOT class requirements in the future. In addition, El Paso wants to increase the diameter of the pipe to satisfy increased gas demand expected from the expanded West Phoenix Power Plant at the north end of this pipeline.

El Paso seeks authority to abandon 6.88 miles of the existing 16-inch-diameter Line No. 2039 Pipeline and relocate it up to 2700 feet to the east on new right-of-way (ROW). The Line No. 2039 Pipeline would be abandoned in place, including those sections under roads, for about 2.9 miles, and would be abandoned by removal for about 4.0 miles. Four tap and valve assemblies with appurtenant facilities located on the existing Line No. 2039 Pipeline would be abandoned either in place or by removal. The existing Southern

Avenue Meter Station would be abandoned by removal and relocated onto the new Line No. 2039 Pipeline in the northwest quadrant of Southern Avenue and 43rd Avenue. Pig launching and receiving facilities would be installed at the Laveen Meter Station on Elliot Road and at the West Phoenix Meter Station north of Buckeye Road. The Salt River would be crossed using the open-trenching method. A block valve would be installed on each side of the Salt River. A 3,800-foot-long section of the new Line No. 2039 Pipeline from milepost 7.18 to 7.90 was installed in June 2000 under El Paso's blanket authority and would be tied into the proposed Line No. 2039 Pipeline.

The location of the project facilities is shown in appendix 1, figures 1 and 2.

### Land Requirements for Construction

Replacement of the proposed facilities would require the use of 105 acres of land, primarily agricultural, with some residential land. This includes 73 acres of previously undisturbed ROW for the new pipeline, road, rail, and canal crossings, the new Southern Avenue Meter Station and associated staging area, and pigging facilities. Previously disturbed ROW in the amount of 32 acres would be required for abandoning sections of pipeline by removal.

### 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>2</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:

- Geology and soils

- Water resources, fisheries, and wetlands
- Vegetation and wildlife
- Endangered and threatened species
- Public safety
- Land Use
- Cultural resources
- Air quality and noise
- Hazardous waste

We will also 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.

Our independent analysis of the issues will be in the EA. Depending on the comments received during the scoping process, the EA may be published and mailed to Federal, state, and local agencies, public interest groups, interested individuals, affected landowners, newspapers, libraries, and the Commission's official service list for this proceeding. A comment period will be allotted for review if the EA is published. We will consider all comments on the EA before we make our recommendations to the Commission.

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 El Paso. This preliminary list of issues may be changed based on your comments and our analysis.

- A 1750-foot-long, open trench crossing of the Salt River would use a 30- to 75-foot-wide trench to bury the pipeline 25 feet below the river bed.
- Construction would be within 50 feet of four residences on Elliot Road and 43rd Avenue.
- Construction would disturb habitat potentially suitable for the federally listed endangered Yuma clapper rail located in the Salt River floodplain.
- The project area crosses several sites that may be eligible to the National Register of Historic Places, including historic and prehistoric irrigation systems. The historic Farmers Canal system would be crossed in the vicinity of Buckeye Road. El Paso proposes to avoid adversely affecting the currently used historic Roosevelt Canal by boring beneath it.

### Public Participation

You can make a difference by providing us with your specific

<sup>1</sup> El Paso's application was filed with the Commission under Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations.

<sup>2</sup> "We", "us", and "our" refer to the environmental staff of the Office of Energy Projects (OEP).

comments or concerns about the project. By becoming a commentor, your concerns will be addressed in the EA/EIS and considered by the Commission. You should focus on the potential environmental effects of the proposal, alternatives to the proposal (including alternative [locations/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: David P. Boergers, 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 2).
- Reference Docket No. CP00-012-000.
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before January 2, 2001.

Comments may also 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> under the link to the User's Guide. Before you can file comments you will need to create an account which can be created by clicking on "Login to File" and then "New User Account."

#### 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 the 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). 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.

Additional information about the proposed project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs at (202) 208-0004 or on the FERC website ([www.ferc.fed.us](http://www.ferc.fed.us)) using the "RIMS" link to information in this docket number. Click on the "RIMS" link, select "Docket #" from the RIMS Menu, and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to RIMS, the RIMS helpline can be reached at (202) 208-2222.

Similarly, the "CIPS" link on the FERC Internet website provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings. From the FERC Internet website, click on the "CIPS" link, select "Docket #" from the CIPS menu, and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to CIPS, the CIPS helpline can be reached at (202) 208-2474.

David P. Boergers,  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-31127 Filed 12-6-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

#### Notice of Request To Use Alternative Procedures in Preparing a License Application

December 1, 2000.

Take notice that the following request to use alternative procedures to prepare a license application has been filed with the Commission.

a. *Type of Application*: Request to use alternative procedures to prepare a new license application.

b. *Project No.*: 2100.

c. *Date filed*: November 22, 2000.

d. *Applicant*: California Department of Water Resources (DWR).

e. *Name of Project*: Oroville Project (Feather River Project).

f. *Location*: On the Feather River, in Butte County, California. The project occupies federal lands within the Plumas and Lassen National Forests.

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

h. *Applicant Contact*: Viju Patel, Executive Manager, Power Systems at (916) 653-5913 or Rick Ramirez, State Water Project Analysis Office at (916) 653-1095.

i. *FERC Contact*: James Fargo at (202) 219-2848; e-mail [james.fargo@ferc.fed.us](mailto:james.fargo@ferc.fed.us)

j. *Deadline for Comments*: January 8, 2001.

All documents (original and eight copies) should be filed with: David P. Boergers, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 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.fed.us/efi/doorbell.htm>.

k. The Oroville facilities consist of the existing Oroville Dam and Reservoir, the Edward Hyatt Powerplant, Thermalito Powerplant, Thermalito Diversion Dam Powerplant, Thermalito Forebay and Afterbay, and associated recreational and fish and wildlife facilities. The project has a total installed capacity of 762,000 kilowatts.

l. DWR has shown that it has made an effort to contact most federal and state resources agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGO), and others affected by the project. DWR has also shown that a consensus exists that the use of alternative procedures is appropriate in this case. DWR has submitted a proposed communications protocol that is supported by many of the stakeholders.

The purpose of this notice is to invite any additional comments on DWR's request to use the alternative procedures, pursuant to Section 4.34(i) of the Commission's regulations. Additional notices seeking comments on the specific project proposal, interventions and protests, and recommended terms and conditions will be issued at a later date. DWR will complete and file a preliminary Environmental Assessment, in lieu of Exhibit E of the license application. This differs from the traditional process, in which an applicant consults with agencies, Indian tribes, NGOs, and other parties during preparation of the license application and before filing the application, but the Commission staff performs the environmental review after the application is filed. The alternative procedures are intended to simplify and expedite the licensing process by combining the pre-filing consultation and environmental review process into a single process, to facilitate greater participation, and to improve communication and cooperation among the participants.

DWR has met with federal and state resources agencies, NGOs, elected officials flood control and downstream interests, environmental groups, business and economic development organizations, the boating industry, and members of the public regarding the