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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) hereby announces the interest rates on advances made during the fourth calendar quarter of 2000 for municipal rate electric loans. RUS regulations at § 1714.4 state that each advance of funds on a municipal rate loan shall bear interest at a single rate for each interest rate term. Pursuant to § 1714.5, the interest rates on these advances are based on indexes published in the “Bond Buyer” for the four weeks prior to the fourth Friday of the last month before the beginning of the quarter. The rate for interest rate terms of 20 years or longer is the average of the 20 year rates published in the Bond Buyer in the four weeks specified in § 1714.5(d). The rate for terms of less than 20 years is the average of the rates published in the Bond Buyer for the same four weeks in the table of “Municipal Market Data—General Obligation Yields” or the successor to this table. No interest rate may exceed the interest rate for Water and Waste Disposal loans.

The table of Municipal Market Data includes only rates for securities maturing in 2000 and at 5 year intervals thereafter. The rates published by RUS reflect the average rates for the years shown in the Municipal Market Data table. Rates for interest rate terms ending in intervening years are a linear interpolation based the average of the rates published in the Bond Buyer. All rates are adjusted to the nearest one eighth of one percent (0.125 percent) as required under § 1714.5(a). The market interest rate on Water and Waste Disposal loans for this quarter is 5.500 percent.

In accordance with § 1714.5, the interest rates are established as shown in the following table for all interest rate terms that begin at any time during the fourth calendar quarter of 2000.

| Interest rate term ends in (year) | RUS rate (0.000 percent) |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2021 or later | 5.500 |
| 2020 | 5.500 |
| 2019 | 5.500 |
| 2018 | 5.500 |
| 2017 | 5.500 |
| 2016 | 5.500 |
| 2015 | 5.500 |
| 2014 | 5.500 |
| 2013 | 5.500 |
| 2012 | 5.500 |
| 2011 | 5.375 |
| 2010 | 5.375 |
| 2009 | 5.250 |

| Interest rate term ends in (year) | RUS rate (0.000 percent) |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2008 | 5.250 |
| 2007 | 5.125 |
| 2006 | 5.125 |
| 2005 | 5.000 |
| 2004 | 4.875 |
| 2003 | 4.625 |
| 2002 | 4.500 |
| 2001 | 4.250 |

Dated: September 11, 2000.

Christopher A. McLean,

Administrator, Rural Utilities Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

National Power Cooperative; Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of finding of no significant impact.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) has made a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) with respect to a request from National Power Cooperative for financing assistance from the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) to finance the construction of a 500 megawatt combustion turbine plant in Van Wert County, Ohio.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bob Quigel, Environmental Protection Specialist, Engineering and Environmental Staff, RUS, Stop 1571, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250–1571, telephone (202) 720–0468, e-mail at bquigel@rus.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The proposed plant will be a natural gas fired, simple cycle, combustion turbine plant constructed on a 56.5 acre site in Van Wert County, Ohio. About 30 acres of the site will be needed for the plant buildings and other structures. The site is located near Convoy just southwest of the intersection of Mentzer Road and Shaner Road. No natural gas pipeline or electric transmission line improvements will be needed beyond the proposed plant boundaries.

Based on its environmental assessment of the project, RUS has concluded that the construction and operation of the 500 megawatt plant at the proposed site would have no significant impact to the quality of the human environment. Therefore, RUS will not prepare an environmental

impact statement for its action related to this project.

Copies of the FONSI are available from RUS at the address provided herein or from Keith A. Crabtree of National Power Cooperative at (614) 846–5757. Keith's e-mail address is kac@buckeyepower.com.

Dated: September 11, 2000.

Blaine D. Stockton, Jr.,

Assistant Administrator, Electric Program.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Oglethorpe Power Corporation; Notice of Intent

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to hold a public meeting and prepare an environmental assessment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500–1508), and RUS Environmental Policies and Procedures (7 CFR Part 1794) proposes to prepare an Environmental Assessment related to possible financing assistance to Oglethorpe Power Corporation to construct a 652 megawatt simple cycle combustion turbine in Talbot County or Harris County, Georgia.

Meeting Information: RUS will conduct a public meeting in an open house format on Thursday, October 5, 2000, from 4:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. at Central Elementary—High School Talbotton, Highway 41 North, Talbotton, GA. All interested parties are invited to attend the meeting.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Bob Quigel, Engineering and Environmental Staff, Rural Utilities Service, at (202) 720–0468. Bob's E-mail address is bquigel@rus.usda.gov. You can also contact Greg Jones of Oglethorpe Power Corporation at 1–800–241–5374, extension 7890. Greg's email address is greg.jones@opc.com.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Oglethorpe Power Corporation proposes to construct the natural gas fired electric generation plant at one of two potential sites. One site is located in Talbot County, Georgia, approximately 10 miles southwest of Talbotton. This site is approximately 2 miles north of U.S. 80 and State Road 22. Approximately 5