

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY****Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy****Notice of Request for Information (RFI) on Identifying Opportunities To Address Barriers for Lowering the Cost and Risk of Geothermal Drilling**

**AGENCY:** Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy (DOE).

**ACTION:** Request for Information (RFI).

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) invites public comment on its Request for Information (RFI) on Identifying Opportunities to Address Barriers for Lowering the Cost and Risk of Geothermal Drilling. The Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy is specifically interested in information on defining major challenges in geothermal drilling and identifying opportunities in research and development and process improvement, including opportunities to collaborate on best practices with other drilling industries.

**DATES:** Responses to the RFI must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. (ET) on January 22, 2018.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested parties are to submit comments electronically to [geothermal.comments@ee.doe.gov](mailto:geothermal.comments@ee.doe.gov). Responses must be provided as attachments to an email. Include "Geothermal Drilling RFI" as the subject of the email. It is recommended that attachments with file sizes exceeding 25MB be compressed (*i.e.*, zipped) to ensure message delivery. Responses must be provided as a Microsoft Word (.docx) attachment to the email, and no more than 3 pages in length, 12 point font, 1 inch margins. Only electronic responses will be accepted. The complete RFI document is located at <https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/Default.aspx#FoaId8eee00d1-af46-47ff-806e-a1c46df9b9d8>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Question may be addressed to [geothermal.comments@ee.doe.gov](mailto:geothermal.comments@ee.doe.gov). Further instruction can be found in the RFI document posted on EERE Exchange.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

Geothermal energy has the potential to provide a significant amount of renewable electric power for the United States. Because drilling costs can account for 50% or more of the total capital cost for a geothermal power project, reducing those costs becomes one of the most important factors to realizing this potential. The purpose of

this RFI is to solicit feedback from industry, academia, research laboratories, government agencies, and other stakeholders on issues related to lowering the costs and risks associated with drilling wells for geothermal development for electricity production. The Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy is seeking input in three areas: defining the major challenges, research and development opportunities, and process improvement opportunities. The RFI is available at: <https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/Default.aspx#FoaId8eee00d1-af46-47ff-806e-a1c46df9b9d8>.

**Confidential Business Information**

Pursuant to 10 CFR 1004.11, any person submitting information that he or she believes to be confidential and exempt by law from public disclosure should submit via email two well marked copies: One copy of the document marked "confidential" including all the information believed to be confidential, and one copy of the document marked "non-confidential" with the information believed to be confidential deleted. DOE will make its own determination about the confidential status of the information and treat it according to its determination.

Factors of interest to DOE when evaluating requests to treat submitted information as confidential include: (1) A description of the items; (2) whether and why such items are customarily treated as confidential within the industry; (3) whether the information is generally known by or available from other sources; (4) whether the information has previously been made available to others without obligation concerning its confidentiality; (5) an explanation of the competitive injury to the submitting person that would result from public disclosure; (6) when such information might lose its confidential character due to the passage of time; and (7) why disclosure of the information would be contrary to the public interest.

Issued in Washington, DC, on December 12, 2017.

**Susan G. Hamm,**

*Director, Geothermal Technologies Office.*

[FR Doc. 2017-27188 Filed 12-15-17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6450-01-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY****Federal Energy Regulatory Commission****Combined Notice of Filings #1**

Take notice that the Commission received the following electric corporate filings:

*Docket Numbers:* EC18-30-000.

*Applicants:* Mojave Solar LLC, Arizona Solar One LLC, Algonquin Power & Utilities Corp.

*Description:* Application for Authorization Under Section 203 of the Federal Power Act for the Disposition of Jurisdictional Facilities, et al. of Mojave Solar LLC, et al.

*Filed Date:* 12/8/17.

*Accession Number:* 20171208-5158.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 12/29/17.

Take notice that the Commission received the following electric rate filings:

*Docket Numbers:* ER18-251-005.

*Applicants:* California Independent System Operator Corporation.

*Description:* Tariff Amendment: 2017-12-08 Amendment to Filing CAISO BC Hydro Data Sharing Agreement to be effective 2/15/2018.

*Filed Date:* 12/8/17.

*Accession Number:* 20171208-5133.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 12/29/17.

*Docket Numbers:* ER18-251-006.

*Applicants:* California Independent System Operator Corporation.

*Description:* Tariff Amendment: 2017-12-11 Amendment to Pending Filing BC Hydro Data Sharing Agreement to be effective 2/15/2018.

*Filed Date:* 12/11/17.

*Accession Number:* 20171211-5057.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 1/2/18.

*Docket Numbers:* ER18-283-000.

*Applicants:* EUI Affiliate LLC.

*Description:* Supplement to November 13, 2017 EUI Affiliate LLC tariff filing (Notice of Non-Material Change in Status).

*Filed Date:* 12/11/17.

*Accession Number:* 20171211-5126.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 1/2/18.

*Docket Numbers:* ER18-418-000.

*Applicants:* EGP Stillwater Solar, LLC.

*Description:* § 205(d) Rate Filing: EGP Stillwater Solar, LLC SFA to be effective 11/16/2017.

*Filed Date:* 12/11/17.

*Accession Number:* 20171211-5000.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 1/2/18.

*Docket Numbers:* ER18-419-000.

*Applicants:* EGP Stillwater Solar PV II, LLC.

*Description:* § 205(d) Rate Filing: EGP Stillwater Solar PV II, LLC SFA to be effective 11/16/2017.

*Filed Date:* 12/11/17.

*Accession Number:* 20171211–5001.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 1/2/18.

*Docket Numbers:* ER18–420–000.

*Applicants:* Midcontinent

Independent System Operator, Inc.

*Description:* § 205(d) Rate Filing: 2017–12–11 Termination of SA 2673 Odell Wind NSP E&P Agreement to be effective 12/12/2017.

*Filed Date:* 12/11/17.

*Accession Number:* 20171211–5031.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 1/2/18.

*Docket Numbers:* ER18–421–000.

*Applicants:* Southwest Power Pool, Inc.

*Description:* Petition for Waiver of Tariff Provisions of Southwest Power Pool, Inc.

*Filed Date:* 12/8/17.

*Accession Number:* 20171208–5172.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 12/29/17.

*Docket Numbers:* ER18–422–000.

*Applicants:* PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.

*Description:* § 205(d) Rate Filing: Amendment to Service Agreement Nos. 3071 and 3072, Queue Nos. U1–059/W1–056 to be effective 8/30/2011.

*Filed Date:* 12/11/17.

*Accession Number:* 20171211–5045.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 1/2/18.

*Docket Numbers:* ER18–423–000.

*Applicants:* Pacific Gas and Electric Company.

*Description:* § 205(d) Rate Filing: SVP Work Performance Agreement for NRS Breaker Replacement (SA 343) to be effective 12/12/2017.

*Filed Date:* 12/11/17.

*Accession Number:* 20171211–5136.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 1/2/18.

*Docket Numbers:* ER18–424–000.

*Applicants:* NSTAR Electric Company.

*Description:* § 205(d) Rate Filing: Covanta SEMASS IA to be effective 12/1/2017.

*Filed Date:* 12/11/17.

*Accession Number:* 20171211–5143.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 1/2/18.

Take notice that the Commission received the following electric securities filings:

*Docket Numbers:* ES18–17–000.

*Applicants:* KCP&L Greater Missouri Operations Company.

*Description:* Application for Authorization of Issuance of Short-Term Debt Securities Under Section 204 of the Federal Power Act of KCP&L Greater Missouri Operations Company.

*Filed Date:* 12/11/17.

*Accession Number:* 20171211–5128.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 1/2/18.

The filings are accessible in the Commission's eLibrary system by

clicking on the links or querying the docket number.

Any person desiring to intervene or protest in any of the above proceedings must file in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Regulations (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214) on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on the specified comment date. Protests may be considered, but intervention is necessary to become a party to the proceeding.

eFiling is encouraged. More detailed information relating to filing requirements, interventions, protests, service, and qualifying facilities filings can be found at: <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling/filing-req.pdf>. For other information, call (866) 208–3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502–8659.

Dated: December 11, 2017.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2017–27175 Filed 12–15–17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717–01–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP18–21–000]

#### WBI Energy Transmission, Inc.; Notice of Request Under Blanket Authorization

Take notice that on November 30, 2017, WBI Energy Transmission, Inc. (WBI Energy), 1250 West Century Avenue, Bismarck, North Dakota filed a prior notice application pursuant to sections 157.205, 157.210 of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) regulations under the Natural Gas Act (NGA), and WBI Energy's blanket certificate issued in Docket No. CP82–487–000. WBI Energy requests authorization to construct and operate Spring Creek Expansion Project. The filing may also be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or call toll-free, (866) 208–3676 or TTY, (202) 502–8659.

Specifically, WBI Energy proposes to: (1) construct approximately 12 miles of 24-inch diameter steel pipeline to provide an additional connection to Northern Border Pipeline Company and add facilities at its Cherry Creek Valve Setting; (2) expand its Spring Creek Meter Station; and (3) expand its Wild

Basin Meter Station in McKenzie County, North Dakota.

Any questions regarding the application should be directed to Lori Myerchin, Manager, Regulatory Affairs, WBI Energy Transmission, Inc., 1250 West Century Avenue, Bismarck, North Dakota 58503, (701) 530–1563 or by email at [lori.myerchin@wbienergy.com](mailto:lori.myerchin@wbienergy.com).

Any person or the Commission's staff may, within 60 days after issuance of the instant notice by the Commission, file pursuant to Rule 214 of the Commission's Procedural Rules (18 CFR 385.214) a motion to intervene or notice of intervention and pursuant to Section 157.205 of the regulations under the NGA (18 CFR 157.205), a protest to the request. If no protest is filed within the time allowed therefore, the proposed activity shall be deemed to be authorized effective the day after the time allowed for filing a protest. If a protest is filed and not withdrawn within 30 days after the allowed time for filing a protest, the instant request shall be treated as an application for authorization pursuant to section 7 of the NGA.

Pursuant to section 157.9 of the Commission's rules, 18 CFR 157.9, within 90 days of this Notice the Commission staff will either: Complete its environmental assessment (EA) and place it into the Commission's public record (eLibrary) for this proceeding, or issue a Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review. If a Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review is issued, it will indicate, among other milestones, the anticipated date for the Commission staff's issuance of the final environmental impact statement (FEIS) or EA for this proposal. The filing of the EA in the Commission's public record for this proceeding or the issuance of a Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review will serve to notify federal and state agencies of the timing for the completion of all necessary reviews, and the subsequent need to complete all federal authorizations within 90 days of the date of issuance of the Commission staff's FEIS or EA.

Persons who wish to comment only on the environmental review of this project should submit an original and two copies of their comments to the Secretary of the Commission. Environmental commenters will be placed on the Commission's environmental mailing list, will receive copies of the environmental documents, and will be notified of meetings associated with the Commission's environmental review process. Environmental commenters will not be required to serve copies of filed documents on all other parties.