

CIG is sponsoring public open house meetings to provide the public with information about the proposed project. The dates, times, and locations of the

open house meeting are listed in the table below. FERC staff will be in attendance. For information about the open house meetings and the site visit,

please contact this CIG representative: Jeff Voltattorni at 719-351-9682.

| Date and time                                                 | Location                                                                              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tuesday, November 28, 2006, 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. (MST) .....   | Ault High School, 208 W. 1st Street, Ault, Colorado 80610, Phone: (970) 834-2816      |
| Wednesday, November 29, 2006, 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. (MST) ..... | Country Steak Out, 19592 8th Ave., Fort Morgan, Colorado 80701, Phone: (970) 867-7887 |
| Thursday, November 30, 2006, 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. (MST) .....  | Bella Sera Center, 45 Strong Street, Brighton, Colorado 80601, Phone: (720) 937-6337  |

In addition to the public open house meetings, the FERC will conduct site visits to view the proposed pipeline

routes. The public may participate in the site visits. No transportation will be

provided. Details regarding the tours are provided below.

| Date and start time                   | Location                                                                   | Facilities reviewed                                      |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| November 29, 2006, 8 a.m. (MST) ..... | Cheyenne Compressor Station, 65657 Highway 85, Carr, Colorado 80612.       | Line 250A, Line 252A, and northeast portion of Line 251A |
| November 30, 2006, 8 a.m. (MST) ..... | Watkins Compressor Station, 24650 East Smith Road, Aurora, Colorado 80019. | Southwestern portion of Line 251A and Line 253A          |

### Environmental Mailing List

If you do not want to send comments at this time, but still want to remain on our environmental mailing list, please return the attached Mailing List Retention Form (Appendix 2). If you do not return the form, or you do not file a comment on this project, you will be taken off the environmental mailing list.

To reduce printing and mailing costs, the draft and final EISs will be issued in both CD-ROM and hard copy formats. The FERC strongly encourages the use of CD-ROM format in its publication of large documents. If you wish to receive a paper copy of the draft EIS instead of a CD-ROM, you must indicate that choice on the return Mailing List Retention Form (Appendix 2).

### Availability of Additional Information

Additional information about the Project is available from the FERC's Office of External Affairs at 1-866-208-FERC or on the FERC Internet Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>) using the eLibrary link. Click on the eLibrary link, click on "General Search," and enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the Docket Number field (i.e., PF06-36). Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659. The eLibrary link on the FERC Internet Web site also provides access to the text of formal documents issued by the Commission,

such as orders, notices, and rule makings.

In addition, the FERC now offers a free service called eSubscription that allows you to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets. This can reduce the amount of time you spend researching proceedings by automatically providing you with notification of these filings, document summaries, and direct links to the documents. To register for this service, go to the eSubscription link on the FERC Internet website.

**Magalie R. Salas,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E6-19949 Filed 11-24-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

### DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

#### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP06-465-000]

#### **Puget Sound Energy, Inc.; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Jackson Prairie Storage Project Amendment and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues**

November 15, 2006.

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 Jackson Prairie Storage Project Amendment, involving construction

and operation of facilities by Puget Sound Energy, Inc. (Puget) in Lewis County, Washington. The EA will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether or not to authorize the project.

This notice announces the opening of the scoping period that will be used to gather environmental input from the public and interested agencies on the project. Your input will help the Commission staff determine which issues need to be evaluated in the EA. Please note that the scoping period will close on December 15, 2006.

An effort is being made to send this notice to all individuals, organizations, Native American Tribes, and government entities interested in and/or potentially affected by the proposed project. This includes all landowners who are potential right-of-way grantors, whose property may be used temporarily for project purposes, or who own homes within distances defined in the Commission's regulations of certain aboveground facilities. We encourage government representatives to notify their constituents of this planned project and encourage them to comment on their areas of concern.

If you are a 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 of 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 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 Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>).

### Summary of the Proposed Project

Puget proposes to modify two existing observation wells, install a new 75-horsepower electric-driven compressor, construct about 575 feet of new 4- to 6-inch-diameter gathering pipelines, and install other appurtenant facilities at its existing Jackson Prairie Storage Facility in Lewis County, Washington. Puget seeks authorization of these facilities in order to recycle gas that has migrated beyond its current certificated storage boundary. This proposal does not include any increase in the amount of cushion or working gas currently authorized at this facility.<sup>1</sup>

In addition, Puget requests an amendment to its existing certificate to revise the total gas level of the storage facility to recognize a permanent loss of 0.9 billion cubic feet of cushion gas that has occurred during the facility's 40 years of operation. Puget further requests amendments to existing certificates, as necessary, to confirm the approved status of all current well operations at the storage field and to confirm the facilities certificated zone boundaries. No environmental disturbance is associated with the revised cushion and total gas level amendment.

The existing Jackson Prairie Storage Field interconnects with Northwest Pipeline Corporation's transmission system which provides natural gas supplies to markets in the Pacific Northwest. The general location of Puget's proposed facilities is shown on the map attached as appendix 1.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Puget's application in Docket No. CP06-465-000 was filed with the Commission under Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act.

<sup>2</sup> The appendices referenced in this notice are not being printed in the **Federal Register**. Copies of all appendices, other than Appendix 1 (map), are available on the Commission's Web site at the "eLibrary" link or from the Commission's Public Reference Room, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, or call (202) 502-8371. For instructions on connecting to eLibrary refer to the last page of

### Land Requirements for Construction

Two 4-inch-to 6-inch-diameter pipelines would be constructed in accordance with Puget's proposal. One pipeline would be about 500-feet-long, with about 120 feet of its length on an existing well pad, and about 380 feet would be located in a grassy area along an existing road. Construction would disturb an area about 7-feet-wide along the road, totaling less than 0.1 acre. An additional 75-foot-long 4-inch-to 6-inch-diameter pipeline would be installed in a well pad located within the project area of Puget's existing facilities.

Modifications to the two observation wells would occur entirely within the existing well pads. The new compressor would be installed in the existing gas dehydration/compression plant on an existing fenced gravel pad.

### 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 to discover and address concerns the public may have about proposals. This process is referred to as "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 staff requests public comments on the scope of the issues to address in the EA. All comments received will be 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.

In the EA, we<sup>3</sup> will discuss impacts that could occur as a result of the construction and operation of the proposed project. 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. The EA we 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
- Land use
- Water resources, fisheries, and wetlands

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).

- Cultural resources
- Vegetation and wildlife
- Air quality and noise
- Endangered and threatened species
- Public safety

Our independent analysis of the issues will be presented in the EA. 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.

Depending on the comments received during the scoping process, the EA may be published and mailed to Federal, State, and local government agencies; public interest groups; Native American tribes; interested individuals; affected landowners, newspapers, libraries, and the Commission's official service list for this proceeding. A 30-day comment period will be allotted for review if the EA is published. We will consider all comments submitted in any Commission Order that is issued for the project.

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

### Public Participation

You can make a difference by providing us with your specific comments or concerns about the project. By becoming a commenter, your concerns will be addressed in the EA and considered by the Commission. Your comments should focus on the potential environmental effects of the proposal, reasonable alternatives to the proposal (including alternative locations and 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 Branch 1;
- Reference Docket No. CP06-465-000;
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before December 15, 2006.

Please note that the Commission encourages electronic filing of comments. See 18 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Internet Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the "eFiling" link and the link to the User's Guide.

Prepare your submission in the same manner as you would if filing on paper and save it to a file on your hard drive. Before you can file comments you will need to create an account by clicking on "Login to File" and then "New User Account." You will be asked to select the type of filing you are making. This filing is considered a "Comment on Filing."

### 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 send one electronic copy (using the Commission's e-Filing system) or 14 paper 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). 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

Additional information about the project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs at 1-866-208-FERC (3372) or on the FERC Internet Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>). Using the "eLibrary" link, select "General Search" from the eLibrary menu, enter the selected date range and "Docket Number" (i.e., CP06-465-000), and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to eLibrary, the helpline can be reached at 1-866-208-3676, TTY (202) 502-8659, or at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov). The eLibrary 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 rule makings.

In addition, the Commission now offers a free service called eSubscription which allows you to keep track of all

formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets. This can reduce the amount of time you spend researching proceedings by automatically providing you with notification of these filings, document summaries and direct links to the documents. Go to <http://www.ferc.gov/esubscribenow.htm>.

Magalie R. Salas,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. E6-19918 Filed 11-24-06; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory

#### Notice of Applications Accepted for Filing and Soliciting Comments, Motions To Intervene, and Protests

November 16, 2006.

Take notice that the following hydroelectric applications have been filed with the Commission and are available for public inspection:

a. *Type of Applications:* Preliminary Permit (Competing).

b. *Applicants, Project Numbers, and Dates Filed:*

Mason Dam, LLC filed the application for Project No. 12675-000 on May 11, 2006, at 3:29 PM.

Baker County, Oregon filed the application for Project No. 12686-000 on May 23, 2006, at 1:27 PM.

c. The name of the project is the Mason Dam Hydroelectric Project. The proposed project would be located on the Powder River, in Baker County, Oregon and would utilize the existing Bureau of Reclamation's Mason Dam.

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

e. *Applicants Contacts:* For Mason Dam, LLC: Mr. Brent L. Smith, President, Northwest Power Services, Inc., P. O. Box 535, Rigby, ID 83442, (208) 745-0834. For Baker County, Oregon: Mr. Fred Warner, Jr. Chairman, Baker County Board of Commissioners, 1995 Third Street, Baker City, OR 97814, (541) 523-8200.

f. *FERC Contact:* Tom Papsidero, (202) 502-6002.

g. *Deadline for filing comments, protests, and motions to intervene:* January 23, 2007.

The Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure require all intervenors filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person in the official service list for the project. Further, if an intervenor files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, they

must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency.

h. *Description of Projects:* The project proposed by Mason Dam, LLC, using the Bureau of Reclamation's Mason Dam and impoundment, would consist of: (1) A proposed intake structure (2) a proposed 115-foot-long, 54-inch-diameter steel penstock, (4) a proposed powerhouse containing one generating unit having an installed capacity of 2.7 MW, (5) a proposed 1-mile-long, 15-kV transmission line, and (6) appurtenant facilities. The project would have an annual generation of 8 GWh, which would be sold to a local utility.

*The project proposed by Baker County, Oregon, using the Bureau of Reclamation's Mason Dam and impoundment, would consist of:* (1) A proposed intake structure and penstock, (2) a proposed powerhouse with generating unit(s) having a total installed capacity of 3 megawatts, (3) an existing transmission line and possible additional new transmission line(s), and (4) appurtenant facilities. The project would have an annual generation of 14 GWh, which would be sold to a local utility.

i. *Locations of Applications:* Copies of the applications are available for inspection and reproduction at the Commission in the Public Reference Room, located at 888 First Street NE., Room 2A, Washington DC 20426, or by calling (202) 502-8371. These filings may also be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket numbers excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, call toll-free 1-866-208-3676 or e-mail [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov). For TTY, call (202) 502-8659. Copies are also available for inspection and reproduction at the addresses in item e above.

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

k. *Competing Preliminary Permit—* Anyone desiring to file a competing application for preliminary permit for a proposed project must submit the competing application itself, or a notice of intent to file such an application, to the Commission on or before the specified comment date for the particular application (see 18 CFR 4.36). Submission of a timely notice of intent allows an interested person to file the competing preliminary permit application no later than 30 days after the specified comment date for the particular application. A competing