

(including wind generators and power marketers) requested the use of BPA's transmission system to transmit their power. To determine if BPA could offer the service requested, BPA studied the transmission system and identified where existing capacity was available and where the system needed upgrades. The studies found that there was not enough available transmission capacity to accommodate all requests for long-term service from the east side of the Cascade Mountains along the Oregon/Washington border, to load centers west of the Cascades, and to major transmission lines serving California. Wind generation facilities built and proposed in the region have greatly increased the amount of power being produced on the east side of the Cascade Mountains. Further studies revealed that building a new 500-kV line from BPA's existing Big Eddy Substation in Oregon to a point on BPA's existing Wautoma-Ostrander 500-kV transmission line in Washington would allow BPA to accommodate the requests for transmission service in this area.

BPA must respond to these requests for transmission service under its Open Access Transmission Tariff. This tariff, which is generally consistent with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's *pro forma* open access tariff, has procedures that provide access to BPA's transmission system for all eligible customers, consistent with all BPA requirements (including the availability or development of sufficient transmission capacity) and subject to an environmental review under NEPA. The proposed Big Eddy-Knight Transmission Line Project would respond to these requests for transmission service. BPA, therefore, will prepare an EIS under NEPA to assist the agency as it decides whether to build the proposed project, and if a decision is made to build a line, which alternative transmission line route should be constructed.

BPA will be the lead agency for preparation of the EIS. In furtherance of existing cooperative agreements between BPA and the States of Washington and Oregon, the Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (Washington EFSEC) and the Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council (Oregon EFSC) also will participate in preparation of the EIS. Among other things, these State agencies will assist BPA in evaluating alternative transmission line routes and identifying State interests that should be addressed in the EIS. In addition, cooperating agencies for the EIS may be identified as the proposed project proceeds through the NEPA process.

Alternatives Proposed for Consideration. BPA is considering three routing alternatives for evaluation in the EIS. The routing alternatives use a combination of existing BPA transmission right-of-way and new right-of-way and are about 26–28 miles long. BPA proposes to use lattice steel towers for construction of the transmission line.

All routing alternatives would originate at BPA's Big Eddy Substation, near The Dalles, Oregon, and would terminate at a new BPA 500-kV Knight Substation located under and connected to BPA's existing BPA Wautoma-Ostrander 500-kV transmission line approximately 4 miles northwest of Goldendale, Washington. The following describes the general location of the three routing alternatives:

- *West Alternative:* This route would extend northwest from Big Eddy Substation following existing vacant BPA right-of-way to and across the Columbia River. The line would then head east, and then north to parallel an existing BPA 115-kV H-frame wood-pole transmission line. The proposed line would angle northeast in new right-of-way adjacent to the wood pole line for about 12 miles. The proposed line would continue northeast in new right-of-way for about 4 miles before nearing two existing lattice steel lines (230 kV and 500 kV). The proposed line would parallel these existing lines eastward for about 3 miles to the proposed Knight Substation site. This routing alternative is about 26 miles long.

- *Middle Alternative:* From Big Eddy Substation, this route would extend east and slightly north in existing right-of-way next to an existing BPA 230-kV lattice-steel transmission line for about 7 miles before crossing the Columbia River. The line would cross the river just west of the existing line and follow it for about 1.5 miles before heading north in new right-of-way. The line would then head to the proposed Knight Substation site, generally running north for about 15 miles with one jog east along an existing BPA 115-kV wood-pole line. This routing alternative is about 26 miles long.

- *East Alternative:* This route would follow the same route as the Middle Routing Alternative, but instead of heading north on the Washington side of the river, the East Routing Alternative would continue east next to two existing lattice-steel lines (230 kV and 345 kV) for an additional 4 miles before turning north. The line would then generally run north for 15 miles to the proposed Knight Substation site. This routing alternative is about 28 miles long.

BPA is also considering the No Action Alternative, that is, not building the transmission line and substation. Other alternatives may be identified through the scoping process.

Public Participation and Identification of Environmental Issues. The potential environmental issues identified for most transmission line projects include land use, socioeconomics, cultural resources, visual resources, electric and magnetic field effects, sensitive plants and animals, soil erosion, wetlands, floodplains, and fish and water resources. The transmission line alternatives being considered also cross portions of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. BPA has established a 45-day scoping period during which tribes, affected landowners, concerned citizens, special interest groups, local and federal governments, and any other interested parties are invited to comment on the scope of the proposed EIS, including potential routing alternatives to be considered and environmental impacts to be evaluated. Scoping will help BPA ensure that a full range of issues related to this proposal is addressed in the EIS, and also will identify significant or potentially significant impacts that may result from the proposed project. When completed, the Draft EIS will be circulated for review and comment, and BPA will hold public meetings to answer questions and receive comments. BPA will consider and respond to comments received on the Draft EIS in the Final EIS. The Final EIS is expected to be published in winter 2010–11. BPA's decision will be documented in a Record of Decision that will follow the Final EIS.

Issued in Portland, Oregon, on May 27, 2009.

Stephen J. Wright,

Administrator and Chief Executive Officer.

[FR Doc. E9–12915 Filed 6–2–09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. ER09–1181–000]

Hoosier Wind, LLC; Supplemental Notice That Initial Market-Based Rate Filing Includes Request for Blanket Section 204 Authorization

May 27, 2009.

This is a supplemental notice in the above-referenced proceeding of Hoosier Wind, LLC's application for market-

based rate authority, with an accompanying rate tariff, noting that such application includes a request for blanket authorization, under 18 CFR Part 34, of future issuances of securities and assumptions of liability.

Any person desiring to intervene or to protest should file 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). Anyone filing a motion to intervene or protest must serve a copy of that document on the Applicant.

Notice is hereby given that the deadline for filing protests with regard to the Applicant's request for blanket authorization, under 18 CFR Part 34, of future issuances of securities and assumptions of liability, is June 17, 2009.

The Commission encourages electronic submission of protests and interventions in lieu of paper, using the FERC Online links at <http://www.ferc.gov>. To facilitate electronic service, persons with Internet access who will eFile a document and/or be listed as a contact for an intervenor must create and validate an eRegistration account using the eRegistration link. Select the eFiling link to log on and submit the intervention or protests.

Persons unable to file electronically should submit an original and 14 copies of the intervention or protest to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., NE., Washington, DC 20426.

The filings in the above-referenced proceeding are accessible in the Commission's eLibrary system by clicking on the appropriate link in the above list.

They are also available for review in the Commission's Public Reference Room in Washington, DC. There is an eSubscription link on the Web site that enables subscribers to receive e-mail notification when a document is added to a subscribed docket(s). For assistance with any FERC Online service, please e-mail FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or call (866) 208-3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502-8659.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E9-12866 Filed 6-2-09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. ER09-1146-000]

Lafarge Midwest, Inc.; Supplemental Notice That Initial Market-Based Rate Filing Includes Request for Blanket Section 204 Authorization

May 27, 2009.

This is a supplemental notice in the above-referenced proceeding of Lafarge Midwest, Inc.'s application for market-based rate authority, with an accompanying rate tariff, noting that such application includes a request for blanket authorization, under 18 CFR part 34, of future issuances of securities and assumptions of liability.

Any person desiring to intervene or to protest should file 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). Anyone filing a motion to intervene or protest must serve a copy of that document on the Applicant.

Notice is hereby given that the deadline for filing protests with regard to the applicant's request for blanket authorization, under 18 CFR part 34, of future issuances of securities and assumptions of liability, is June 17, 2009.

The Commission encourages electronic submission of protests and interventions in lieu of paper, using the FERC Online links at <http://www.ferc.gov>. To facilitate electronic service, persons with Internet access who will eFile a document and/or be listed as a contact for an intervenor must create and validate an eRegistration account using the eRegistration link. Select the eFiling link to log on and submit the intervention or protests.

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Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

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BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of FERC Staff Attendance at Southwest Power Pool Board of Directors Meeting

May 27, 2009.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission hereby gives notice that members of its staff may attend the meeting of the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) Board of Directors, as noted below. Their attendance is part of the Commission's ongoing outreach efforts.

SPP Board of Directors—Educational Meeting

June 8, 2009 (12 p.m.–5:30 p.m.).
June 9, 2009 (8 a.m.–5 p.m.).

University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Bailey Center, 2801 South University Avenue, Little Rock, AR 72204, 501-683-7208.

The discussions may address matters at issue in the following proceedings:

Docket No. ER06-451, *Southwest Power Pool, Inc.*
Docket Nos. ER07-319 and EL07-73, *Southwest Power Pool, Inc.*
Docket No. ER07-371, *Southwest Power Pool, Inc.*
Docket No. ER07-1255, *Southwest Power Pool, Inc.*
Docket No. ER08-923, *Southwest Power Pool, Inc.*
Docket No. ER08-1307, *Southwest Power Pool, Inc.*
Docket No. ER08-1308, *Southwest Power Pool, Inc.*
Docket No. ER08-1357, *Southwest Power Pool, Inc.*
Docket No. ER08-1358, *Southwest Power Pool, Inc.*
Docket No. ER08-1419, *Southwest Power Pool, Inc.*
Docket No. ER08-1516, *Southwest Power Pool, Inc.*
Docket No. EL08-80, *Oklahoma Corporation Commission.*
Docket No. ER09-35, *Tallgrass Transmission LLC.*
Docket No. ER09-36, *Prairie Wind Transmission LLC.*
Docket No. ER09-149, *Southwest Power Pool, Inc.*