

limited response severely restricts the usefulness of the data, and the analysis that can be done. Reducing the scope of the survey will also reduce the reporting burden on the survey respondents.

The proposed modifications include elimination of most of Schedules 5812 "Domestic Electric Power Segments, Purchases and Sales of Fuel and Electric Power" and 5841 "Electric Power Capacity and Output Statistics." The following schedules for the downstream natural gas and electric power lines of business will be reduced in scope:

- Schedule 5710, Downstream Natural Gas, Consolidating Statement of Income,
- Schedule 5810, Electric Power, Consolidating Statement of Income, and
- Schedule 5811, Electric Power, General Operating Expense Detail.

The following schedules will be expanded to include foreign activities:

- Schedule 5211, Petroleum Segments, Refining/Marketing Operating Expense Detail,
- Schedule 5212, Petroleum Segments, Purchases and Sales of Raw Materials and Refined Products, and
- Schedule 5711, Downstream Natural Gas, General Operating Expense Detail.

Copies of the proposed new schedules and the instructions are available from Mr. Davis.

III. Request for Comments

Prospective respondents and other interested parties should comment on the actions discussed in item II. The following guidelines are provided to assist in the preparation of comments.

As a Potential Respondent to the Request for Information

A. Is the proposed collection of information necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency and does the information have practical utility?

B. What actions could be taken to help ensure and maximize the quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity of the information to be collected?

C. Are the instructions and definitions clear and sufficient? If not, which instructions need clarification?

D. Can the information be submitted by the respondent by the due date?

E. Public reporting burden for this collection is estimated to average 500 hours per response. The estimated burden includes the total time necessary to provide the requested information. In your opinion, how accurate is this estimate?

F. The agency estimates that the only cost to a respondent is for the time it will take to complete the collection.

Will a respondent incur any start-up costs for reporting, or any recurring annual costs for operation, maintenance, and purchase of services associated with the information collection?

G. What additional actions could be taken to minimize the burden of this collection of information? Such actions may involve the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

H. Does any other Federal, State, or local agency collect similar information? If so, specify the agency, the data element(s), and the methods of collection.

As a Potential User of the Information To Be Collected

A. Is the proposed collection of information necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency and does the information have practical utility?

B. What actions could be taken to help ensure and maximize the quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity of the information disseminated?

C. Is the information useful at the levels of detail to be collected?

D. For what purpose(s) would the information be used? Be specific.

E. Are there alternate sources for the information and are they useful? If so, what are their weaknesses and/or strengths?

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of the form. They also will become a matter of public record.

Statutory Authority: Section 3507(h)(1) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Federal Energy Administration Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 761 *et seq.*), and the DOE Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 *et seq.*).

Issued in Washington, DC, April 1, 2009.

Stephanie Brown,

*Director, Statistics and Methods Group,
Energy Information Administration.*
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BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 13357-000]

Project 7 Water Authority; Notice of Conduit Exemption Application Accepted for Filing and Soliciting Comment, Motions To Intervene, and Competing Applications

March 31, 2009.

On January 15, 2009, and supplemented on March 24, 2009, Project 7 Water Authority filed an application pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 791a-825r of the Federal Power Act, for conduit exemption of the Project 7 Hydro Plant Hydroelectric Project, to be located on the raw water supply conduit from the Fairview Reservoir to the Project 7 water treatment plant in Montrose, Montrose County, Colorado.

The proposed Project 7 Hydro Plant Hydroelectric Project consists of: (1) a proposed flow control building containing two generating units having installed capacities of 61 kilowatts and 91 kilowatts, and (2) appurtenant facilities. The Project 7 Water Authority estimates the project would have an average annual generation of 600,000 kilowatt-hours that would be used by the water treatment facility with any excess being sold to a local utility.

Applicant Contact: Mr. Dick Margetts, Manager, Project 7 Water Authority, P.O. Box 1185, 69128 E. Highway 50, Montrose, CO 81401, Tel: (970) 249-5935, project7@montrose.net.

FERC Contact: Christopher Chaney, (202) 502-6778, chirstopher.chaney@ferc.gov.
Deadline for filing comments, motions to intervene, protests, recommendations, terms and conditions, prescriptions, competing applications (without notices of intent), or notices of intent to file competing applications: 60 days from the issuance of this notice. All filings may be filed electronically via the Internet. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site under the "e-Filing" link. If unable to be filed electronically, documents may be paper-filed. To paper-file, an original and eight copies should be mailed to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. For more information on how to submit these types of filings please go to the Commission's Web site located at <http://www.ferc.gov/filing-comments.asp>. More information about this project can be viewed or printed on the "eLibrary" link of Commission's

Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/elibrary.asp>. Enter the docket number (P-13357) in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, call toll-free 1-866-208-3372.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E9-7768 Filed 4-6-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Western Area Power Administration

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utility Service

Proposed PrairieWinds Project, South Dakota

AGENCIES: Western Area Power Administration, U.S. Department of Energy; Rural Utilities Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and to Conduct Scoping Meetings; Notice of Floodplain and Wetlands Involvement.

SUMMARY: The Western Area Power Administration (Western), an agency within the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), and Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency within the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), intend to jointly prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the proposed PrairieWinds Project (Project) in South Dakota. Western is issuing this Notice of Intent (NOI) to inform the public and interested parties about the proposed Project, conduct a public scoping process, and invite the public to comment on the scope, proposed action, alternatives, and other issues to be addressed in the EIS.

The EIS will address the construction, maintenance and operation of the proposed Project, which would include a 151.5-megawatt (MW) nameplate capacity wind-powered generating facility consisting of wind turbine generators, electrical collector lines, collector substation(s), transmission line(s), communications system, and service roads to access wind turbine sites. The EIS will also address the proposed interconnection with existing Western substations. The proposed Project would be located within portions of Brule, Aurora, and Jerauld counties, South Dakota or entirely within Tripp County, South Dakota.

Portions of the proposed Project may affect floodplains and wetlands, so this NOI also serves as a notice of proposed

floodplain or wetland action. Western and RUS will hold public scoping meetings near the proposed Project areas to share information and receive comments and suggestions on the scope of the EIS.

DATES: Open house public scoping meetings will be held on April 28, 2009, at the Holiday Inn Express and Suites, 1360 East Highway 44, Winner, South Dakota, 57580, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. CDT; and on April 29, 2009, at the Commerce Street Grille, 118 N. Main Street, Plankinton, South Dakota, 57368, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. CDT. The public scoping period starts with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** and will continue through May 15, 2009. To help define the scope of the EIS, written comments should be submitted through the project's Web address: <http://www.wapa.gov/sdprairiewinds.htm>, or sent by letter, fax, or e-mail no later than May 15, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the scope of the EIS should be addressed to Ms. Liana Reilly, Document Manager, Western Area Power Administration, Corporate Services Office, A7400, P.O. Box 281213, Lakewood, Colorado 80228-8213, fax (720) 962-7263, or sent by e-mail to sdprairiewinds@wapa.gov. Comments may also be submitted through the project's Web address: <http://www.wapa.gov/sdprairiewinds.htm>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information on the proposed Project, the EIS process, and general information about interconnections with Western's transmission system, contact Ms. Reilly at (800) 336-7288 or the address provided above. Parties wishing to be placed on the Project mailing list for future information, and to receive copies of the Draft and Final EIS when they are available, should also contact Ms. Reilly.

For information on RUS financing, contact Mr. Dennis Rankin, Project Manager, Engineering and Environmental Staff, Rural Utilities Service, Utilities Program, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Mail Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone (202) 720-1953 or e-mail dennis.rankin@wdc.usda.gov.

For general information on DOE National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. 4321-4347 review procedures or status of a NEPA review, contact Ms. Carol M. Borgstrom, Director of NEPA Policy and Compliance, GC-20, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585, telephone (202) 586-4600 or (800) 472-2756.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Western, an agency within DOE, markets Federal hydroelectric power to preference customers, as specified by law. These customers include municipalities, cooperatives, public utilities, irrigation districts, Federal and State agencies, and Native American Tribes in 15 western states, including South Dakota. Western owns and operates about 17,000 miles of transmission lines.

RUS, an agency that delivers the USDA's Rural Development Utilities Program, is authorized to make loans and loan guarantees that finance the construction of electric distribution, transmission, and generation facilities, including system improvements and replacements required to furnish and improve electric service in rural areas, as well as demand side management, energy conservation programs, and on-grid and off-grid renewable energy systems.

Basin Electric is a regional wholesale electric generation and transmission cooperative owned and controlled by its member cooperatives. Basin Electric serves approximately 2.5 million customers covering 430,000 square miles in portions of nine states, including Colorado, Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming.

PrairieWinds, SD1, Incorporated (PrairieWinds), is a wholly owned subsidiary of Basin Electric.

Project Description

PrairieWinds proposes to construct, own, operate, and maintain the South Dakota PrairieWinds Project, a 151.5-MW nameplate capacity wind-powered generation facility, including wind-turbine generators, electrical collector lines, collector substation(s), transmission line, communications system, and service access roads to access wind-turbine sites.

There are two possible locations for the proposed Project. One site is located on about 37,000 acres about 15 miles north of White Lake, South Dakota, within Brule, Aurora, and Jerauld counties, South Dakota. For this alternative, the requested interconnection is with Western's electric transmission system at Wessington Springs Substation, located in Jerauld County, South Dakota. The other site is located on about 83,000 acres about 8 miles south of Winner, South Dakota, entirely within Tripp County, South Dakota. If this alternative is selected, the interconnection request will be with Western's electric transmission system at Winner Substation, located in Tripp County.