

various DOE end-use sector programs that are now providing funding for this new consolidated State-oriented approach.

#### Availability of Fiscal Year 1996 Funds

With this publication, DOE is announcing the availability of up to \$12 million in financial assistance funds for fiscal year 1996. The awards will be made through a competitive process. No State will be awarded financial assistance for special projects in excess of \$500,000 for fiscal year 1996. Projects may cover a period of up to 2 years.

#### Restricted Eligibility

Eligible applicants for purposes of funding under this program are limited to the 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, or any territory or possession of the United States, specifically, the State energy or other agency responsible for administering the State Energy Program pursuant to 10 CFR part 420. For convenience, the term State in this notice refers to all eligible State applicants.

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number assigned to the State Energy Program is 81.041.

Requirements for cost sharing or matching contributions will be addressed in the program guidance/solicitation for each special project activity, as appropriate. Cost sharing or matching contributions beyond any required percentage is desirable.

Any application must be signed by an authorized State official, in accordance with the program guidance/solicitation.

#### Evaluation Review and Criteria

A first tier review for completeness will occur at the appropriate DOE Regional Support Office. Applications found to be complete will undergo a merit review process by panels comprised of members representing the respective participating end-use sector programs in DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. A decision as to the applications selected for funding will then be made by the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Building Technology, State and Community Programs, or designee, based on the findings of the technical merit review and any stated program policy factors. DOE reserves the right to fund, in whole or in part, any, all, or none of the applications submitted in response to this notice.

More detailed information is available from the U. S. Department of Energy Headquarters at (202) 586-8128.

Issued in Washington, D. C., May 23, 1996.

Christine A. Ervin,  
*Assistant Secretary, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.*

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### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. ER96-841-000]

#### Blandin Paper Company; Notice of Issuance of Order

May 23, 1996.

On January 16, 1996, as amended March 14, 1996, Blandin Paper Company (Blandin) submitted for filing a rate schedule under which Blandin will engage in wholesale electric power and energy transactions as a marketer. Blandin also requested waiver of various Commission regulations. In particular, Blandin requested that the Commission grant blanket approval under 18 CFR Part 34 of all future issuances of securities and assumptions of liability by Blandin.

On May 9, 1996, pursuant to delegated authority, the Director, Division of Applications, Office of Electric Power Regulation, granted requests for blanket approval under Part 34, subject to the following:

Within thirty days of the date of the order, any person desiring to be heard or to protest the blanket approval of issuances of securities or assumptions of liability by Blandin should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214).

Absent a request for hearing within this period, Blandin is authorized to issue securities and assume obligations or liabilities as a guarantor, indorser, surety, or otherwise in respect of any security of another person; provided that such issuance or assumption is for some lawful object within the corporate purposes of the applicant, and compatible with the public interest, and is reasonably necessary or appropriate for such purposes.

The Commission reserves the right to require a further showing that neither public nor private interests will be adversely affected by continued approval of Blandin's issuances of securities or assumptions of liability.

Notice is hereby given that the deadline for filing motions to intervene or protests, as set forth above, is June 10, 1996.

Copies of the full text of the order are available from the Commission's Public Reference Branch, 888 First Street, N.E. Washington, D.C. 20426.

Lois D. Cashell,  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 96-13550 Filed 5-29-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

[Docket No. RP95-408-000 and RP95-408-001]

#### Columbia Gas Transmission Corp.; Notice of Informal Settlement Conference

May 23, 1996.

Take notice that an informal settlement conference in this proceeding will be convened on Friday, May 31, 1996 at 10:00 a.m. The settlement conference will be held at the offices of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, for the purpose of exploring the possible settlement of the above referenced docket.

Any party, as defined by 18 CFR 385.102(c), or any participant as defined in 18 CFR 385.102(b), is invited to attend. Persons wishing to become a party must move to intervene and receive intervenor status pursuant to the Commission's regulations (18 CFR 385.214).

For additional information, contact Thomas J. Burgess at 208-2058 or David R. Cain at 208-0917.

Lois D. Cashell,  
*Secretary.*

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[Docket No. ER96-1503-000]

#### Eagle Gas Marketing Company; Notice of Issuance of Order

May 23, 1996.

On April 4, 1996, Eagle Gas Marketing Company (Eagle) submitted for filing a rate schedule under which Eagle will engage in wholesale electric power and energy transactions as a marketer. Eagle also requested waiver of various Commission regulations. In particular, Eagle requested that the Commission grant blanket approval under 18 CFR Part 34 of all future issuances of securities and assumptions of liability by Eagle.

On May 8, 1996, pursuant to delegated authority, the Director, Division of Applications, Office of Electric Power Regulation, granted requests for blanket approval under Part 34, subject to the following: