

identifying the scope of environmental issues that should be analyzed in the APEA NEPA document.

The public scoping meeting will be held on March 13, 1997, from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at the Kirkwood F. Adams Community Center, 1100 Hamilton St. Roanoke Raids, NC.

The agency scoping meeting will be held on March 13, 1997, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the offices of North Carolina Power, 1040 Roanoke Avenue, Roanoke Rapids, NC. For more details, interested parties should contact Ken Baker, (804) 273-3257, prior to the meeting date.

#### Objectives

At the scoping meetings, the NCP and FERC staff will: (1) summarize the environmental issues tentatively identified for analysis in the NEPA document; (2) solicit from the meeting participants all available information, especially quantified data, on the resources at issue, and (3) encourage statements from experts and the public on issues that should be analyzed in the NEPA document. Individuals, organizations, and agencies with environmental expertise and concerns are encouraged to attend the meetings and to assist the staff in defining and clarifying the issues to be addressed.

#### Meeting Procedures

The meetings will be recorded by a stenographer and become a part of the formal record of the Commission proceeding on the Roanoke Raids Project. Individuals presenting statements at the meetings will be asked to identify themselves for the record.

Concerned parties are encouraged to offer verbal guidance during public meetings. Speaking time allowed for individuals will be determined before each meeting, based on the number of persons wishing to speak and the approximate amount of time available for the session, but all speakers will be provided at least 5 minutes to present their views.

All those attending the meeting are urged to refrain from making any communications concerning the merits of the project to any member of the Commission staff outside of the established process for developing the record as stated in the record of the proceeding.

Persons choosing not to speak but wishing to express an opinion, as well as speakers unable to summarize their positions within their allotted time, may submit written statements for inclusion in the public record no later than April 14, 1997.

All filings should contain an original and 8 copies. Failure to file an original and 8 copies may result in appropriate staff not receiving the benefit of your comments in a timely manner. See 18 CFR 4.34(h). In addition, commenters may submit a copy of their comments on a 3½-inch diskette formatted for MS-DOS based computers. In light of our ability to translate MS-DOS based materials, the text need only be submitted in the format and version that it was generated (i.e., MS Word, WordPerfect 5.1/5.2, ASCII, etc.). It is not necessary to reformat word processor generated text to ASCII. For Macintosh users, it would be helpful to save the documents in Macintosh word processor format and then write them to files on a diskette formatted for MS-DOS machines. All comments should be submitted to the Office of the Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, and should clearly show the following captions on the first page: Roanoke Rapids Project, FERC No. 2009.

Further, interested persons are reminded of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures, requiring parties or interceders (as defined in 18 CFR 385.2010) to file documents on each person whose name is on the official service list for this proceeding. See 18 CFR 4.34(b).

Based on all written comments and a Scoping Document II (SDII) may be issued. SDII will include a revised list of issues, based on the scoping sessions.

For further information regarding the APEA scoping process, please contact Ed Crouse, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Office of Hydropower Licensing, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC, 20426 at (202) 219-2794.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

*Acting Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 97-4674 Filed 2-25-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

#### Western Area Power Administration

##### **Proposal To Extend Electric Power Resource Commitments to Contractors of the Salt Lake City Area Integrated Projects by Application of the Energy Planning and Management Program Power Marketing Initiative**

**AGENCY:** Western Area Power Administration, DOE.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposal.

**SUMMARY:** In 1995, the Department of Energy, Western Area Power Administration (Western) completed an environmental impact statement (EIS),

DOE/EIS-0182, on its Energy Planning and Management Program (Program). Western published a Final Rule adopting the Program on October 20, 1995 (10 CFR Part 905). The Program has two major components: a requirement that all long-term, firm electrical power contractors prepare integrated resource plans (IRP) or small customer plans; and a Power Marketing Initiative (PMI) in which these contractors will receive an extension of a major portion of the resources available at the time the contracts expire. The Record of Decision (ROD) stated that Western would implement the requirements for customers to prepare IRPs and small customer plans immediately, but that application of the PMI would be done on a project-specific basis. Western now proposes to apply the PMI to the long-term, firm power contracts of the Salt Lake City Area Integrated Projects (SLCA/IP).

**DATES:** Western will accept written comments on or before May 27, 1997. The times and locations of four information/comment meetings will be announced in a subsequent notice in the Federal Register.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be submitted to: Mr. David Sabo, Western Area Power Administration, Colorado River Storage Project Manager, P.O. Box 11606, Salt Lake City, UT 84147-0606.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Western first proposed the Program on April 19, 1991 (56 FR 16093). The goals of the Program were to encourage efficient energy use by Western's long-term, firm power customers by requiring integrated resource planning and to extend Western's firm power resource commitments as contracts expire. Western published its notice of intent to prepare an EIS on the Program in the Federal Register on May 1, 1991 (56 FR 19995).

President Bush signed the Energy Policy Act (EPAAct) into law on October 24, 1992. Section 114 of EPAAct amended Title II of the Hoover Power Plant Act of 1984 to require the preparation of IRPs by Western's customers. Western adjusted its proposed Program to fully incorporate the provisions of this law.

A notice of proposed rulemaking for the Program was published in the Federal Register on August 9, 1994 (59 FR 40543), with seven public information/comment forums held at various locations during September 1994. In the August 9 Notice, Western estimated that initially 98 percent of SLCA/IP resources available at the end of the term of existing contracts would be extended.

In the Final rule, Western stated that application of the PMI including length of resource extension and the amount of resources extended would be determined through a project specific process later.

Under the PMI, existing firm power sales commitments were to be extended for 20 years beyond the existing termination date. A commitment of not less than 96 percent of the hydroelectric power resource determined to be available to the customers was to be extended, and a power resource pool of up to 4 percent of the power from these customers would be created.

The resource pool would be used for allocations to new customers and contingencies. The rule stated that a more precise decision on how resource pools would be used would be made by Western later. Western's rule further stated that the percentage of existing commitments extended for the other projects would be determined later. It also stated that the application of the PMI for the "Salt Lake City Area Integrated Projects Marketing Plan would be determined following completion of the separate National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) process currently under way." That NEPA process is the SLCA/IP Electric Power Marketing EIS. The final EIS was published in January 1996, and the ROD was published in October 1996.

Western proposes to apply the PMI, (10 C.F.R. 905.31 through 905.37), to the SLCA/IP. This includes, among other things, a proposal to extend 96 percent of the SLCA/IP contractors' entitlement of long-term, firm Federal resources as of September 30, 2004, for an additional 20 years. Western proposes that an initial resource pool of up to 4 percent of available Federal resources be created for new customers to encourage customer development of new technologies for conservation or renewable resources and for contingencies. Western's analysis shows that a resource pool of 4 percent of available resources should be adequate to provide potential new customers with a fair share entitlement of Federal resources. Fair share amounts of capacity and energy will be offered to new customers meeting the requirements established in the Post-89 Marketing Criteria and to qualifying Indian tribes within the SLCA/IP marketing area. Indian tribes need not have utility status to qualify for an allocation. In addition to the adjustment in long-term firm resources in 2004, resource commitments may be reduced on October 1, 2009, and October 1, 2014, upon 2 years written notification.

These resource adjustments would provide an additional amount of power for the same purposes as the 2004 adjustment.

Adjustments may also be made in resource allocations at any time to reflect changes in dam operations and/or water conditions upon 5 years notification.

Western is seeking comments on the appropriateness of the length of extension offered and on what percentage of the SLCA/IP resource should be extended to the SLCA/IP long-term, firm power customers. In addition Western requests comments on the uses that should be made of the electrical power resource pool that will be created. Following the public comment period, Western will analyze the comments received and publish its policy regarding extension of resource commitments in the Federal Register.

**NEPA COMPLIANCE:** Western will comply with NEPA through preparation of appropriate NEPA documentation of the impacts of the proposal.

**DETERMINATION UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12866:** DOE has determined that this is not a significant regulatory action because it does not meet the criteria of Executive Order 12866, 58 FR 51735. Western has an exemption from centralized regulatory review under Executive Order 12866; accordingly, no clearance of this notice by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is required.

Issued in Washington, DC on February 19, 1997.

Joel K. Bladow,

*Assistant Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 97-4693 Filed 2-25-97; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6450-01-P**

### **Proposed 2004 Power Marketing Plan**

**AGENCY:** Western Area Power Administration, DOE.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed plan.

**SUMMARY:** The Western Area Power Administration's (Western) Sierra Nevada Customer Service Region (Sierra Nevada Region) has developed a Proposed 2004 Power Marketing Plan (Proposed Plan). The Proposed Plan provides for marketing power from Central Valley Project (CVP) and Washoe Project powerplants after the year 2004. Western currently markets about 1,580 megawatts (MW) of CVP power under long-term contracts to 80 preference customers in northern and central California. Western also markets 3.65 MW of Washoe Project power. On December 31, 2004, all of Western's

long-term CVP power sales contracts will expire, along with Contract 14-06-200-2948A (Contract 2948A) with the Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) for the sale, interchange and transmission of electric capacity and energy. Western has developed the Proposed Plan to define the products and services to be offered, and the eligibility and allocation criteria that will lead to allocations of CVP and Washoe Project power beyond the year 2004. This Federal Register notice initiates the Administrative Procedure Act process that gives the public an opportunity to participate in administrative rulemaking for marketing of this power by Western after the year 2004, and requests public comment.

**DATES:** On April 8, 1997, beginning at 10 a.m., Western will hold a public information forum on the Proposed Plan. At the information forum, Western representatives will present the Proposed Plan and respond to questions from the public. On April 24, 1997, beginning at 1 p.m., Western will hold a public comment forum to receive oral and written comments on the Proposed Plan. Each forum will be held at the Sierra Nevada Regional Office, 114 Parkshore Drive, Folsom, California. Oral or written comments may be presented at the public comment forum. A transcript of oral comments made at this forum will be available from the court reporter. Written comments on the Proposed Plan will be accepted from the date of publication of this Federal Register notice through May 27, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments may be hand-delivered, mailed, or faxed to the address provided below. Comments must be received by 5 p.m. PDT or postmarked on May 27, 1997 to assure consideration. Inquiries and written comments regarding the Proposed Plan should be directed to: James C. Feider, Regional Manager, Western Area Power Administration, Sierra Nevada Region, 114 Parkshore Drive, Folsom, CA 95630-4710, (916) 353-4418, (916) 985-1931 FAX.

All documentation developed or retained by Western for the purpose of developing the Proposed Plan will be available for inspection and copying at the address below.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Zola M. Jackson, Power Marketing Manager, Western Area Power Administration, Sierra Nevada Region, 114 Parkshore Drive, Folsom, CA 95630-4710, (916) 353-4421.

After all public comments have been considered, Western will publish a Final 2004 Power Marketing Plan (Final Plan) in the Federal Register.