

the comment date. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-28113 Filed 10-22-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2663-004]

Minnesota Power & Light Company; Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Assessment

October 17, 1997.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) regulations, 18 CFR Part 380 (Order No. 486, 52 FR 47897), the Office of Hydropower Licensing has reviewed the application for a new license for the Pillager Hydroelectric Project, located on the Crow Wing River in Cass and Morrison Counties, Minnesota, and has prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) for the project.

Copies of the DEA are available for inspection at the Public Reference Branch, Room 2-A, of the Commission's offices at 888 First Street, NE., Washington, D.C. 20426.

Any comments should be filed within 30 days from the date of this notice and should be addressed to Lois D. Cashell, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, D.C. 20426. For further information, contact Chris Metcalf at (202) 219-2810.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-28050 Filed 10-22-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. PL98-1-000]

Symposium on Process and Reform: Public Access to Information and Electronic Filings; Notice of Conference

October 17, 1997.

Take notice that the Chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission will host a round table forum on Friday, November 7, 1997, at 9:00 a.m., 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426 in the Commission meeting room. All interested persons are invited to attend.

This forum is the first in a series of symposia on reform of regulatory processes at the Commission. It is designed to solicit proposals, strategies, and views from regulated industry, its customers, state regulators, and other interested persons that will assist the Commission in carrying out its mission in an environment increasingly characterized by competition, new entrants, market dynamics, and increased regulatory workload.

The agenda for this forum is divided between (1) public access to information and (2) standards for electronic filings. The Commission will, as time permits, also solicit comments on the tracking, processing, and retention of documents on electronic media within the Commission. The forum will first analyze FERC's website, how FERC might develop its internet capabilities, and how FERC can improve both the content and search capabilities of its public databases. The second half of the discussion will focus on the development and use of electronic filing, including how other governmental agencies employ this device. The Chairman is interested in hearing how the Commission might streamline the regulatory filing process, address access and format requirements and what the public and regulated industry believes they need with regard to electronic filings at FERC.

A more detailed agenda will be published in the near future, including

a list of primary discussants selected by the Chairman to lead the discussion. Written comments are welcome at any time and should reference the above-captioned proceeding. For additional information, please contact Kathleen Sherman by telephone at 202-219-2834 or by electronic mail at "kathleen.sherman@ferc.fed.us." If there is sufficient interest from those outside the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, the Capitol Connection may broadcast the Symposium on Process and Reform via satellite for a fee. If there is interest in the Washington, D.C. area for this program, please call Shirley Al-Jarani or Julia Morelli at the Capitol Connection (703-993-3100) no later than October 31, 1997. In addition, National Narrowcast Network's Hearing-On-The-Line service covers all FERC meetings live by telephone so that interested persons can listen at their desks, from their homes, or from any phone, without special equipment. Billing is based on time on-line. Call 202-966-2211 for further details.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-28112 Filed 10-22-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Notice of Cases Filed With the Office of Hearings and Appeals; Week of July 14 Through July 18, 1997

During the Week of July 14 through July 18, 1997, the appeals, and applications, petitions or other requests listed in this Notice were filed with the Office of Hearings and Appeals of the Department of Energy.

Any person who will be aggrieved by the DOE action sought in any of these cases may file written comments on the application within ten days of publication of this Notice or the date of receipt of actual notice, whichever occurs first. All such comments shall be filed with the Office of Hearings and Appeals, Department of Energy, Washington, DC 20585-0107.

Dated: October 14, 1997.

George B. Breznay,

Director, Office of Hearings and Appeals.