

ways to increase, State, county, private sector and community involvement in improving education; and (4) ways to expand and complement Federal education initiatives.

The meeting is not a full Commission session. As an open meeting to the public, the two-day session will explore finalizing the Initiative workplan; begin to develop the agenda for the Spring Commission meeting; discuss the Inter-Departmental Council for Hispanic Educational Improvement; and develop the strategy for the Hispanic-Serving Institution Information Campaign for the Federal Arena.

Records are kept of all Commission proceedings and are available for public inspection at the Initiative, room 2115, 600 Independence Ave., SW., from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (est).

Dated: December 30, 1997.

**W. Wilson Goode,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 98-210 Filed 1-5-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-M

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

[Docket Nos. EA-167, EA-168, EA-169, EA-170 and EA-171]

**Applications to Export Electric Energy; USGen Power Services, Commonwealth Edison Company, Energetix, and British Columbia Power Exchange Corporation**

**AGENCY:** Office of Fossil Energy, DOE.

**ACTION:** Notice of applications.

**SUMMARY:** USGen, a power marketer, has submitted applications to export electric energy to Mexico and Canada pursuant to section 202(e) of the Federal Power Act. Commonwealth Edison, a FERC regulated public utility, Energetix, a power marketer, and British Columbia Power Exchange, a power marketer, have submitted applications to export electric energy to Canada.

**DATES:** Comments, protests or requests to intervene must be submitted on or before February 5, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments, protests or requests to intervene should be addressed as follows: Office of Coal & Power Im/Ex (FE-27), Office of Fossil Energy, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585-0350 (FAX 202-287-5736).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ellen Russell (Program Office) 202-586-9624 or Michael Skinker (Program Attorney) 202-586-6667.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Exports of electricity from the United States to a

foreign country are regulated and require authorization under section 202(e) of the Federal Power Act (FPA) (16 U.S.C. 824a(e)).

The Office of Fossil Energy (FE) of the Department of Energy (DOE) has received an application from the following company for authorization to export electric energy to Mexico, pursuant to section 202(e) of the FPA:

Applicant	Applica-tion date	Docket No.
USGen Power Serv-ices, L.P. (USGen).	12/15/97	EA-167

FE has also received applications from the following companies for authorization to export electric energy to Canada, pursuant to section 202(e) of the FPA:

Applicant	Applica-tion date	Docket No.
USGen .....	12/15/97	EA-168
Commonwealth Edison Company (ComEd).	12/18/97	EA-169
Energetix, Inc. (Energetix).	12/19/97	EA-170
British Columbia Power Exchange Corporation (Powerex).	12/23/97	EA-171

In Docket EA-167, USGen, a power marketer that does not own, operate or control any electric power generation, transmission or distribution facilities, proposes to transmit to Mexico electric energy that is surplus to the needs of the entity selling the power. USGen would arrange for the exported energy to be transmitted to Mexico over the international facilities owned by the San Diego Gas and Electric Company, El Paso Electric Company, Central Power and Light Company, and Comision Federal de Electricidad, the national electric utility of Mexico.

In Dockets EA-168, EA-169, EA-170, and EA-171, USGen, ComEd, Energetix, and Powerex, each propose to transmit to Canada electric energy that is surplus to its system or the entity selling the power.

Each of the exporters would arrange for the exported energy to be transmitted to Canada over the international facilities owned by Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Bonneville Power Administration, Citizens Utilities, Detroit Edison Company, Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative, Joint Owners of the Highgate Project, Maine Electric Power Company, Maine Public Service Company, Minnesota Power and Light Company, Minnkota Power Cooperative, New York Power Authority, Niagara Mohawk Power

Corporation, Northern States Power, and Vermont Electric Transmission Company. Each of the transmission facilities, as more fully described in the applications, has previously been authorized by a Presidential permit issued pursuant to Executive Order 10485, as amended.

**Procedural Matters**

Any persons desiring to become a party to these proceedings or to be heard by filing comments or protests to these applications should file a petition to intervene, comment or protest at the address provided above in accordance with §§ 385.211 or 385.214 of the FERC's Rules of Practice and Procedures (18 CFR 385.211, 385.214). Fifteen copies of such petitions and protests should be filed with the DOE on or before the date listed above.

Comments on USGen's request to export to Mexico should be clearly marked with Docket EA-167. Comments on USGen's request to export to Canada should be clearly marked with Docket EA-168. Additional copies are to be filed directly with Sanford L. Hartman, Esq., Assistant General Counsel, U.S. Generating Company, 7500 Old Georgetown Road, Suite 1300, Bethesda, MD 20814-6161.

Comments on ComEd's request to export to Canada should be clearly marked with Docket EA-169. Additional copies are to be filed with Peter Thornton, Esq., Senior Counsel, Commonwealth Edison Company, 125 South Clark Street, Room 1535, Chicago, IL 60603 and Thomas L. Blackburn, Esq., Bruder, Gentile & Marcoux, L.L.P., 1100 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 510 East, Washington, DC 20005-3934.

Comments on Energetix's application to export to Canada should be clearly marked with Docket EA-170. Additional copies are to be filed directly with Karen E. Georgenson, Esq., Nixon, Hargrave, Devans & Doyle LLP, Suite 700, One Thomas Circle, Washington, DC 20005-5802 and Byron Fransworth, Jr., Director of Electric Operations, Energetix, Inc., 89 East Avenue, Rochester, NY 14649.

Comments on Powerex's application to export to Canada should be clearly marked with Docket EA-171. Additional copies are to be filed directly with Douglas Little, Manager, Trade Policy & Regulation, British Columbia Power Exchange Corporation, 666 Burrard Street, Suite 2210, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada V6C 2X8 and Paul W. Fox, Esq., Bracewell & Patterson, L.L.P., 111 Congress Avenue, Suite 2300, Austin, TX 78701.

A final decision will be made on these applications after the environmental

impacts have been evaluated pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), and a determination is made by the DOE that the proposed actions will not adversely impact on the reliability of the U.S. electric power supply system.

Copies of these applications will be made available, upon request, for public inspection and copying at the address provided above.

Issued in Washington, DC on December 31, 1997.

**Anthony J. Como,**

*Manager, Electric Power Regulation, Office of Coal and Power Im/Ex, Office of Coal and Power Systems, Office of Fossil Energy.*

[FR Doc. 98-231 Filed 1-5-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

[Docket No. FE-R-79-43B]

### Electric And Gas Utilities Covered in 1998 by Titles I and III of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 And Requirements for State Regulatory Authorities to Notify the Department of Energy

**AGENCY:** Office of Fossil Energy, DOE.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Sections 102(c) and 301(d) of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (PURPA) require the Secretary of Energy (Secretary) to publish a list, before the beginning of each calendar year, identifying each electric utility and gas utility to which Titles I and III of PURPA apply during such calendar year. In addition, sections 102(c) and 301(d) of PURPA require each State regulatory authority to notify the Secretary of each electric utility and gas utility on the list for which such State regulatory authority has ratemaking authority. This Notice is to announce the availability of the 1998 list of electric and gas utilities and to request written comments on the accuracy of the list.

The list is available both in hard copy and electronically. The hard copy version of the 1998 list is being provided by mail to all state regulatory authorities. Other parties interested in receiving the hard copy of the list may contact the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** identified below. In addition, the Office of Coal & Power Import and Export operates a web site as a service to commercial and government users, as well as the general public. The 1998 list is available by accessing the web site at: [http://www.fe.doe.gov/coal\\_\\_power/elec\\_\\_reg/elec\\_\\_reg.htm](http://www.fe.doe.gov/coal__power/elec__reg/elec__reg.htm)

**DATES:** Notifications by State regulatory authorities and written comments must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. on February 16, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Notifications and written comments should be forwarded to: U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Coal & Power Import and Export, FE-27, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 3F-070, Docket No. FE-R-79-43B, Washington, D.C. 20585.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Steven Mintz, (202) 586-9506.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

Pursuant to sections 102(c) and 301(d) of PURPA, Public Law 95-617, 92 Stat. 3117 *et seq.* (16 U.S.C. 2601 *et seq.*, hereinafter referred to as the Act) the Department of Energy (DOE) is required to publish a list of utilities to which Titles I and III of PURPA apply in 1998.

State regulatory authorities are required by the Act to notify the Secretary as to their ratemaking authority over the listed utilities. The inclusion or exclusion of any utility on or from the list does not affect the legal obligations of such utility or the responsible authority under the Act.

The term "State regulatory authority" means any State, including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, or a political subdivision thereof, and any agency or instrumentality, which has authority to fix, modify, approve, or disapprove rates with respect to the sale of electric energy or natural gas by any utility (other than such State agency). In the case of a utility for which the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) has ratemaking authority, the term "State regulatory authority" means the TVA.

Title I of PURPA sets forth ratemaking and regulatory policy standards with respect to electric utilities. Section 102(c) of Title I requires the Secretary to publish a list, before the beginning of each calendar year, identifying each electric utility to which Title I applies during such calendar year. An electric utility is defined as any person, State agency, or Federal agency that sells electric energy. An electric utility is covered by Title I for any calendar year if it had total sales of electric energy, for purposes other than resale, in excess of 500 million kilowatt-hours during any calendar year beginning after December 31, 1975, and before the immediately preceding calendar year. An electric utility is covered in 1998 if it exceeded the threshold in any year from 1976 through 1996.

Title III of PURPA addresses ratemaking and other regulatory policy standards with respect to natural gas

utilities. Section 301(d) of Title III requires the Secretary to publish a list, before the beginning of each calendar year, identifying each gas utility to which Title III applies during such calendar year. A gas utility is defined as any person, State agency, or Federal agency, engaged in the local distribution of natural gas and the sale of natural gas to any ultimate consumer of natural gas. A gas utility is covered by Title III if it had total sales of natural gas, for purposes other than resale, in excess of 10 billion cubic feet during any calendar year beginning after December 31, 1975, and before the immediately preceding calendar year. A gas utility is covered in 1998 if it exceeded the threshold in any year from 1976 through 1996.

In compiling the list published today, the DOE revised the 1997 list (62 FR 12625, March 17, 1997) upon the assumption that all entities included on the 1997 list are properly included on the 1998 list unless the DOE has information to the contrary. In doing this, the DOE took into account information included in public documents regarding entities which exceeded the PURPA thresholds for the first time in 1996. The DOE believes that it will become aware of any errors or omissions in the list published today by means of the comment process called for by this Notice. The DOE will, after consideration of any comment and other information available to the DOE, provide written notice of any further additions or deletions to the list.

##### II. Notification and Comment Procedures

No later than 4:30 p.m. on February 16, 1998, each State regulatory authority must notify the DOE in writing of each utility on the list over which it has ratemaking authority. Two copies of such notification should be submitted to the address indicated in the **ADDRESSES** section of this Notice and should be identified on the outside of the envelope and on the document with the designation "Docket No. FE-R-79-43B." Such notification should include:

1. A complete list of electric utilities and gas utilities over which the State regulatory authority has ratemaking authority;
2. Legal citations pertaining to the ratemaking authority of the State regulatory authority; and
3. For any listed utility known to be subject to other ratemaking authorities within the State for portions of its service area, a precise description of the portion to which such notification applies.

All interested persons, including State regulatory authorities, are invited to