

(Virginia Power), tendered for filing an unexecuted Service Agreement for Firm Point-to-Point Transmission Service with Enron Power Marketing, Inc., under the Open Access Transmission Tariff to Eligible Purchasers dated July 14, 1997. Under the tendered Service Agreement, Virginia Power will provide firm point-to-point service to the Transmission Customers under the rates, terms and conditions of the Open Access Transmission Tariff.

Virginia Power requests an effective date of June 19, 1998, for the Service Agreement.

Copies of the filing were served on Enron Power Marketing, Inc., the Virginia State Corporation Commission and the North Carolina Utilities Commission.

Comment date: August 6, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

19. Carolina Power & Light Company

[Docket No. ER98-3777-000]

Take notice that on July 17, 1998, Carolina Power & Light Company (CP&L), tendered for filing a Service Agreement for Short-Term Firm Point-to-Point Transmission Service with Koch Energy Trading, Inc. Service to this Eligible Customer will be in accordance with the terms and conditions of Carolina Power & Light Company's Open Access Transmission Tariff.

CP&L requests an effective date of July 8, 1998, for the Service Agreement.

Copies of the filing were served upon the North Carolina Utilities Commission and the South Carolina Public Service Commission.

Comment date: August 6, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

20. Power Strategies LLC

[Docket No. ER98-3778-000]

Take notice that on July 17, 1998, Power Strategies LLC (Power Strategies), petitioned the Commission for acceptance of Power Strategies' Rate Schedule FERC No. 1; the granting of certain blanket approvals, including the authority to sell electricity at market-based rates; and the waiver of certain Commission Regulations.

Power Strategies LLC intends to engage in wholesale electric power and energy purchases and sales as a marketer. Power Strategies LLC is not in the business of generating or transmitting electric power. Power Strategies LLC is an Oklahoma Limited Liability Company.

Comment date: August 6, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

21. Commonwealth Edison Company

[Docket No. ER98-3779-000]

Take notice that on July 17, 1998, Commonwealth Edison Company (ComEd), tendered for filing six (6) Short-Term Firm Service Agreements establishing Coral Power, L.L.C. (CORP), Williams Energy Services, Company (WESC), American Electric Power (AEP), Cargill-Aliant LLC (CIEG), Columbia Energy Power Marketing Corp. (CPM), and two (2) executed Short-Term Firm Service Agreements establishing Northern States Power Company (NSP), and Williams Energy Services Company (WESC), as short-term firm transmission customers under the terms of ComEd's Open Access Transmission Tariff (OATT).

ComEd requests an effective date of May 28, 1998, for the agreement with CORP and requests an effective date of June 21, 1998, for the agreements with WESC, AEP, CIEG, CPM, and NSP. Accordingly, ComEd seeks waiver of the Commission's notice requirements.

Copies of this filing were served on the Illinois Commerce Commission and an abbreviated copy of the filing was served on each affected customer.

Comment date: August 6, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

22. Public Service Company of New Mexico

[Docket No. ER98-3783-000]

Take notice that on July 17, 1998, Public Service Company of New Mexico (PNM), tendered for filing executed service agreements, for point-to-point transmission service under the terms of PNM's Open Access Transmission Service Tariff, with Merchant Energy Group of the Americas, Inc. (2 agreements, dated July 14, 1998, for Non-Firm and Firm Service). PNM's filing is available for public inspection at its offices in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Comment date: August 6, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

23. BHP Copper White Pine Refinery Inc.

[Docket No. ER98-3784-000]

Take notice that on July 17, 1998, BHP Copper White Pine Refinery Inc. (BHP), tendered for filing waiver of certain Commission Regulations and/or blanket approvals and acceptance of initial rates for filing and notice of cancellation of electric power service agreement between BHP Copper White Pine Inc. (BHP), and Aquila Power Corporation (Aquila), effective July 17, 1998.

Notice of the proposed cancellation has been served upon Aquila Power Corporation and BHP.

Comment date: August 6, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

24. The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company and The Toledo Edison Company

[Docket No. OA96-204-003]

Take notice that on June 4, 1998, First Energy Corp., parent of The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company and The Toledo Edison Company, tendered for filing a compliance refund report pursuant to the Commission's April 15, 1998 Letter Order.

FirstEnergy Corp. states that a copy of the filing has been served on the parties in the above-referenced proceedings.

Comment date: August 6, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

Standard Paragraphs

E. Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said filing 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 18 CFR 385.214). All such motions or protests should be filed on or before 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 these filings are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection.

David P. Boergers,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-20588 Filed 7-31-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP98-363-000]

Etowah LNG Company, L.L.C.; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Etowah LNG Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

July 28, 1998.

On June 23, 1998, the staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) issued a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an

environmental assessment (EA) for the proposed Etowah LNG Project. As a result of comments we have expanded our mailing list and are reissuing the NOI with an extended time period for comments. If you have already provided comments on the proposed project, you do not need to resubmit them.

The Commission's staff will prepare an EA that will discuss the environmental impacts of the construction and operation of the liquefied natural gas (LNG) storage plant and associated pipeline facilities proposed in the Etowah LNG Project.¹ This EA will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether the project is in the public convenience and necessity.

If you are a landowner receiving this notice, you may be contacted by an Etowah LNG Company, L.L.C. (Etowah) representative about the acquisition of an easement to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed facilities. Etowah would seek to negotiate a mutually acceptable agreement. However, if the project is approved by the Commission, that approval conveys with it the right of eminent domain. Therefore, if easement negotiations fail to produce an agreement, Etowah could initiate condemnation proceedings in accordance with state law. A fact sheet addressing a number of typically asked questions, including the use of eminent domain, is attached to this notice as appendix 1.²

Summary of the Proposed Project

Etowah seeks authority to construct and operate an LNG storage plant and associated pipeline facilities in Polk County, Georgia. The proposed LNG plant would be located approximately 4.5 miles northeast of Rockmart, Georgia and 40 miles northwest of Atlanta, Georgia. The purpose of the facilities is to meet winter peak shaving requirements, including those of Atlanta Gas Light Company (AGLC) and the City of Austell Gas System.

The primary components of the LNG plant would include:

- A 750,000-barrel double-wall metal LNG storage tank with a gas-equivalent capacity of 2.5 billion cubic feet;

- A pretreatment and liquefaction system with a capacity of 15 million cubic feet per day (MMcfd);
- A boil-off recompression system;
- A vaporization and sendout system with a design capacity of 300 MMcfd with standby vaporization capacity of up to 200 MMcfd;
- Measurement facilities;
- Associated control and hazard-protection systems; and
- A trucking system capable of loading 20,000 gallons per hour.

Etowah also proposes to construct:

- Approximately 12.5 miles of 12.75-inch-diameter pipeline (Etowah pipeline would be adjacent to and overlap an existing utility right-of-way for 83 percent of its route; and
- A 1.3-mile-long permanent access road and new bridge extending from the plant site northward to Davis Town Road.

The LNG storage tank would be approximately 149 feet in height and 250 feet in diameter. The LNG tank area would be surrounded by an earthen berm that would slope towards an impoundment basin that together form the spill containment system. The proposed project facilities would be designed, constructed, operated, and maintained to comply with the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Safety Standards for Liquefied Natural Gas Facilities (49 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Part 193). The facilities constructed at the site would also meet the National Fire Protection Association 59A LNG standards.

The following related nonjurisdictional facilities would be constructed:

- AGLC would construct and operate approximately 16.8 miles of 24-inch-diameter pipeline (Etowah-Mars Hill Road pipeline) in Polk, Paulding, and Cobb Counties, Georgia connecting the LNG plant to AGLC's distribution system. The Etowah-Mars Hill Road pipeline would be adjacent to and overlap an existing utility right-of-way for 95 percent of its route; and
- Georgia Power would construct and operate an approximately 0.9-mile-long 115 kilovolt (kV) overhead electric powerline collocated with AGLC's pipeline, and a 0.4-acre 115 kV to 4,160 volt substation connecting the LNG plant to the new Georgia Power electric powerline in Polk County, Georgia.

All natural gas received at the LNG facility for liquefaction and storage would be shipped from Southern Natural Gas Company's (Southern) system through the Etowah pipeline. Vaporized natural gas would be transported from the LNG facility either through the Etowah pipeline to

Southern's system or through the Etowah-Mars Hill Road pipeline to AGLC's system.

The location of the project facilities is shown in appendix 2.² If you are interested in obtaining procedural information, please write to the Secretary of the Commission.

Land Requirements for Construction

Construction of the LNG plant would affect approximately 50 acres of an 883-acre site owned by Etowah. An additional 7.8 acres would be disturbed during construction of the permanent access road to the site. The 57.8 acres of land for the plant site and access road would be permanently affected by the project.

Construction of the proposed Etowah pipeline would affect approximately 132.3 acres of land, including temporary extra work areas. Following construction, about 50.5 acres of land would be maintained as new permanent right-of-way.

Construction of the related nonjurisdictional facilities would affect approximately 106.4 acres of land. Of this, about 0.4 acre would be required for the substation, 4.2 acres would be required for the powerline, and 101.8 acres would be required for the Etowah-Mars Hill Road pipeline. Following construction, about 4.6 acres would be required for the substation and permanent right-of-way for the powerline and 61.1 acres would be required for the permanent right-of-way for the Etowah-Mars Hill Road pipeline.

The EA Process/Environmental Issues

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires the Commission to take into account the environmental impacts that could result from an action whenever it considers the issuance of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity. NEPA also requires us to discover and address concerns the public may have about proposals. We call this "scoping". The main goal of the scoping process is to focus the analysis in the EA on the important environmental issues. By this Notice of Intent, the Commission requests public comments on the scope of the issues it will address in the EA. All comments received are considered during the preparation of the EA. State and local government representatives are encouraged to notify their constituents of this proposed action and encourage them to comment on their areas of concern.

The EA will discuss impacts that could occur as a result of the construction and operation of the proposed project under the general

¹ Etowah LNG Company, L.L.C.'s application was filed with the Commission under Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations.

² The appendices referenced in this notice are not being printed in the **Federal Register**. Copies are available from the Commission's Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, DC 20426, or call (202) 208-1371. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.

headings listed below. We have already identified several issues that we think deserve attention based on a preliminary review of the proposed facilities and the environmental information provided by Etowah. This preliminary list of issues may be changed based on your comments and our analysis.

- Geology and Soils.
- Effect of blasting and disposal of blast rock.
- Landslide potential (moderate incidence with high susceptibility).
- Erosion control.
- Facility site and right-of-way restoration.
 - Water Resources and Fisheries.
- Groundwater withdrawal and discharge to surrounding surface waters.
- Effect of blasting on potable water sources.
- Effect of permanent access road and bridge on Hills Creek.
- Crossings of 35 perennial waterbodies.
- Impact on Silver Creek, a secondary trout stream.
- Hydrostatic test water rates and discharge locations.
 - Vegetation and Wildlife.
- Effect of facility construction and operation on wildlife and fisheries habitat, including federally and state-listed threatened and endangered, or sensitive animal and plant species and their habitats.
- Impact on forested wetlands.
- Clearing of upland forest.
 - Cultural Resources
- Effect on historic and prehistoric sites.
- Native American and tribal concerns.
 - Socioeconomics.
- Impact of a peak workforce of about 300 workers on housing and demands for services in the surrounding area.
- Impact of timber removal on landowners.
- Long-term effects of increased employment and tax benefits on the local economy.
 - Land Use and Transportation.
- Crossing of one recreation area leased by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.
- Effect on 18 residences within 50 feet of the construction work area.
- Visual effect of the storage tank on the surrounding area.
- Impact on future county plans (e.g., schools, roads).

- Consistency with local land use plans and zoning.
- Impact of construction and operation traffic.
 - Air Quality and Noise.
- Air quality and noise impacts associated with construction and operation.
 - Public Safety.
- Compliance with 49 CFR 193 for exclusion zones (thermal and vapor gas dispersion), siting criteria, seismic criteria, and cryogenic criteria.
- Consequences of a major spill.
- Design and operation of the firewater system.
- Assessment of hazards associated with natural gas pipelines.
 - Cumulative Impact.
- Assessment of the combined effect of the proposed project with other projects which have been or may be proposed in the same region and similar time frame.

We will also evaluate possible site, routing, and system alternatives to the proposed project or portions of the project, and make recommendations on how to lessen or avoid impacts on the various resource areas.

Our independent analysis of the issues will be in the EA. Depending on the comments received during the scoping process, the EA may be published and mailed to Federal, state, and local agencies, public interest groups, interested individuals, affected landowners, newspapers, libraries, and the Commission's official service list for this proceeding. A comment period will be allotted for review if the EA is published. We will consider all comments on the EA before we make our recommendations to the Commission.

To ensure your comments are considered, please carefully follow the instructions in the public participation section of this notice.

Public Participation

You can make a difference by providing us with your specific comments or concerns about the project. By becoming a commentator, your concerns will be addressed in the EA and considered by the Commission. You should focus on the potential environmental effects of the proposal, alternatives to the proposal (including alternative sites and routes, and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impact). The more specific your comments, the more useful

they will be. Please carefully follow these instructions to ensure that your comments are received in time and properly recorded:

- Send two copies of your letter to: David P. Boergers, Acting Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., N.E., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426;
 - Label one copy of the comments for the attention of the Environmental Review and Compliance Branch, PR-11.1;
 - Reference Docket No. CP98-363-000; and
 - Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before August 27, 1998.

Becoming an Intervenor

In addition to involvement in the EA scoping process, you may want to become an official party to the proceeding known as an "intervenor". Intervenor play a more formal role in the process. Among other things, intervenors have the right to receive copies of case-related Commission documents and filings by other intervenors. Likewise, each intervenor must provide 14 copies of its filings to the Secretary of the Commission and must send a copy of its filings to all other parties on the Commission's service list for this proceeding. If you want to become an intervenor you must file a motion to intervene according to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214) (see appendix 3). Only intervenors have the right to seek rehearing of the Commission's decision.

The date for filing timely motions to intervene in this proceeding has passed. Therefore, parties now seeking to file late interventions must show good cause, as required by section 385.214(b)(3), why this time limitation should be waived. Environmental issues have been viewed as good cause for late intervention. You do not need intervenor status to have your environmental comments considered.

Additional information about the proposed project is available from Mr. Paul McKee of the Commission's Office of External Affairs at (202) 208-1088.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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