

the project number of the application to which the filing responds; (3) furnish the name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the filing; and (4) otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 385.2001 through 385.2005. All comments, recommendations, terms and conditions or prescriptions must set forth their evidentiary basis and otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 4.34(b). Agencies may obtain copies of the application directly from the applicant. Any of these documents must be filed by providing the original and the number of copies required by the Commission's regulations to: The Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426. An additional copy must be sent to Director, Division of Project Review, Office of Hydropower Licensing, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, at the above address. Each filing must be accompanied by proof of service on all persons listed on the service list prepared by the Commission in this proceeding, in accordance with 18 CFR 4.34(b), and 385.2010.

David P. Boergers,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-29565 Filed 11-10-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Amendment of License and Soliciting Comments, Motions to Intervene, and Protests

November 5, 1999.

Take notice that the following application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection.

a. *Type of Application:* Amendment of license for the non-project use of project lands and waters: to permit the Smiths Water and Sewer Authority (Authority) to increase water withdrawals at its existing pumping station at Lake Oliver.

b. *Project No:* 2177-037.

c. *Date Filed:* September 16, 1999.

d. *Applicant:* Georgia Power Co.

e. *Name of Project:* Middle Chattahoochee Project.

f. *Location:* Lee County, AL.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act, 16 U.S.C. 791(a)-825(r).

h. *Applicant Contact:* Mr. Mike Phillips, Georgia Power Co., Bin 10151, 241 Ralph McGill Blvd. NE, Atlanta, GA 30308-3374; (404) 506-2392.

i. *FERC Contact:* Any questions on this notice should be addressed to Jim

Haines at (202) 219-2780, or e-mail address: james.haime@ferc.fed.us.

j. *Deadline for Filing Comments and or Motions:* 30 days from the issuance date of this notice.

All documents (original and eight copies) should be filed with: David P. Boergers, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426.

Please include the project number (P-2177-037) on any comments or motions filed.

k. *Description of Project:* The licensee requests Commission authorization to permit the Authority to increase the rate of water withdrawal at its existing pumping station at Lake Oliver reservoir from 5.0 million gallons per day currently to 8.0 million gallons per day. Existing pumps at the site are able to accommodate this increased water withdrawal; consequently, the proposed action would not involve any new construction activity.

l. *Locations of the Application:* Copies of the application are available for inspection and reproduction at the Commission's Public Reference Room, located at 888 First Street, NE, Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426, or by calling (202) 208-1371. The application also may be viewed on the Web at www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm. Call (202) 208-2222 for assistance. Copies of the application also are available for inspection and reproduction at the addresses in item h above.

m. Individuals desiring to be included on the Commission's mailing list for the proposed amendment of license should so indicate by writing to the Secretary of the Commission.

Comments, Protests, or Motions to Intervene—Anyone may submit comments, a protest, or a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.210, .211, .214. In determining the appropriate action to take, the Commission will consider all protests or other comments filed, but only those who file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules may become a party to the proceeding. Any comments, protests, or motions to intervene must be received on or before the specified comment date for the particular application.

Filing and Service of Responsive Documents—Any filings must bear in all capital letters the title "COMMENTS", "RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TERMS AND CONDITIONS", "PROTEST", OR "MOTION TO INTERVENE", as applicable, and the Project Number of the particular application to which the

filing refers. Any of the above-named documents must be filed by providing the original and the number of copies provided by the Commission's regulations to: The Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. A copy of any motion to intervene must also be served upon each representative of the Applicant specified in the particular application.

Agency Comments—Federal, state, and local agencies are invited to file comments on the described application. A copy of the application may be obtained by agencies directly from the Applicant. If an agency does not file comments within the time specified for filing comments, it will be presumed to have no comments. One copy of an agency's comments must also be sent to the Applicant's representatives.

David P. Boergers,
Secretary.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6474-3]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Valuing Inland Water Quality Improvements

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this document announces that EPA is planning to submit the following proposed Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB): Valuing Inland Water Quality Improvements (ICR number 1914.01). Before submitting the ICR to OMB for review and approval, EPA is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the proposed information collection as described below.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before January 11, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Dr. Alan Carlin, Office of Policy and Reinvention, Mail Code 2172, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC 20460, e-mail Carlin.alan@epa.gov, phone 202-260-5499, FAX 202-260-7875. The survey as it will be received by subjects can be obtained without charge by mailing or e-mailing a request to Jason Bell listed below. Be sure to include name, address, telephone number, e-mail if

available, and delivery preference (diskette by mail, or e-mail delivery of the survey). A file containing the survey can also be downloaded from the following Website under What's New: <http://www.epa.gov/economics>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jason Bell, Fuqua School of Business, Duke University, Durham, NC 27708-0120, phone 919-599-1338, fax 919-684-8742, e-mail jbb@acpub.duke.edu.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Affected entities: Entities potentially affected by this action are individuals who agree to participate in the survey. Participation is voluntary and subjects will be compensated for their time and effort. Recruiting will be done by Consumer Pulse, in a manner described in the abstract below.

Title: Valuing Inland Water Quality Improvements (EPA ICR number 1914.01).

Abstract: The purpose of this project is to develop economic benefit values for water quality improvements for lakes, rivers, and streams. These estimates are of substantial academic interest since past studies have been based on a water quality ladder, which is believed not to be as scientifically valid a construct for assessing water quality. The estimates may also be useful to the Agency in complying with the requirements of Executive Order 12866 requiring cost-benefit analysis of major Federal regulations. This project will explore how valuations are affected by use of the current EPA approach of specifying different dimensions of water quality such as swimming, fishing, and broader aquatic ecological effects. The findings will be pertinent to economists studying water quality changes, particularly with respect to the task of assessing benefit values for water quality policies. We will use data collected with the survey in determining the value of water quality improvements to households in the United States. We plan to recruit subjects randomly across the United States through telephone recruiting. Subjects will be asked to complete a computer survey from a disk, which will be mailed to them. Subjects without convenient access to a personal computer will be referred to a national commercial facility with computer access nearest their home for the purpose of completing the survey. Subjects will return the survey disk by mail when completed. Participation in the survey is voluntary. Respondents will have to expend time, effort, and in many cases travel expense to participate in the study. Avoiding bias in the sample towards individuals and groups

who can more easily take the survey is an important concern. As a result, we will compensate subjects for their time (and travel if necessary) to avoid the selection bias that might otherwise result. This survey is innovative both in terms of the survey methodology and the substantive economic focus. On both of these dimensions the survey is breaking new ground. To maximize the research value of the survey, we will proceed iteratively. The version of the survey available now will undergo at least two pre-tests after OMB approves the ICR. These pretests will be designed to identify programming complications arising from the nature of the survey, as well as survey questions that can be refined to promote greater clarity and convergence in the iterative choice process used. The final structure of the survey will depend on how people respond to the draft questions. For example, on any initial pairwise choice question, the researchers seek to present an initial tradeoff where half of subjects to choose each alternative, in order to maximize convergence on tradeoff rates in the least possible number of iterative questions. After the pre-tests are completed, recruiting will proceed as described above. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control numbers for EPA's regulations are listed in 40 CFR part 9 and 48 CFR Chapter 15. We solicit comment on all aspects of the questionnaire, and specifically solicit comment on the following issues:

(i) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(ii) The accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(iii) The quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(iv) Minimization of the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Burden Statement: The total national burden estimate for all parts of the questionnaire process is 3170 hours. It should be emphasized, however, that this is extremely uncertain given the new proposed approach to be used and the highly experimental nature of the

survey. The burden estimates are based on administration of 2800 completed questionnaires and an assumed response rate of 70 percent. We estimate that each subject will require, on average, one minute to refuse to participate in the phone recruiting process, 10 minutes to respond favorably to the phone recruiting process, 30 minutes to complete the survey, and another 10 minutes to mail the completed survey disk in a provided envelope. We estimate that as many as half of the sample may not have access to a personal computer in the home or at work. For these subjects, an additional 15 minutes are estimated if using a neighbor's computer (assumed to be one-sixth of the completed sample), or an additional 30 to 60 minutes round trip to a national commercial facility with computer access if necessary (assumed to be one-third of the completed sample). Given these assumptions, the total burden for the survey in terms of participant time (3170 hours) valued at \$13.18 (the average hourly earnings for May 1999 according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics) is estimated to be \$41,781 prior to the payment of the proposed compensation. We stress again that participation by subjects in the survey is voluntary and that subjects will be compensated for their time and effort. Burden means the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide information to or for a Federal agency. This includes the time needed to review instructions; develop, acquire, install, and utilize technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; adjust the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; train personnel to be able to respond to a collection of information; search data sources; complete and review the collection of information; and transmit or otherwise disclose the information.

Dated: August 24, 1999.

Brett Snyder,

Director, Economy and Environment Division.
[FR Doc. 99-29584 Filed 11-10-99; 8:45 am]

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