

whenever we propose to authorize take for endangered or threatened species, in this case with the NMFS AKRO.

Four marine mammal species, fin whale, humpback whale (Mexico Distinct Population Segment (DPS)), beluga whale (Cook Inlet), and Steller sea lion (Western DPS) occur in the project area and are listed as threatened or endangered under the ESA. The NMFS AKRO issued a Biological Opinion under section 7 of the ESA on the issuance of two IHAs to Furie under section 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA by NMFS OPR. The Biological Opinion concluded that the action is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of these species and is not likely to destroy or adversely modify their critical habitat.

### National Environmental Policy Act

To comply with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA; 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and NOAA Administrative Order (NAO) 216-6A, NMFS must evaluate our proposed action *i.e.*, the issuance of two consecutive IHAs) and alternatives with respect to potential impacts on the human environment.

NMFS prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) and analyzed the potential impacts to marine mammals that would result from Furie's natural gas activities. A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was signed on September 12, 2024. Copies of the EA and FONSI are available at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/marine-mammal-protection/incidental-take-authorizations-oil-and-gas>.

### Authorization

NMFS has issued two consecutive IHAs to Furie for the potential harassment of small numbers of 12 marine mammal species incidental to Furie's natural gas activities in Cook Inlet, Alaska, that includes the previously explained mitigation, monitoring and reporting requirements.

Dated: September 16, 2024.

### Kimberly Damon-Randall,

Director, Office of Protected Resources,  
National Marine Fisheries Service.

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. EF14-1-008]

### Southwestern Power Administration; Notice of Filing

Take notice that on September 13, 2024, Southwestern Power Administration submitted a tariff filing: 2013 IS Rate Extension Informational Filing—2024 to be effective 10/1/2024.

Any person desiring to intervene or to protest this filing must file in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211, 385.214). 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 notice of intervention or motion to intervene, as appropriate. Such notices, motions, or protests must be filed on or before the comment date. On or before the comment date, it is not necessary to serve motions to intervene or protests on persons other than the Applicant.

In addition to publishing the full text of this document in the **Federal Register**, the Commission provides all interested persons an opportunity to view and/or print the contents of this document via the internet through the Commission's Home Page (<https://www.ferc.gov>). From the Commission's Home Page on the internet, this information is available on eLibrary. The full text of this document is available on eLibrary in PDF and Microsoft Word format for viewing, printing, and/or downloading. To access this document in eLibrary, type the docket number excluding the last three digits of this document in the docket number field.

User assistance is available for eLibrary and the Commission's website during normal business hours from FERC Online Support at 202-502-6652 (toll free at 1-866-208-3676) or email at [ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov](mailto:ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov), or the Public Reference Room at (202) 502-8371, TTY (202) 502-8659. Email the Public Reference Room at [public.referenceroom@ferc.gov](mailto:public.referenceroom@ferc.gov).

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings of comments, protests and interventions in lieu of paper using the "eFiling" link at <https://www.ferc.gov>. Persons unable to file electronically may mail similar pleadings to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426. Hand

delivered submissions in docketed proceedings should be delivered to Health and Human Services, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

The Commission's Office of Public Participation (OPP) supports meaningful public engagement and participation in Commission proceedings. OPP can help members of the public, including landowners, environmental justice communities, Tribal members and others, access publicly available information and navigate Commission processes. For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, the public is encouraged to contact OPP at (202) 502-6595 or [OPP@ferc.gov](mailto:OPP@ferc.gov).

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. Eastern Time on October 15, 2024.

Dated: September 17, 2024.

**Debbie-Anne A. Reese,**

*Acting Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 15368-000]

### Orcas Power & Light Cooperative; Notice of Preliminary Permit Application Accepted for Filing and Soliciting Comments, Motions To Intervene, and Competing Applications

On July 22, 2024, Orcas Power & Light Cooperative filed an application for a preliminary permit, pursuant to section 4(f) of the Federal Power Act (FPA), proposing to study the feasibility of the Rosario Strait Tidal Energy Project (or Project) to be located on Rosario Strait in the Salish Sea, near the town of Eastsound, Washington. The sole purpose of a preliminary permit, if issued, is to grant the permit holder priority to file a license application during the permit term. A preliminary permit does not authorize the permit holder to perform any land-disturbing activities or otherwise enter upon lands or waters owned by others without the owners' express permission.

The proposed project would consist of the following: (1) a 245 foot-long, 13 foot-wide floating tube; (2) two wings attached to 65 foot diameter rotors with an overall width of 165 feet; (3) two 1.2 MW turbines (4) four catenary mooring lines (each approximately 740 feet long); (5) four seabed anchors; (6) a 3.3 mile