

888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. Comments, protests, and interventions may be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper; see 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site under the "e-Filing" link. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings. Please include the project number (P-12829-000 or P-12852-000) on any comments or motions filed.

The Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure require all intervenors filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person in the official service list for the project. Further, if an intervenor files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, they must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency.

h. *Description of Projects:* The project proposed by Free Flow Power Corporation would consist of: (1) 1,450 proposed 20 kilowatt Free Flow generating units having a total installed capacity of 19 megawatts, (2) a proposed transmission line; and (3) appurtenant facilities. The Free Flow Power Corporation, project would have an average annual generation of 127.02 gigawatt-hours and be sold to a local utility.

The project proposed by FFP Project 8, LLC would consist of: (1) 1,450 proposed 20 kilowatt Free Flow generating units having a total installed capacity of 29 megawatts, (2) a proposed transmission line; and (3) appurtenant facilities. The FFP Project 8, LLC, project would have an average annual generation of 127.02 gigawatt-hours and be sold to a local utility.

i. The filings are available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, call toll-free 1-866-208-3676 or e-mail FERCONLINESUPPORT@FERC.GOV. For TTY, call (202) 502-8659. A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in item e above.

j. *Competing Preliminary Permit*—Anyone desiring to file a competing application for preliminary permit for a proposed project must submit the competing application itself, or a notice of intent to file such an application, to the Commission on or before the specified comment date for the

particular application (see 18 CFR 4.36). Submission of a timely notice of intent allows an interested person to file the competing preliminary permit application no later than 30 days after the specified comment date for the particular application. A competing preliminary permit application must conform with 18 CFR 4.30 and 4.36.

k. *Competing Development Application*—Any qualified development applicant desiring to file a competing development application must submit to the Commission, on or before a specified comment date for the particular application, either a competing development application or a notice of intent to file such an application. Submission of a timely notice of intent to file a development application allows an interested person to file the competing application no later than 120 days after the specified comment date for the particular application. A competing license application must conform with 18 CFR 4.30 and 4.36.

l. *Notice of Intent*—A notice of intent must specify the exact name, business address, and telephone number of the prospective applicant, and must include an unequivocal statement of intent to submit, if such an application may be filed, either a preliminary permit application or a development application (specify which type of application). A notice of intent must be served on the applicant(s) named in this public notice.

m. *Proposed Scope of Studies under Permit*—A preliminary permit, if issued, does not authorize construction. The term of the proposed preliminary permit would be 36 months. The work proposed under the preliminary permit would include economic analysis, preparation of preliminary engineering plans, and a study of environmental impacts. Based on the results of these studies, the Applicant would decide whether to proceed with the preparation of a development application to construct and operate the project.

n. *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.

o. *Filing and Service of Responsive Documents*—Any filings must bear in all capital letters the title "COMMENTS", "NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE COMPETING APPLICATION", "COMPETING APPLICATION", "PROTEST", and "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. An additional copy must be sent to Director, Division of Hydropower Administration and Compliance, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, at the above-mentioned address. A copy of any notice of intent, competing application or motion to intervene must also be served upon each representative of the Applicant specified in the particular application.

p. *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.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. RP07-666-000; RP07-667-000]

Colorado Interstate Gas Company; Notice of Technical Conference

October 22, 2007.

Take notice that the Commission will convene a technical conference in the above-referenced proceeding on Thursday, November 15, 2007, at 10 a.m. (EDT), in a room to be designated at the offices of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington DC 20426.

The Commission's September 27, 2007 Order¹ directed that a technical

¹ Colorado Interstate Gas Co., 120 FERC ¶ 61,287 (2007).

conference be held to address the issues raised by Colorado Interstate Gas Company's (CIG) August 31, 2007, tariff filings to revise its fuel tracking mechanism and to update the calculation of its cash-out Index Price and cash-out System Index Price (collectively, cash-out prices).

Commission Staff and parties will have the opportunity to discuss all of the issues raised by CIG's proposals to modify its fuel and LUF mechanism and to adjust its cash-out price calculations. Specifically, CIG should be prepared to address all the concerns raised in the protests, and if necessary, to provide additional technical, engineering and operational support for its proposals. Any party proposing alternatives to CIG's proposals should also be prepared to similarly support its position.

FERC conferences are accessible under section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. For accessibility accommodations please send an e-mail to accessibility@ferc.gov or call toll free (866) 208-3372 (voice) or 202-502-8659 (TTY), or send a fax to 202-208-2106 with the required accommodations.

All interested persons are permitted to attend. For further information please contact Debbie-Anne Reese at (202) 502-8758 or e-mail Debbie-Anne.Reese@ferc.gov.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Western Area Power Administration

Big Stone II Power Plant and Transmission Project Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0377)

AGENCY: Western Area Power Administration, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of availability and public hearing.

SUMMARY: Western Area Power Administration (Western) announces the availability of the Supplemental Draft Big Stone II Power Plant and Transmission Project (Project) Environmental Impact Statement (Supplemental Draft EIS) for public review and comment. The U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS) and U.S. Department of Defense, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), are participating as cooperating agencies in the EIS process. The Supplemental Draft EIS addresses the environmental

impacts of a different back-up water supply plan that uses groundwater instead of surface water along with associated cooling alternatives for the proposed Big Stone II power plant's back-up water supply. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires Western to make the Supplemental Draft EIS available to interested members of the public, groups, and Federal, State, local, and tribal agencies for review and comment to assure they have an opportunity to provide input to the Federal decision making process. Comments on the Supplemental Draft EIS may be provided in writing or at the hearing scheduled during the review period.

DATES: Western invites the public to comment on the Supplemental Draft EIS during the 45-day public review and comment period, which begins on October 26, 2007, and ends on Monday, December 10, 2007.

Western will hold one public hearing on November 13, 2007, at 7 p.m., at the Milbank Chamber of Commerce in Milbank, South Dakota.

ADDRESSES: The hearing will be held at the Milbank Chamber of Commerce, 1001 E. 4th Ave., Milbank, South Dakota.

Written comments on the Supplemental Draft EIS should be mailed, faxed, or e-mailed to: Ms. Nancy Werdel, NEPA Document Manager, Big Stone II EIS, A7400, Western Area Power Administration, P.O. Box 281213, Lakewood, CO 80228-8213, fax (720) 962-7263 or 7269, e-mail BigStoneEIS@wapa.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information or to request a copy or summary of the Supplemental Draft EIS, please write Ms. Nancy Werdel, NEPA Document Manager, Big Stone II EIS, A7400, Western Area Power Administration, P.O. Box 281213, Lakewood, CO 80228-8213, fax (720) 962-7263 or 7269, e-mail BigStoneEIS@wapa.gov, or telephone her at (800) 336-7288.

For general information on DOE's NEPA review process, please contact: Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance, GC-20, U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-4600 or (800) 472-2756.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In May 2006, Western Area Power Administration (Western) issued the Big Stone II Power Plant and Transmission Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS). The Draft EIS described the details of the Proposed Action to construct a nominal 600-megawatt (MW), coal-fired, baseload

electric generating facility and associated transmission line and substation upgrades, known as the Big Stone II Project (proposed Project). The primary source of water for the existing plant and the proposed Big Stone II plant would be withdrawals from Big Stone Lake. The proposed Project described in the Draft EIS included construction of a 450-acre surface water pond as the source of back-up water. The 450-acre surface water pond would have been filled with water from Big Stone Lake during normal operating conditions and used in the event of a drought or operational constraints, when sufficient quantities of water could not be pumped from Big Stone Lake. The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) are participating as cooperating agencies in the EIS process.

The purpose of the Supplemental Draft EIS is to present and analyze the environmental impacts of using groundwater instead of surface water for the proposed Big Stone II power plant's back-up water supply along with different cooling alternatives. Changes to the proposed Project are based on comments received on the Draft EIS concerning wetland impacts from construction of the 450-acre water storage pond and additional construction costs associated with the pond.

The Council on Environmental Quality NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1502.9) and DOE NEPA regulations (10 CFR 1021.314) require that a supplement to a draft environmental impact statement be prepared if there are substantial changes to the Proposed Action or significant new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns, and contribute to the impacts of the Proposed Action. Western determined that the use of groundwater as the back-up water supply would significantly change the environmental impacts of the proposed Project as presented in the Draft EIS and required the preparation of a Supplemental Draft EIS.

The Supplemental Draft EIS considers two cooling technology alternatives with groundwater as the back-up water supply. Groundwater would be produced from the Veblen Aquifer. Both alternatives would use surface water from Big Stone Lake as the primary water source. Alternative 2 (wet cooling with groundwater back-up water supply), the Revised Proposed Action, retains the original wet cooling system technology identified in the Draft EIS but uses groundwater supply as its back-up water supply. Alternative 3 (wet/dry