

The public scoping meeting to be held on October 9, 2003 at the Long Beach Convention & Entertainment Center is designed to provide another opportunity to offer comments on the proposed project. Interested groups and individuals are encouraged to attend the meeting and to present comments on the environmental issues they believe should be addressed in the EIS/EIR/ASR. A transcript of the meeting will be made so that your comments will be accurately recorded.

Please note that the FERC is continuing to experience delays in mail deliveries from the U.S. Postal Service. Therefore, the Commission encourages electronic filing of comments. See 18 Code of Federal Regulations 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Internet Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the "eFiling" link and the link to the User's Guide. Prepare your submission in the same manner as you would if filing on paper and save it to a file on your hard drive. Before you can file comments you will need to create an account by clicking on "Login to File" and then "New User Account." You will be asked to select the type of filing you are making. This filing is considered a "Comment on Filing."

Availability of Additional Information

Additional information about the project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs at 1-866-208 FERC (3372) or on the FERC Internet Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>). Using the "eLibrary" link, select "General Search" from the eLibrary menu, enter the selected date range and "Docket Number" (i.e., PF03-6-000), and follow the instructions. Searches may also be done using the phrase "Long Beach LNG" in the "Text Search" field. For assistance with access to eLibrary, the helpline can be reached at 1-866-208-3676, TTY (202) 502-8659, or at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov. The eLibrary link on the FERC Internet Web site also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rule makings.

In addition, the FERC now offers a free service called eSubscription that allows you to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets. This can reduce the amount of time you spend researching proceedings by automatically providing you with notification of these filings, document summaries, and direct links to the documents. To register for this service, go to <http://www.ferc.gov/esubscribenow.htm>.

Information about the project is also available from the POLB. You may call the POLB Environmental Planning Section at 562-590-4160 or e-mail questions and comments to the POLB at Crouch@POLB.com.

Finally, SES has established an Internet Web site for this project at <http://www.soundenergysolutions.com>. The Web site includes a description of the project, maps and photographs of the proposed site, SES' answers to frequently asked questions about LNG, and links to related documents.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-24639 Filed 9-29-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. P-178-017]

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment, Availability of Scoping Document, and Soliciting Scoping Comments

September 23, 2003.

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

- a. *Type of Application:* New Major License.
- b. *Project No.:* 178-017.
- c. *Date filed:* April 14, 2003.
- d. *Applicant:* Pacific Gas and Electric Company.
- e. *Name of Project:* Kern Canyon Hydroelectric Project.
- f. *Location:* On the Kern River, near the Town of Bakersfield, Kern County, California. The project occupies approximately 11.26 acres of public land located within the Sequoia National Forest.
- g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act, 16 U.S.C. 791(a)-825(r).
- h. *Applicant Contact:* Mr. Randal S. Livingston, Pacific Gas and Electric Company Power Generation, Mail Code N11E, P.O. Box 770000, San Francisco, CA 94177 (415) 973-7000.
- i. *FERC Contact:* Allison Arnold at (202) 502-6346 or allison.arnold@ferc.gov.
- j. *Deadline for filing scoping comments:* 30 days from the date of this notice.

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

The Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure require all interveners filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person on the official service list for the project. Further, if an intervener 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.

Scoping comments may be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>) under the "e-Filing" link.

k. This application is not ready for environmental analysis at this time.

l. The Kern Canyon Project consists of: (1) An existing 150-foot-long and 23-foot-high dam; (2) an existing 3-acre reservoir having a usable capacity of 27-acre-feet; (3) a 1.58-mile-long horseshoe shaped tunnel; (4) a 520-foot-long steel penstock varying in diameter from 96 inches to 90 inches; (5) a powerhouse containing one generating unit with an installed capacity of 9,540 kilowatts; (6) existing transmission facilities; and (7) appurtenant facilities. The project is estimated to generate an average of 67.6 gigawatt hours annually. The dam and existing project facilities are owned by the applicant.

m. A copy of the application is 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, contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll-free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, (202) 502-8659. A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in item h above.

You may also register online at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp> to be notified via e-mail of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

n. Scoping Process

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and procedures of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC), the Commission staff intends to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) that evaluates the environmental

impacts of issuing a new license for the Kern Canyon Hydroelectric Project.

The EA will consider both site-specific and cumulative environmental effects, if any, of the proposed action and reasonable alternatives, and will include an economic, financial, and engineering analysis. Preparation of staff's EA will be supported by a scoping process to ensure identification and analysis of all pertinent issues.

We prepared Scoping Document 1 (SD1) to provide you with information on:

- the Kern Canyon Hydroelectric Project;
- the environmental analysis process we will follow to prepare the EA; and
- our preliminary identification of issues that we will address in the EA.

We invite the participation of governmental agencies, non-governmental organizations, and the general public in the scoping process, and have prepared SD1 to provide information on the proposed project and to solicit written comments and suggestions on our preliminary list of issues and alternatives to be addressed in the EA. The SD1 has been distributed to parties on the Service List for this proceeding and is available from our Public Reference Room at (202) 502-8371. It can also be accessed online at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the "eLibrary" link.

A site visit was conducted on August 8, 2003 for Commission staff and interested members of the public to visit the project site. The notice for the site visit was published in the **Federal Register** on July 17, 2003. Comments received from participants during the site visit were incorporated into SD1.

Other than those received during the site visit conducted on August 8, 2003, no comments have been filed to date related to the licensing. Therefore, we do not anticipate at this time that there is a need to hold a public meeting near the project site.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-24641 Filed 9-26-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. PL03-6-000]

Natural Gas Markets Conference; Notice of Public Conference

September 23, 2003.

1. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) will hold a

conference on October 14, 2003, to engage industry members and the public in a dialogue about policy issues facing the natural gas industry today and the Commission's regulation of the industry for the future. Last year the Commission held a wide ranging discussion concerning its regulatory goals for the natural gas industry (Docket No. PL02-9-000). This year's conference on the "state of the gas market" will focus on the findings and recommendations contained in the National Petroleum Council's soon to be released report: *Balancing Natural Gas Policy—Fueling the Demands of a Growing Economy*.¹

2. Last March, the Secretary of Energy asked the National Petroleum Council to conduct a study of natural gas in the United States in the 21st Century. Specifically, he stated:

Such a study should examine the potential implications of new supplies, new technologies, new perceptions of risk, and other evolving market conditions that may affect the potential for natural gas demand, supplies, and delivery through 2025. It should also provide insights on energy market dynamics, including price volatility and future fuel choice, and an outlook on the longer term sustainability of natural gas supplies. Of particular interest is the Council's advice on actions that can be taken by industry and government to increase the productivity and efficiency of North American natural gas markets and to ensure adequate and reliable supplies of energy for consumers.

3. At the conference, representatives of the National Petroleum Council will present their report and interested individuals will have an opportunity to respond and ask questions. The summary of findings and recommendations will be available from the National Petroleum Council on September 25, 2003 on the National Petroleum Council Web site at <http://www.npc.org>. The entire integrated report will be available at the conference.

4. In addition, the Commission also seeks to encourage industry representatives and interested individuals to raise other issues for the Commission to consider in shaping its future regulatory policies concerning the natural gas industry. Following the National Petroleum Council presentation and discussion, the Commission will have an open forum that will give all interested individuals an opportunity to raise issues.

¹ The National Petroleum Council is an oil and natural gas advisory committee to the Secretary of Energy.

5. The conference will be held on October 14, 2003 at FERC, 888 First Street, NE. in Washington, DC, beginning at 10 a.m. in the Commission Meeting Room. The public is invited to attend.

6. The conference will be transcribed. Those interested in acquiring the transcript should contact Ace Reporters at 202-347-3700 or 800-336-6646. Transcripts will be placed in the public record ten days after the Commission receives the transcripts. Additionally, Capitol Connection offers the opportunity for remote listening and viewing of the conference. It is available for a fee, live or over the Internet, via C-Band Satellite. Persons interested in receiving the broadcast, or who need information on making arrangements should contact David Reininger or Julia Morelli at Capitol Connection (703-993-3100) as soon as possible or visit the Capitol Connection Web site at <http://www.capitolconnection.gmu.edu> and click on "FERC."

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OAR-2003-0120; FRL-7565-8]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to OMB for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Reporting and Recordkeeping Requirements for National Volatile Organic Compound Emission Standards for Automobile Refinish Coatings, EPA ICR Number 1765.03, OMB Control Number 2060-0353

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this document announces that an Information Collection Request (ICR) has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval. This is a request to renew an existing approved collection. This ICR is scheduled to expire on September 30, 2003. Under OMB regulations, the Agency may continue to conduct or sponsor the collection of information while this submission is pending at OMB. This ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its estimated burden and cost.