FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION



WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 18, 2004

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:

Celeste Miller (202) 502-8680

CHAIRMAN ANNOUNCES DIRECTOR OF NEW RELIABILITY DIVISION

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Chairman Pat Wood, III today announced the appointment of Joseph H. McClelland to be Director of the Commission's new Division of Reliability in the Office of Markets, Tariffs and Rates. Mr. McClelland will be responsible for developing policies, programs and strategies to promote and facilitate the reliable and secure operation of the nation's bulk electric power market.

"Joe's extensive knowledge of power supply issues will be invaluable to the Commission's reliability effort. His leadership will be important to our ultimate goal of bringing reliable electric service to customers. The Commission is thankful to the Custer Public Power District and recognizes their public-spirited contribution in releasing Joe to be part of our team," Chairman Wood said.

Mr. McClelland currently serves as General Manager of the Custer Public Power District, a member of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, headquartered in Broken Bow, Nebraska. He began this position after twenty years of utility experience with Allegheny Energy, headquartered in Hagerstown, Maryland. At Allegheny, he was responsible for ensuring reliable and secure electric service for the utility's five-state service area, which included 1.7 million customers. In addition, he oversaw wholesale and bulk power supply contracts and directed economic development efforts.

Mr. McClelland holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from The Pennsylvania State University.

Congress earmarked \$5 million in the Commission's current fiscal-year budget for reliability. The new division's staff will include 30 employees, primarily consisting of electrical engineers.

R-04-22