

Minutes

Minutes and a transcript of the meeting will be available for public review and copying approximately 30 days following the meeting at the Freedom of Information Public Reading Room, 1E-190 Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC, between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday except Federal holidays.

Issued at Washington, DC, on March 14, 1996.

Rachel M. Samuel,
*Acting Deputy Advisory Committee
Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 96-6564 Filed 3-18-96; 8:45 am]

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Bonneville Power Administration

Amendatory Agreement to the 1981 Power Sales Contracts

AGENCY: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notice of availability of supplemental Record of Decision (ROD).

SUMMARY: On February 16, 1996, I signed a Record of Decision addressing my decision to provide certain of BPA's Federal and public agency metered requirements purchasers with an opportunity to amend their 1981 Power Sales Contracts (1981 PSC). This opportunity took the form of an Amendatory Agreement to the 1981 PSC. The Amendatory Agreement was first offered to customers on February 21, 1996. It has now become apparent that certain aspects of the Amendatory Agreement have caused concern for some of BPA's customers and that, by revising the Amendatory Agreement to address these concerns, it will be possible for many more customers to accept the agreement than would be the case if the agreement remained unchanged. Therefore, I have decided to incorporate changes in the Amendatory Agreement being offered to customers and to offer to include these changes in any Amendatory Agreements already accepted by customers. This notice announces the availability of the Supplemental ROD to address changes made to the original Amendatory Agreement. This decision is consistent with BPA's Business Plan, the Business Plan Final Environmental Impact Statement (BP EIS) (DOE/EIS-0183, June 1995), and the Business Plan ROD (August 15, 1995).

ADDRESSES: Copies of this Supplemental ROD, the original ROD on the Amendatory Agreement, the BP EIS, and

the Business Plan ROD may be obtained by calling BPA's toll-free document request line: 1-800-622-4520.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John M. Taves, Project Manager—MPC, Bonneville Power Administration, P.O. Box 3621, Portland, Oregon, 97208-3621, phone number (503) 230-4995, fax number (503) 230-5699.

Issued in Portland, Oregon, on March 4, 1996.

Randall W. Hardy,
Administrator and Chief Executive Officer.
[FR Doc. 96-6566 Filed 3-18-96; 8:45 am]

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Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Vancouver Lowlands Columbia River Wildlife Mitigation Project

AGENCY: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) and notice of scoping meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces BPA's intention to prepare an EIS on funding that portion of the Washington Wildlife Mitigation Agreement pertaining to the Vancouver Lowlands Columbia River Mitigation Project. The proposed action would be to fund the acquisition and improvement of privately and publicly owned lands, transfer title of purchased lands to Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and implement a management strategy to contribute toward the goal of mitigation for wildlife and wildlife habitat under the Pacific Northwest Power Planning and Conservation Act of 1980.

A Notice of Floodplain/Wetland Involvement for this project was published in the Federal Register on August 22, 1994. In accordance with DOE regulations for compliance with floodplain and wetlands environmental review requirements (10 C.F.R. Part 1022), BPA will prepare a floodplain and wetlands assessment and will perform this proposed action in a manner so as to avoid or minimize potential harm to or within the affected floodplain and wetlands. The assessment and a floodplain statement of findings will be included in the EIS being prepared for the proposed project in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

DATES: BPA has established a 30-day scoping period during which affected landowners, concerned citizens, special interest groups, local governments, and any other interested parties are invited

to comment on the scope of the proposed EIS. Scoping will help BPA ensure that a full range of issues related to this proposal is addressed in the EIS, and also will identify significant or potentially significant impacts that may result from the proposed project. Written comments are due to the address below no later than April 22, 1996.

Comments may also be made at an EIS scoping meeting scheduled to be held on April 9, 1996, 4:00-8:00 p.m. at the Fruit Valley Community Center, 3203 Unander Avenue, Vancouver, Washington. Call the number below to be put on the mailing list. At the informal meeting, Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife will present their Management Plan with proposed activities for the project area. Written information will also be available, and BPA staff will answer questions and accept oral and written comments.

When completed, the Draft EIS will be circulated for review and comment, and BPA will hold a public comment meeting for the Draft EIS. BPA will consider and respond to comments received on the Draft EIS in the Final EIS.

ADDRESSES: BPA invites comments and suggestions on the proposed scope of the Draft EIS. Send comment letters and requests to be placed on the project mailing list to the Public Involvement and Information Manager, Bonneville Power Administration—CKP, P.O. Box 12999, Portland, Oregon, 97212. The phone number of the Public Involvement and Information Office is 503-230-3478 in Portland; toll-free 1-800-622-4519 outside of Portland. Public Involvement Internet: COMMENT@bpa.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patricia Smith—ECN, Bonneville Power Administration, P.O. Box 3621, Portland, Oregon, 97208-3621, phone number 503-230-7349, fax number 503-230-5699, internet address PRSMITH@bpa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Proposed Action: BPA proposes to fund implementation of a wildlife management strategy that would protect, improve, and restore wildlife habitat in the Vancouver Lowlands. Existing wetlands would be maintained or restored where possible to improve wildlife habitat. Improvement activities could include control or removal of non-native fish and plant species, and agricultural cultivation, planting, and irrigation. Specific mitigation actions are expected to include fee-title land acquisition and management, property

lease and management, conservation easement acquisition and management, habitat restoration and improvements, installation of water control devices, riparian fencing, and similar wildlife conservation actions.

Location: The Vancouver Lowlands Wildlife Mitigation Project is located along the western border of Clark County, extending north and west of the City of Vancouver, Washington. It consists of approximately 2123 hectares (5245 acres) of riparian, wetland, and pasture habitat along the Columbia River floodplain. The Columbia River borders the southern and western boundaries of the project area. Major riparian and wetland features of the area include the Columbia River; Vancouver Lake; Lake River; Buckmire and Matthew Sloughs; Shillapoo Lakebed; and Post Office, Round, Green, Curtis, and Campbell Lakes. Several smaller wetlands occur throughout the project area. Land ownership within the project area includes Washington Department of Wildlife, Clark County, Port of Vancouver, Washington Department of Natural Resources, and several private landowners.

Process to Date: A Draft Environmental Assessment was published in March 1995. Since that time, it has been determined that the project area lies within a Cultural Resource District containing a large number of identified cultural resource sites. Therefore, this notice announces BPA's intention to prepare an EIS to evaluate and disclose the environmental effects of funding the proposed wildlife management strategy.

Alternatives Proposed for Consideration: Alternatives to be considered in the Vancouver Lowlands Wildlife Mitigation EIS would include alternative management strategies for improving existing State-owned properties and/or acquisition lands, including wildlife habitat management/improvement, access and/or recreation management, operation and maintenance, and cultural resource management. The EIS would also consider a No Action alternative, i.e., BPA would not fund the acquisition of land or the improvement of wildlife habitat within the Vancouver Lowlands area.

Identification of Environmental Issues: The environmental issues associated with the proposed wildlife mitigation activities include changes in land use, vegetation patterns, wildlife populations, and water use and quality. Additional environmental issues concern protection of historic and cultural resources, recreational

opportunities, and introduction of herbicides into the environment.

Maps and further information are available from BPA at the address above.

Issued in Portland, Oregon, on March 7, 1996.

Randall W. Hardy,

Administrator and Chief Executive Officer.

[FR Doc. 96-6575 Filed 3-18-96; 8:45 am]

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Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

[Case No. F-085]

Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products: Granting of the Application for Interim Waiver and Publishing of the Petition for Waiver of Inter-City Products Corporation From the DOE Furnace Test Procedure

AGENCY: Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Today's notice grants an Interim Waiver to Inter-City Products Corporation (Inter-City) from the existing Department of Energy (DOE or Department) test procedure regarding blower time delay for the company's NUGM, NUG9, NCGM, GUK, GUM and GCK series furnaces.

Today's notice also publishes a "Petition for Waiver" from Inter-City. Inter-City's Petition for Waiver requests DOE to grant relief from the DOE furnace test procedure relating to the blower time delay specification. Inter-City seeks to test using a blower delay time of 30 seconds for its NUGM, NUG9, NCGM, GUK, GUM and GCK series furnaces instead of the specified 1.5-minute delay between burner on-time and blower on-time. The Department is soliciting comments, data, and information respecting the Petition for Waiver.

DATE: DOE will accept comments, data, and information not later than April 18, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and statements shall be sent to: Department of Energy, Office of Codes and Standards, Case No. F-085, Mail Stop EE-43, Room 1J-018, Forestall Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-7140.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Cyrus H. Nasser, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Mail Station EE-431, Forestall Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW.,

Washington, DC 20585-0121, (202) 586-9138.

Eugene Margolis, Esq., U.S. Department of Energy, Office of General Counsel, Mail Station GC-72, Forestall Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585-0103, (202) 586-9507.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products (other than automobiles) was established pursuant to the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, as amended (EPCA), which requires DOE to prescribe standardized test procedures to measure the energy consumption of certain consumer products, including furnaces. The intent of the test procedures is to provide a comparable measure of energy consumption that will assist consumers in making purchasing decisions. These test procedures appear at Title 10 CFR Part 430, Subpart B.

The Department amended the test procedure rules to provide for a waiver process by adding Section 430.27 to Title 10 CFR Part 430. 45 FR 64108, September 26, 1980. Subsequently, DOE amended the waiver process to allow the Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (Assistant Secretary) to grant an Interim Waiver from test procedure requirements to manufacturers that have petitioned DOE for a waiver of such prescribed test procedures. Title 10 CFR Part 430, Section 430.27(a)(2).

The waiver process allows the Assistant Secretary to waive temporarily test procedures for a particular basic model when a petitioner shows that the basic model contains one or more design characteristics which prevent testing according to the prescribed test procedures, or when the prescribed test procedures may evaluate the basic model in a manner so unrepresentative of its true energy consumption as to provide materially inaccurate comparative data. Waivers generally remain in effect until final test procedure amendments become effective, resolving the problem that is the subject of the waiver.

An Interim Waiver will be granted if it is determined that the applicant will experience economic hardship if the Application for Interim Waiver is denied, if it appears likely that the Petition for Waiver will be granted, and/or the Assistant Secretary determines that it would be desirable for public policy reasons to grant immediate relief pending a determination on the Petition for Waiver. Title 10 CFR Part 430, Section 430.27 (g). An Interim Waiver remains in effect for a period of 180