

arrangements for the use of existing rights-of-way or incidental easements complementing the use of existing rights-of-way for use by vehicles; for such existing rights-of-way as electrical, telephone, and other transmission and communication lines; water, wastewater, stormwater, and irrigation pipelines, pumping stations, and irrigation facilities; and for similar utility and transportation uses.

(18) Defense preparedness training and exercises conducted on other than U.S. Coast Guard property, where the lead agency or department is not U.S. Coast Guard or Department of Transportation and the lead agency or department has completed its NEPA analysis and documentation requirements.

(19) Defense preparedness training and exercise conducted on U.S. Coast Guard property that do not involve undeveloped property or increase noise levels over adjacent property and that involve a limited number of personnel, such as exercises involving primarily electric simulation or command post personnel.

(20) Simulated exercises, including tactical and logistical exercises that involve small numbers of personnel.

(21) Training of an administrative or classroom nature.

(22) Operations to carry out maritime safety, maritime law enforcement, search and rescue, domestic ice breaking, and oil or hazardous substance removal programs.

(23) Actions performed as a part of U.S. Coast Guard operations and the Aids to Navigation Program to carry out statutory authority in the area of establishment of floating and minor fixed aids to navigation, except electronic sound signals.

(24) Routine movement of personnel and equipment, and the routine movement, handling, and distribution of nonhazardous materials and wastes in accordance with applicable regulations.

(25) U.S. Coast Guard participation in disaster relief efforts under the guidance or leadership of another Federal agency that has taken responsibility for NEPA compliance.

(26) Data gathering, information gathering, and studies that involve no physical change to the environment. Examples include topographic surveys, bird counts, wetland mapping, and other inventories.

(27) Natural and cultural resource management and research activities that are in accordance with interagency agreements and which are designed to improve or upgrade the U.S. Coast Guard's ability to manage those resources.

(28) Contracts for activities conducted at established laboratories and facilities, to include contractor-operated laboratories and facilities, on U.S. Coast Guard-owned property where all airborne emissions, waterborne effluents, external radiation levels, outdoor noise, and solid and bulk waste disposal practices are in compliance with existing applicable Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.

(29) Approval of recreational activities (such as a U.S. Coast Guard unit picnic) which do not involve significant physical alteration of the environment, increase disturbance by humans of sensitive natural

habitats, or disturbance of historic properties, and which do not occur in, or adjacent to, areas inhabited by threatened or endangered species.

(30) Review of documents, such as studies, reports, and analyses, prepared for legislative proposals that did not originate in DOT and that relate to matters that are not the primary responsibility of the U.S. Coast Guard.

(31) Planning and technical studies which do not contain recommendations for authorization or funding for future construction, but may recommend further study. This includes engineering efforts or environmental studies undertaken to define the elements of a proposal or alternatives sufficiently so that the environmental effects may be assessed and does not exclude consideration of environmental matters in the studies.

(32) Bridge Administration Program actions which can be described as one of the following:

(a) Modification or replacement of an existing bridge on essentially the same alignment or location. Excluded are bridges with historic significance or bridges providing access to undeveloped barrier islands and beaches. (Approach fills regulated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act will require a separate individual or general permit.)

(b) Construction of pipeline bridges for transporting potable water.

(c) Construction of pedestrian, bicycle, or equestrian bridges and stream gauging cableways used to transport people.

(d) Temporary replacement of a bridge immediately after a natural disaster or a catastrophic failure for reasons of public safety, health, or welfare.

(e) Promulgation of operating regulations or procedures for drawbridges.

(f) Identification of advance approval waterways under 33 CFR 115.70.

(g) Any Bridge Program action which is classified as a CE by another Department of Transportation agency acting as lead agency for such action.

(33) Preparation of guidance documents that implement, without substantive change, the applicable Commandant Instruction or other Federal agency regulations, procedures, manuals, and other guidance documents.

(34) Promulgation of the following regulations:

(a) Regulations which are editorial or procedural, such as those updating addresses or establishing application procedures.

(b) Regulations concerning internal agency functions or organization or personnel administration, such as funding, establishing Captain of the Port boundaries, or delegating authority.

(c) Regulations concerning the training, qualifying, licensing, and disciplining of maritime personnel.

(d) Regulations concerning manning, documentation, admeasurement, inspection, and equipping of vessels.

(e) Regulations concerning equipment approval and carriage requirements.

(f) Regulations establishing, disestablishing, or changing the size of Special Anchorage Areas or anchorage grounds.

(g) Regulations establishing, disestablishing, or changing Regulated Navigation Areas and security or safety zones.

(h) Special local regulations issued in conjunction with a regatta or marine parade; provided that, if a permit is required, the environmental analysis conducted for the permit included an analysis of the impact of the regulations.

(i) Regulations in aid of navigation, such as those concerning rules of the road, International Regulations for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea (COLREGS), bridge-to-bridge communication, vessel traffic services, and marking of navigation systems.

(35) Approvals of regatta and marine parade event permits for the following events:

(a) Events that are not located in, proximate to, or above an area designated as environmentally sensitive by an environmental agency of the Federal, State, or local government. For example, environmentally sensitive areas may include such areas as critical habitats or migration routes for endangered or threatened species or important fish or shellfish nursery areas.

(b) Events that are located in, proximate to, or above an area designated as environmentally sensitive by an environmental agency of the Federal, State, or local government and for which the U.S. Coast Guard determines, based on consultation with the Government agency, that the event will not significantly affect the environmentally sensitive area.

[FR Doc. 96-31143 Filed 12-6-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-92-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Final Public Meeting on Electricity Restructuring

AGENCY: Office of Policy, U.S. Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: On November 8, 1996, the U.S. Department of Energy announced two additional public meetings to solicit input from affected constituencies before formulating the Department's recommendation respecting electric industry restructuring (61 FR 57858). This announcement details the location of the southeast regional public meeting in Atlanta, GA. The last of four public meetings, the Atlanta meeting will provide an opportunity to revisit issues already covered as well as new ones such as research and development, the federal role in power marketing, and tax issues. Participants will be allowed to address other topics pertaining to electric industry restructuring.

DATE: December 12, 1996.

ADDRESS: Atlanta Hilton and Towers, 255 Courtland Street, NE, Atlanta, Georgia, 404.659.2000.

INFORMATION HOTLINE: (423) 576-3610.

Issued in Washington, D.C., December 3, 1996.

Marc Chupka,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Policy and International Affairs.

[FR Doc. 96-31213 Filed 12-6-96; 8:45 am]

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Bonneville Power Administration

Delivery of the Canadian Entitlement

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

ACTION: Notice of Availability of Record of Decision (ROD).

SUMMARY: The United States Entity (the Administrator of the Bonneville Power Administration [BPA] and the Division Engineer, North Pacific Division of the US Army Corps of Engineers [Corps]) has decided to fulfill its obligation under the Columbia River Treaty (Treaty) between the United States of America (United States) and Canada by delivering Canada's Entitlement under the Treaty to points on the border between Canada and the United States near Blaine, Washington and Nelway, British Columbia (BC). Delivering the full Entitlement at existing interconnections at those locations will require no new transmission facilities in the United States or in Canada. However, construction of cross-Cascades transmission in the United States would be accelerated, to as early as 2005. Delivery of the Canadian Entitlement will begin April 1, 1998.

The Treaty, signed in 1961, led to the construction of three storage dams on the Columbia River system in Canada and one in the United States. Under the Treaty, Canada and the United States equally share the benefits of the additional power that can be generated at dams downstream in the United States because of the storage at the upstream Treaty reservoirs. Canada's half of the downstream power benefits, the Canadian Entitlement (Entitlement), is calculated to be approximately 1,200 to 1,500 megawatts (MW) of capacity and 550 to 600 average megawatts (aMW) of energy. Canada sold its share of the power benefits for 30-year periods to a consortium of United States utilities. The 30-year sale will begin to expire in 1998, when the first installment of the Entitlement must be delivered to Canada. The Treaty specifies that the Entitlement must be delivered to Canada at a point on the border near Oliver, BC, unless the parties agree to other arrangements. An

interim agreement, signed in 1992, allowed the Entitlement to be delivered over existing facilities between 1998 and 2003.

In the Delivery of the Canadian Entitlement Final Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0197, issued in January 1996), the United States Entity evaluated the potential environmental impacts of a range of alternatives for delivering the Entitlement to Canada, including various combinations of delivery points, power purchases, and resource development. Over a period of several years, the United States and Canadian Entities made a concerted effort to find a mutually agreeable alternative to delivery at Oliver on commercially reasonable terms. To comply with the Treaty, the United States Entity needed to be able to deliver the full Entitlement to Canada by March 31, 2003, when the interim agreement expired. In a Record of Decision (ROD) issued March 12, 1996, the United States Entity documented its decision to deliver the full Entitlement to Oliver. That decision reflected the inability of the United States and Canadian Entities to agree to an alternative arrangement to the Treaty-specified delivery point.

Delivery at Oliver would have required the construction and operation of a new single circuit, 500-kilovolt line from Grand Coulee or Chief Joseph Substation to the border. The United States Entity issued a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare the Oliver Delivery Project EIS on March 25, 1996, and began scoping activities to support that EIS.

Subsequent discussions have led to a mutually agreed upon alternative for Entitlement delivery. The United States and Canadian Entities are prepared to execute an Entity Agreement that would replace delivery of the Entitlement to Oliver with delivery of the Entitlement at existing transmission interconnections between the United States and Canada in the vicinity of Blaine, Washington and Nelway, BC.

The proposed Entity Agreement will supersede and terminate the interim agreement. The proposed Agreement does not address delivery of the Entitlement in the United States. If the United States and Canadian Entities propose delivery in the United States, the United States Entity will review the Delivery of the Canadian Entitlement EIS to ensure that the impacts are adequately analyzed. A decision to dispose of the Entitlement in the United States would be the subject of an additional United States Entity ROD.

This new ROD replaces the March 12, 1996 ROD and withdraws the NOI for the Oliver Delivery Project EIS.

ADDRESS: Copies of the ROD and Environmental Impact Statement may be obtained by calling BPA's toll-free document request line: 1-800-622-4520.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Katherine Semple Pierce—EC, Bonneville Power Administration, P.O. Box 3621, Portland, Oregon, 97208-3621, phone number (503) 230-3962, fax number (503) 230-5699.

Issued by the United States Entity in Portland, Oregon, on November 8, 1996.

Randall W. Hardy,

Chair.

Bartholomew B. Bohn, III,

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

[FR Doc. 96-31212 Filed 12-6-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP97-99-000]

Algonquin LNG, Inc.; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff

December 3, 1996.

Take notice that on November 26, 1996, Algonquin LNG, Inc. (Algonquin LNG) tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, First Revised Volume No. 1, the following Revised tariff sheets, with an effective date of December 31, 1996:

Second Revised Sheet No. 32

Third Revised Sheet No. 36

Second Revised Sheet No. 47

Algonquin LNG states that this filing is being made in order to comply with the regulations promulgated by Order Nos. 581 and 582, Docket Nos. RM95-3-000 and RM95-4-000 issued on September 28, 1995, FERC Stats 7 Regs.

Algonquin states that copies of this filing were mailed to all customers of Algonquin and interested state commissions.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest this filing should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Sections 385.214 and 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such motions or protests must be filed in accordance with Section 154.210 of the Commission's Regulations. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to