

the process. Among other things, intervenors have the right to receive copies of case-related Commission documents and filings by other intervenors. Likewise, each intervenor must provide 14 copies of its filings to the Secretary of the Commission and must send a copy of its filings to all other parties on the Commission's service list for this proceeding. If you want to become an intervenor you must file a motion to intervene according to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214) (see appendix 3). Only intervenors have the right to seek rehearing of the Commission's decision.

The date for filing timely motions to intervene in this proceeding has passed. Therefore, parties now seeking to file late interventions must show good cause, as required by Section 385.214(b)(3), why this time limitation should be waived. Environmental issues have been viewed as good cause for late intervention.

You do not need intervenor status to have your environmental comments considered. Additional information about the proposed project is available from Mr. Paul McKee of the Commission's Office of External Affairs at (202) 208-1088.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,
Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-9602 Filed 4-10-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 11157-001]

Rugraw, Inc.; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment and Conduct Public Scoping Meetings and a Site Visit

April 7, 1998.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) is reviewing the hydropower application for a license of the proposed 7-megawatt Lassen Lodge Project, No. 11157-001. The project, proposed by Rugraw, Inc., would be located on the South Fork of Battle Creek, near the town of Mineral, in Tehama County, California.

The Commission staff intends to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the project in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act. In the EA, we will consider reasonable alternatives to Rugraw's proposed project, and analyze both site-specific and cumulative environmental impacts

of the project, as well as economic and engineering impacts.

A draft EA will be issued and circulated to those on the mailing list for this project. All comments filed on the draft EA will be analyzed by the staff and considered in a final EA. The staff's conclusions and recommendations presented in the final EA will then be presented to the Commission to assist in making a licensing decision.

Scoping

We are asking agencies, Indian tribes, non-governmental organizations, and individuals to help us identify the scope of environmental issues that should be analyzed in the EA, and to provide us with information that may be useful in preparing the EA.

To help focus comments on the environmental issues, a scoping document outlining subject areas to be addressed in the EA will be mailed to those on the mailing list for the project. Those not on the mailing list may request a copy of the scoping document from the Project Coordinator, whose telephone number is listed below.

Those with comments or information pertaining to this project should file it with the Commission at the following address by June 12, 1998: David P. Boergers, Acting Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426.

All filings should clearly show the following on the first page: Lassen Lodge Project, FERC No. 11157-001.

Intervenors are reminded of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure which require all intervenors filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person whose name appears on 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.

In addition to asking for written comments, we're holding two scoping meetings to solicit any verbal input and comments you may wish to offer on the scope of the EA. An agency scoping meeting will begin at 9:00 AM on May 12, 1998, at the California Department of Fish & Game, 601 Locust Street, Redding, CA 96001. A public scoping meeting will begin at 7:00 PM on May 12, 1998, at California Department of Forestry, 604 Antelope Blvd., Red Bluff, CA 96080. The public and agencies may attend either meeting. There will also be a visit to the project on May 13, 1998,

to become more familiar with the proposed project. More information about these meetings and site visit is available in the scoping document.

Any questions regarding this notice may be directed to Mr. Surender Yepuri, Project Coordinator, at (202) 219-2847.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-9601 Filed 4-10-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Sunshine Act Meeting

April 8, 1998.

The following Notice of Meeting is Published Pursuant to Section 3(a) of the Government in the Sunshine Act (Pub. L. No. 94-409), 5 U.S.C. 552B:

AGENCY HOLDING MEETING: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

DATE AND TIME: April 15, 1998, 10:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room 2C, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426.

STATUS: Open.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: Agenda.

* Note—Items listed on the agenda may be deleted without further notice.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:

David P. Boergers, acting secretary, telephone (202) 208-0400. For a recording listing items stricken from or added to the meeting, call (202) 208-1627.

This is a list of matters to be considered by the commission. It does not include a listing of all papers relevant to the items on the agenda; however, all public documents may be examined in the reference and information center.

CONSENT AGENDA—HYDRO 696TH MEETING—APRIL 15, 1998, REGULAR MEETING (10:00 A.M.)

CAH-1.

DOCKET# P-2494, 011, PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.

CAH-2.

DOCKET# P-2527, 005, CENTRAL MAINE POWER COMPANY

CAH-3.

DOCKET# P-5984, 018, NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION

CAH-4.

OMITTED

CAH-5.

DOCKET# P-2506, 033, UPPER PENINSULA POWER COMPANY

CONSENT AGENDA—ELECTRIC

CAE-1.

- DOCKET# ER98-1992, 000, ADVANCED ENERGY SYSTEMS, INC.
CAE-2.
DOCKET# ER98-1932, 000, FIRSTENERGY OPERATING COMPANIES
CAE-3.
DOCKET# ER98-1943, 000, SITHE NEW ENGLAND HOLDINGS LLC
CAE-4.
DOCKET# ER98-1988, 000, NEW ENGLAND POWER COMPANY
OTHER#S ER98-2033, 000, NEW ENGLAND POWER COMPANY
CAE-5.
DOCKET# ER98-2023, 000, NEW ENGLAND POWER COMPANY
CAE-6.
DOCKET# ER97-1793, 000, CENTRAL POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY, WEST TEXAS UTILITIES COMPANY, PUBLIC SERVICE CO. OF OKLAHOMA AND SOUTH-WESTERN ELECTRIC POWER CO.
OTHER#S ER98-1980, 000, CENTRAL POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY, WEST TEXAS UTILITIES COMPANY, PUBLIC SERVICE CO. OF OKLAHOMA AND SOUTH-WESTERN ELECTRIC POWER CO.
CAE-7.
DOCKET# ER98-374, 000, FLORIDA POWER CORPORATION
CAE-8.
OMITTED
CAE-9.
DOCKET# TX97-4, 000, NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY—MINNESOTA V WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION
CAE-10. DOCKET# ER95-1240, 000, PACIFICORP
OTHER#S EL96-10, 001, UTAH ASSOCIATED MUNICIPAL POWER SYSTEMS V PACIFICORP
EL96-11, 001, UTAH MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY V PACIFICORP
EL96-12, 001, DESERET GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION COOPERATIVE, INC. V. PACIFICORP
EL96-14, 001, SIERRA PACIFIC POWER COMPANY V. PACIFICORP
EL96-23, 000, SIERRA PACIFIC POWER COMPANY V. PACIFICORP
EL96-34, 001, PACIFICORP
ER96-8, 001, PACIFICORP
ER96-71, 000, PACIFICORP
CAE-11.
DOCKET# ER96-1361, 000, ATLANTIC CITY ELECTRIC COMPANY
CAE-12.
DOCKET# OA96-204, 000, CLEVELAND ELECTRIC ILLUMINATING COMPANY
OTHER#S ER97-529, 000, CLEVELAND ELECTRIC ILLUMINATING COMPANY AND TOLEDO EDISON COMPANY
CAE-13.
DOCKET# ER98-1917, 000, SYSTEM ENERGY RESOURCES, INC.
CAE-14.
DOCKET# ER98-1965, 000, WEST TEXAS WIND ENERGY PARTNERS, LLC
CAE-15.
DOCKET# EC96-19, 001, PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY, SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY AND SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY
OTHER#S EC96-19, 002, PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY, SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY AND SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY
EC96-19, 003, PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY, SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY AND SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY
EC96-19, 004, PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY, SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY AND SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY
EC96-19, 005, PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY, SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY AND SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY
ER96-1663, 001, PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY, SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY AND SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY
ER96-1663, 002, PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY, SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY AND SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY
ER96-1663, 003, PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY, SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY AND SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY
ER96-1663, 004, PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY, SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY AND SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY
ER96-1663, 005, PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY, SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY AND SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY
ER96-1663, 006, PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY, SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY AND SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY
ER97-2355, 000, SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY
CAE-16.
DOCKET# ER97-4478, 001, WESTERN RESOURCES, INC.
CAE-17.
DOCKET# EL96-74, 001, ENRON POWER MARKETING, INC. V. EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY
OTHER#S EL97-8, 000, ENRON POWER MARKETING, INC. V. EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY
EL97-8, 001, ENRON POWER MARKETING, INC. V. EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY
CAE-18.
OMITTED
CAE-19.
DOCKET# ER95-1800, 002, PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW MEXICO
OTHER#S EL95-55, 000, PLAINS ELECTRIC GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION COOPERATIVE, INC. V. PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW MEXICO
EL95-63, 000, INCORPORATED COUNTY OF LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO V. PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW MEXICO
EL95-75, 000, NAVAJO TRIBAL UTILITY AUTHORITY V. PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW MEXICO
ER95-1800, 000, PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW MEXICO
ER96-1462, 000, PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW MEXICO
ER96-1462, 001, PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW MEXICO
ER96-1462, 002, PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW MEXICO
ER96-1551, 000, PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW MEXICO
ER96-1551, 002, PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW MEXICO
ER96-3036, 000, PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW MEXICO
OA96-202, 000, PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW MEXICO
TX96-5, 000, WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION AND PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW MEXICO
TX96-11, 000, PLAINS ELECTRIC GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION COOPERATIVE, INC. AND PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW MEXICO
CAE-20.
DOCKET# ER98-11, 001, LONG ISLAND LIGHTING COMPANY
CAE-21.
DOCKET# ER94-1348, 001, SOUTHERN COMPANY SERVICES, INC.
OTHER#S EL94-85, 001, SOUTHERN COMPANY SERVICES, INC.
CAE-22.
DOCKET# ES97-45, 000, FLORIDA KEYS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, INC.
CAE-23.
OMITTED
CAE-24.
OMITTED
CAE-25.
DOCKET# OA97-408, 003 AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER SERVICE CORPORATION, APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY AND COLUMBUS SOUTHERN POWER COMPANY, ET AL.
OTHER#S OA97-117, 003, ALLEGHENY POWER SERVICE CORPORATION, MONONGAHELA POWER COMPANY, THE POTOMAC EDISON COMPANY AND WEST PENN POWER COMPANY
OA97-125, 003, CENTRAL HUDSON GAS & ELECTRIC CORPORATION
OA97-126, 003, ILLINOIS POWER COMPANY
OA97-158, 003, NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION
OA97-216, 003, WISCONSIN ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY
OA97-278, 003, NEW YORK STATE ELECTRIC & GAS CORPORATION
OA97-279, 003, CONSOLIDATED EDISON COMPANY OF NEW YORK, INC.
OA97-284, 003, NORTHEAST UTILITIES SERVICE COMPANY, CONNECTICUT LIGHT & POWER COMPANY, AND HOLYOKE WATER POWER COMPANY, ET AL.
OA97-313, 003, MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY
OA97-411, 003, PACIFICORP
OA97-430, 003, EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY

OA97-431, 003, BOSTON EDISON COMPANY
 OA97-434, 003, CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY
 OA97-439, 001, VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY
 OA97-442, 002, NORTHEAST UTILITIES SERVICE COMPANY, CONNECTICUT LIGHT & POWER COMPANY AND HOLYOKE WATER POWER COMPANY, ET AL.
 OA97-445, 003, SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY
 OA97-449, 003, PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.
 OA97-459, 003, COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY AND COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY OF INDIANA, INC.
 OA97-630, 002, NORTHEAST UTILITIES SERVICE COMPANY, CONNECTICUT LIGHT & POWER COMPANY AND HOLYOKE WATER POWER COMPANY, ET AL.
 CAE-26.
 DOCKET# EC98-8, 000, WISCONSIN ENERGY CORPORATION, INC. AND ESELCO, INC.
 OTHER#S EC98-9, 000, EDISON SAULT ELECTRIC COMPANY AND ESEG, INC.

CONSENT AGENDA—GAS AND OIL

CAG-1.
 DOCKET# PR98-4, 000, AOG GAS TRANSMISSION COMPANY, L.P.
 OTHER#S PR98-4, 001, AOG GAS TRANSMISSION COMPANY, L.P.
 CAG-2.
 DOCKET# RP98-156, 000, GREAT LAKES GAS TRANSMISSION LIMITED PARTNERSHIP
 CAG-3.
 DOCKET# RP98-160, 000, KOCH GATEWAY PIPELINE COMPANY
 CAG-4.
 DOCKET# PR98-3, 000, SOUTHEASTERN NATURAL GAS COMPANY
 CAG-5.
 DOCKET# RP95-436, 000, TRANSCONTINENTAL GAS PIPE LINE CORPORATION
 CAG-6.
 DOCKET# RP93-5, 028, NORTHWEST PIPELINE CORPORATION
 OTHER#S RP93-96, 008, NORTHWEST PIPELINE CORPORATION
 CAG-7.
 DOCKET# RP98-61, 001, KOCH GATEWAY PIPELINE COMPANY
 CAG-8.
 DOCKET# RP98-106, 000, K N INTERSTATE GAS TRANSMISSION COMPANY
 CAG-9.
 DOCKET# RP98-121, 001, PANHANDLE EASTERN PIPE LINE COMPANY
 CAG-10.
 DOCKET# TM98-2-28, 002, PANHANDLE EASTERN PIPE LINE COMPANY
 CAG-11.
 DOCKET# TM98-2-76, 000, WYOMING INTERSTATE COMPANY, LTD.
 CAG-12.
 DOCKET# SA86-8, 000, TRANSOK, INC.
 CAG-13.
 OMITTED
 CAG-14.

DOCKET# RP98-105, 005, WILLIAMS GAS PIPELINES CENTRAL, INC.
 CAG-15.
 DOCKET# RP97-20, 016, EL PASO NATURAL GAS COMPANY
 OTHER#S RP97-194, 004, EL PASO NATURAL GAS COMPANY
 RP97-397, 003, EL PASO NATURAL GAS COMPANY
 CAG-16.
 DOCKET# RP98-96, 002, GREAT LAKES GAS TRANSMISSION LIMITED PARTNERSHIP
 CAG-17.
 DOCKET# RP98-84, 002, TENNESSEE GAS PIPELINE COMPANY
 CAG-18.
 DOCKET# RP96-199, 013, MISSISSIPPI RIVER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION
 CAG-19.
 DOCKET# RP98-16, 002, TENNESSEE GAS PIPELINE COMPANY
 CAG-20.
 DOCKET# PR94-3, 002, KANSOK PARTNERSHIP
 CAG-21.
 OMITTED
 CAG-22.
 DOCKET# RM96-1, 008, STANDARDS FOR BUSINESS PRACTICES OF INTERSTATE NATURAL GAS PIPELINES
 CAG-23.
 DOCKET# MG98-5, 000, TEXAS GAS TRANSMISSION CORPORATION
 CAG-24.
 DOCKET# MG98-6, 000, NATURAL GAS PIPELINE COMPANY OF AMERICA
 CAG-25.
 DOCKET# CP96-248, 007, PORTLAND NATURAL GAS TRANSMISSION SYSTEM
 OTHER#S CP96-249, 007, PORTLAND NATURAL GAS TRANSMISSION SYSTEM
 CP97-238, 003, MARITIMES AND NORTHEAST PIPELINE, L.L.C. AND PORTLAND NATURAL GAS TRANSMISSION SYSTEM
 CAG-26.
 DOCKET# CP97-724, 000, NORAM GAS TRANSMISSION COMPANY
 CAG-27.
 DOCKET# CP98-132, 000, NORTHERN NATURAL GAS COMPANY
 CAG-28.
 DOCKET# CP97-526, 000, SOUTHERN NATURAL GAS COMPANY
 CAG-29.
 DOCKET# CP97-769, 000, COLORADO INTERSTATE GAS COMPANY
 CAG-30.
 DOCKET# CP87-39, 005, GRANITE STATE GAS TRANSMISSION, INC.
 CAG-31.
 DOCKET# CP97-774, 000, CNG TRANSMISSION CORPORATION AND TEXAS EASTERN TRANSMISSION CORPORATION
 CAG-32.
 DOCKET# CP98-107, 000, CONTINENTAL NATURAL GAS, INC.
 OTHER#S CP98-109, 000, CONTINENTAL NATURAL GAS, INC.
 CAG-33.

DOCKET# CP98-94, 000, NATIONAL FUEL GAS SUPPLY CORPORATION
 CAG-34.
 DOCKET# RP97-437, 001, WILLIAMS GAS PIPELINES CENTRAL, INC. AND MISSOURI GAS ENERGY, A DIVISION OF SOUTHERN UNION COMPANY
 OTHER#S RP95-303, 006, WILLIAMS GAS PIPELINES CENTRAL, INC.
 RP97-532, 001, MISSOURI GAS ENERGY, A DIVISION OF SOUTHERN UNION COMPANY V. WILLIAMS GAS PIPELINES CENTRAL, INC.

HYDRO AGENDA

H-1.
 DOCKET# P-2534, 005, BANGOR HYDRO-ELECTRIC COMPANY
 ORDER ON APPLICATION FOR NEW LICENSE.
 H-2.
 DOCKET# P-2712, 004, BANGOR HYDRO-ELECTRIC COMPANY
 ORDER ON APPLICATION FOR NEW LICENSE.
 H-3.
 DOCKET# P-10981, 000, BANGOR HYDRO-ELECTRIC COMPANY
 OTHER#S DI97-10, 000, BANGOR HYDRO-ELECTRIC COMPANY
 P-2403, 006, BANGOR HYDRO-ELECTRIC COMPANY
 P-2534, 005, BANGOR HYDRO-ELECTRIC COMPANY
 P-2710, 004, BANGOR HYDRO-ELECTRIC COMPANY
 P-2712, 004, BANGOR HYDRO-ELECTRIC COMPANY
 ORDER ON APPLICATION FOR ORIGINAL LICENSE.
 H-4.
 OMITTED
 H-5.
 DOCKET# P-2403, 006, BANGOR HYDRO-ELECTRIC COMPANY
 OTHER#S P-10981, 000, BANGOR HYDRO-ELECTRIC COMPANY
 ORDER ON APPLICATION FOR NEW LICENSE.

ELECTRIC AGENDA

E-1.
 DOCKET# RM98-4, 000, REVISED FILING REQUIREMENTS UNDER PART 33 OF THE COMMISSION'S REGULATIONS NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING.

OIL AND GAS AGENDA

I.
 PIPELINE RATE MATTERS
 PR-1.
 DOCKET# RM96-1, 007, STANDARDS FOR BUSINESS PRACTICES OF INTERSTATE NATURAL GAS PIPELINES
 FINAL RULE.
 II.
 PIPELINE CERTIFICATE MATTERS
 PC-1.
 DOCKET# CP96-53, 000, NE HUB PARTNERS, L.P.
 OTHER#S CP96-53, 004, NE HUB PARTNERS, L.P.
 CP96-53, 005, NE HUB PARTNERS, L.P.

APPLICATION TO CONSTRUCT AND OPERATE FACILITIES TO PROVIDE NATURAL GAS STORAGE SERVICES AT MARKET BASED RATES.

David P. Boergers,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-9776 Filed 4-9-98; 10:24 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Western Area Power Administration

Collections From Central Valley Project Power Contractors to Carry Out the Restoration, Improvement, and Acquisition of Environmental Habitat Provisions of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act of 1992

AGENCY: Western Area Power Administration, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of proposed procedures.

SUMMARY: The Western Area Power Administration (Western) is proposing revised procedures for the assessment and collection of restoration fund payments from the Central Valley Project (CVP) power contractors as required by the CVP Improvement Act of 1992 (Act). Under the existing procedures, which became effective May 9, 1994, Western reviews the existing procedures every 5 years, or if: (1) There is a significant change to, or suspension of, the legislation; (2) a material issue arises; or (3) an apparent inequity in the assessment method is discovered. Western reviewed the existing procedures and found that revised procedures are needed due to an apparent inequity in the existing procedures. The proposed procedures will supersede the existing procedures. This **Federal Register** notice initiates the formal process for the proposed procedures.

DATES: The consultation and comment period will begin on the date of publication of this **Federal Register** notice and will end May 13, 1998. A public information forum at which Western will present a detailed explanation of the proposed procedures is scheduled for April 29, 1998, beginning at 10 a.m. PDT, and will be followed by a public comment forum at which Western will accept oral and written comments, beginning at 1 p.m. PDT. The forums will be held at the Sierra Nevada Regional Office, Western Area Power Administration, 114 Parkshore Drive, Folsom, CA. Western should receive written comments by the end of the consultation and comment period to be assured consideration.

ADDRESSES: Written comments are to be sent to: Mr. Jerry W. Toenyas, Regional Manager, Sierra Nevada Region, Western Area Power Administration, 114 Parkshore Drive, Folsom, CA 95630-4710.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Debbie Dietz, Rates Manager, Sierra Nevada Region, Western Area Power Administration, 114 Parkshore Drive, Folsom, CA, 95630-4710, (916) 353-4453.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3407 of the Act (Pub. L. 102-575, Stat. 4706, 4726) establishes in the Treasury of the United States the CVP Restoration Fund (Restoration Fund) to carry out the habitat restoration, improvement, and acquisition provisions of the Act. The Act further requires the Secretary of the Interior to assess and collect annual mitigation and restoration payments from CVP water and power contractors (Restoration Payments). The Secretary of the Interior, through the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), is responsible for determining and collecting the CVP water and power contractors' shares of the annual Total Restoration Payment Obligation.

Western is responsible for the marketing and transmission of CVP power. Western has agreed to administer the assessment and collection of the Restoration Payments from CVP power contractors. Western has executed a letter of agreement with Reclamation to establish procedures for depositing the collections from CVP power contractors into the Restoration Fund.

The annual Power Restoration Payment Obligation, determined by Reclamation, will be assessed to CVP power contractors. Every month each CVP power contractor will receive a bill reflecting the amount to be paid into the Restoration Fund. The CVP power contractor will pay that amount to Western, who will transfer all amounts collected from CVP power contractors to Reclamation for deposit into the Restoration Fund.

The Administrator of Western approved the existing procedures for the assessment and collection of the Restoration Payments from CVP power contractors on March 30, 1994. At a minimum, Western reviews the existing procedures every 5 years or if: (1) There is a significant change to, or suspension of, the legislation; (2) a material issue arises; or (3) an apparent inequity in the assessment method is discovered. Western has reviewed the existing procedures and has determined that revised procedures are needed due to an

apparent inequity in the existing procedures.

Under the existing procedures, Western may adjust the capacity and energy multipliers that are applied to each CVP power contractor's actual capacity and energy amounts delivered by or scheduled with Western at midyear (on or about April 1) based on Reclamation's midyear adjustment to the annual Power Restoration Payment Obligation. Western applies the adjusted multipliers to each CVP power contractor's capacity and energy purchases for the remaining months of the subject assessment year. The apparent inequity occurs during this midyear adjustment process when the adjusted multipliers are applied to CVP power contractors with higher capacity and energy purchases from Western during the remaining months. This process could adversely impact these CVP power contractors. If the midyear adjustment is distributed over the capacity and energy purchases during the entire assessment year, then this apparent inequity would not occur.

The proposed procedures will incorporate the existing procedures, with the exception of the following:

1. During each assessment year's midyear adjustment period, any adjustments to the capacity and energy multipliers will be based on Western's total capacity and energy sales to all CVP power contractors during the entire assessment year. Under the existing procedures, any adjusted multipliers resulting from the midyear adjustment process are based on Western's total capacity and energy sales from the prior year.

2. An alternative method for assessing the annual Power Restoration Payment Obligation will be offered by Western. If requested by the CVP power contractor, Western will determine the CVP power contractor's equal monthly Restoration Payment amounts for the assessment year. Under the existing procedures, the monthly Restoration Payments are variable amounts depending upon the CVP power contractor's actual monthly capacity and energy purchases from Western.

3. Revised provisions for late payment charges assessed to delinquent Restoration Payments are described in detail in the Proposed Procedures section.

The existing procedures will be superseded by the proposed procedures. The final procedures are to become effective not less than 30 days after publication of notice of final procedures in the **Federal Register**, or August 1, 1998, whichever occurs later.