

Copies of this filing were served upon the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California and all interested parties.

Comment date: May 26, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

10. MidAmerican Energy Company

[Docket No. ER98-2926-000]

Take notice that on May 7, 1998, MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican), 666 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50309, filed with the Commission a Firm Transmission Service Agreement with Merchant Energy Group of the Americas, Inc. (Merchant) dated April 14, 1998, and Non-Firm Transmission Service Agreements with Merchant dated April 14, 1998, and Dayton Power & Light Company dated April 22, 1998, entered into pursuant to MidAmerican's Open Access Transmission Tariff.

MidAmerican requests an effective date of April 14, 1998, for the Agreements with Merchant, and April 22, 1998, for the Agreement with Dayton, and accordingly seeks a waiver of the Commission's notice requirement. MidAmerican has served a copy of the filing on Merchant and Dayton, the Iowa Utilities Board, the Illinois Commerce Commission and the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission.

Comment date: May 26, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

11. NGE Generation, Inc.

[Docket No. ER98-2929-000]

Take notice that NGE Generation, Inc. (NGE Gen) on May 7, 1998 tendered for filing pursuant to Section 35 of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR Part 35, service agreements (collectively, the "Service Agreements") under which NGE Gen may provide capacity and/or energy to Merchant Energy Group of America (Merchant Energy), Northeast Energy Services, Inc. (Northeast Energy), and e prime, Inc. (e prime) (collectively, the Purchasers) in accordance with NGE Gen's FERC Electric Tariff, Original Volume No. 1.

NGE Gen has requested waiver of the notice requirements so that the service agreements with Merchant Energy, Northeast Energy, and e prime become effective as of May 8, 1998.

NGE Gen has served copies of the filing upon the New York State Public Service Commission, Merchant Energy, Northeast Energy, and e prime.

Comment date: May 26, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

12. Duke Energy Corporation

[Docket No. ER98-2930-000]

Take notice that on May 7, 1998, Duke Energy Corporation (Duke) tendered for filing with the Commission Supplement No. 12 to Supplement No. 24 to the Interchange Agreement between Duke and Carolina Power & Light Company (CP&L) dated June 1, 1961, as amended (Interchange Agreement). Supplement No. 12 continues Duke's monthly transmission capacity rate under the interchange Agreement at \$1.0758 per KW per month. Duke has proposed an effective date of July 1, 1998.

Copies of this filing were mailed to Carolina Power & Light Company, the North Carolina Utilities Commission, and the South Carolina Public Service Commission.

Comment date: May 26, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

13. Consumers Energy Company

[Docket No. ES98-30-000]

Take notice that on April 30, 1998, Consumers Energy Company (Consumers) filed an application under Section 204 of the Federal Power Act, requesting an order for authority to issue up to \$900 million of short term debt securities.

Comment date: June 5, 1998, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

Standard Paragraph

E. Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said 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 Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 18 CFR 385.214). All such motions or protests should be filed on or before the comment date. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of these filings are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection.

David P. Boergers,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-13147 Filed 5-15-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Western Area Power Administration

Replacement Resources Methods Report, Grand Canyon Protection Act of 1992

AGENCY: Western Area Power Administration (Western), DOE.

ACTION: Notice of availability of replacement resources methods report and executive summary.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of Energy, acting through Western, has the responsibility of marketing hydroelectric power generated at Glen Canyon Dam Powerplant. Western has been engaged in the Replacement Resources Process to identify economically and technically feasible methods for replacing power resources that are lost due to long-term operational constraints at Glen Canyon Dam Powerplant. Western announces the availability of the Replacement Resources Methods Report (Report) and the Executive Summary, which satisfies the requirement in section 1809 of the Grand Canyon Protection Act (GCP Act) of 1992, Title XVIII of Pub. L. 102-575.

ADDRESSES: To request a copy of the Report and/or Executive Summary or to provide written comments on the Report, contact: Mr. S. Clayton Palmer, Resource and Environmental Analysis Team, CRSP Customer Service Center, Western Area Power Administration, P.O. Box 11606, Salt Lake City, UT 84147-0606.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Samuel D. Loftin, (801) 524-6381.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Report outlines the economically and technically feasible methods that Western will use to evaluate and select resources to replace capacity made unavailable ("or lost") due to the adoption of long-term operational criteria for Glen Canyon Dam as required by the GCP Act. The Report includes a "proof-of-concept" analysis of five hypothetical resource options with varying degrees of complexity. The methods are consistent with other Western resource acquisition policies, such as Western's Principles of Integrated Resource Planning (IRP). The methods are also consistent with the Salt Lake City Area/Integrated Projects Contract Amendment, the Records of Decision in the Salt Lake City Area/Integrated Projects Power Marketing Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Energy Planning and Management Program EIS, Reclamation's Glen Canyon Dam EIS, pertinent Federal Energy Regulatory Commission orders,

and laws affecting DOE, Western, and the Colorado River Storage Project (CRSP).

In the Report, Western provides methods to replace lost capacity using spot market, seasonal (6 months), and mid- to long-term (1 year or more) resource acquisitions. Western will consult with firm power customers periodically about the amount and term of resource acquisitions to be made on their behalf, which Western would then acquire and deliver to them. Western will evaluate and select resources based on criteria broadly defined in the Report and follow a least-cost strategy. Greater public involvement and more complex evaluation procedures and acquisition methods will be used for long-term acquisitions rather than for seasonal acquisitions.

Western will use a screening tool and a production cost computer model to evaluate future resource offers from potential suppliers. The Report details how these evaluation tools are applied to evaluate five hypothetical resource purchases. These resource alternatives were designed to illustrate the screening and evaluation tools' abilities to survey and select from among many diverse replacement resource options and to consider transmission system constraints and possible solutions. The Report concludes that the screening criteria and evaluation tools developed will enable Western to select economically and technically feasible replacement power resources.

Public Involvement

Section 1809 of the GCP Act requires the Secretary of Energy to consult with representatives of the CRSP power customers, environmental organizations, the Colorado River Basin States, and with the Department of the Interior in this process. Western published a notice initiating the formal, public consultation process on August 8, 1994, at 59 FR 40357. On October 7, 1994, at 59 FR 51191, Western announced four regional public consultation meetings.

A 20-page, Replacement Resources Information Packet was prepared that included Western's process to complete the method identification requirement of the GCP Act. On October 20, 1994, Western mailed this information packet, along with the text of the October **Federal Register** notice, to 900-plus organizations and individuals on Western's Replacement Resources Methods mailing list, including representatives of organizations with which Western was required to consult. In November 1994, Western held four regional public involvement meetings in Salt Lake City, Utah; Denver, Colorado;

Phoenix, Arizona; and Albuquerque, New Mexico. Comments from organizations and the public were accepted through December 19, 1994, the comment deadline.

Western prepared newsletters in February and October 1995 that provided updates on the status of replacement resources activities. These newsletters were distributed to Western's mailing list. On April 30, 1996, at Western's CRSP Customer Service Center's Annual Customer Meeting in Salt Lake City, Western provided an update on replacement resources activities to CRSP power customers and to representatives of the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation. This update included a discussion of public comment received by Western.

On July 2, 1996, Western published a notice of availability of a Draft Methods Report at 61 FR 34433. Notice was made to those entities who responded to Western's mailer and wanted information or copies of the Draft Report. Western held public consultation meetings at Albuquerque, Phoenix, Denver, and Salt Lake City between July 23 and July 29, 1996. At these meetings, Western presented the proposed replacement resource methods, which will be implemented with the Report. A 60-day public comment period closed on September 3, 1996. Western mailed a subsequent newsletter in December 1996, updating changes implemented by Western from the comments received during the public comment period.

Environmental Compliance

Western will comply with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 through an appropriate level of environmental analysis of the impacts of specific replacement resources when such specific resources are identified.

Regulatory Requirements

DOE has determined this is not a significant regulatory action because it does not meet the criteria of Executive Order 12866, 58 FR 51735. Western has an exemption from centralized regulatory review under Executive Order 12866; accordingly, no clearance of this notice by the Office of Management and Budget is required.

Dated: May 4, 1998.

Michael S. HacsKaylo,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 98-13103 Filed 5-15-98; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Western Area Power Administration

Amistad and Falcon Projects—Notice of Order Confirming and Approving an Extension of the Power Rate Formula—WAPA-81

AGENCY: Western Area Power Administration, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of rate order.

SUMMARY: This action is to extend the existing Amistad and Falcon Projects' power rate formula until June 7, 1999. Without this action, the existing power rate formula will expire June 7, 1998; and no rate formula will be in effect for this service.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Dave Sabo, CRSP Manager, CRSP Customer Service Center, Western Area Power Administration, P.O. Box 11606, Salt Lake City, UT 84147-0606, telephone (801) 524-5493.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: By Amendment No. 3 to Delegation Order No. 0204-108, published November 10, 1993 (58 FR 59716), the Secretary of Energy delegated (1) the authority to develop long-term power and transmission rates on a nonexclusive basis to the Administrator of the Western Area Power Administration (Western); (2) the authority to confirm, approve, and place such rates into effect on an interim basis to the Deputy Secretary; and (3) the authority to confirm, approve, and place into effect on a final basis, to remand, or to disapprove such rates to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

Pursuant to Delegation Order No. 0204-108 and existing Department of Energy (DOE) procedures for public participation in power rate adjustments at 10 CFR Part 903, the power rate formula for Western's Amistad and Falcon Projects was submitted to FERC for confirmation and approval on June 10, 1993. On September 29, 1993, in Docket No. EF93-5101-000 at 64 FERC ¶ 62,225, FERC issued an order confirming, approving, and placing into effect on a final basis the power rate formula for the Amistad and Falcon Projects. The rate was approved for the 5-year period beginning June 8, 1993, and ending June 7, 1998.

All of the generation from these projects is marketed by Western under the terms of Contract No. 7-07-50-P0890 dated August 9, 1977, and amended on April 10, 1986. According to the terms of the Contract, the customers, Medina Electric Cooperative, Inc. and South Texas Electric Cooperative, Inc., agreed to purchase the