

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

[Project No. 11549-001 Wisconsin]

Dunkirk Water Power Company, Inc.; Notice of Availability of Final Environmental Assessment

June 28, 1999.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) regulations, 18 CFR Part 380 (Order No. 486, 52 F.R. 47897), the Office of Hydropower Licensing has reviewed the application for exemption from licensing for the Dunkirk Hydroelectric Project, located on the Yahara River in Dane County, Wisconsin, and has prepared a final Environmental Assessment (FEA) for the project.

Copies of the FEA are available in the Public Reference Branch, Room 2-A, of the Commission's offices at 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426 for public inspection. This filing may be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm>. For further information, contact Ed Lee at (202) 219-2809 or Susan O'Brien at (202) 219-2840.

David P. Boergers,

Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

[Docket No. CP97-168-003]

Alliance Pipeline L.P.; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Albert Lea Compressor Station Relocation Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

June 28, 1999.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) is preparing an environmental assessment (EA) that will discuss the environmental impacts involved with Alliance Pipeline L.P.'s (Alliance) construction and operation of the Albert Lea Compressor Station at its new location in Freeborn County, Minnesota.¹ This facility would consist

of 31,200 horsepower (hp) of compression and other appurtenant facilities.

Summary of the Proposed Project

The Albert Lea Compressor Station was originally proposed by Alliance as part of the 874-mile-long Alliance Pipeline Project extending between Sherwood, North Dakota at the Canadian border, to the Chicago, Illinois area. The staff of the Commission prepared and issued the Alliance Pipeline Project Final Environmental Impact Statement in August 1998. The Commission issued a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Alliance by an Order issued on September 17, 1999.

Included in the Order was the approval of the construction and operation of the Albert Lea Compressor Station at pipeline milepost 558.6 in Freeborn County, Minnesota. However, Alliance was unable to reach an agreement with the landowner to purchase the property at the compressor station's original location. Therefore, Alliance decided to relocate the station, rather than use the right of eminent domain granted by the Commission's certificate. The currently proposed location is at pipeline milepost 560.0, approximately 1.4 miles southeast of its original location (see appendix 1).²

Land Requirements for Construction

Alliance has purchased a 17.2-acre parcel of land for the Construction of the proposed compressor station. Following construction, the fenced compressor station, site landscaping, and access road would occupy 10.8 acres. The remainder of the property would be leased for agricultural use in 2001.

The EA Process

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires the Commission to take into account the environmental impacts that could result from an action whenever it considers the issuance of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity. NEPA also requires us to discover and address concerns the public may have about proposals. We call this "scoping". The main goal of the scoping process is to focus the analysis in the EA on the important environmental issues. By this Notice of Intent, the Commission requests public

comments on the scope of the issues it will address in the EA. All comments received are considered during the preparation of the EA. State and local government representatives are encouraged to notify their constituents of this proposed action and encourage them to comment on their areas of concern.

The EA will discuss impacts that could occur as a result of the construction and operation of the proposed project under these general headings:

- Geology and soils.
- Cultural resources.
- Erosion control and revegetation.
- Public safety.
- Air quality and noise.
- Land use and visual impacts.
- Alternative site locations.
- Endangered and threatened species.

We will also make recommendations on how to lessen or avoid impacts on the various resource areas.

Our independent analysis of the issues will be presented in the EA. Depending on the comments received during the scoping process, the EA may be published and mailed to Federal, state, and local agencies, public interest groups, interested individuals, affected landowners, newspapers, libraries, and the Commission's official service list for this proceeding. A comment period will be allotted for review if the EA is published. We will consider all comments on the EA before we make our recommendations to the Commission.

To ensure your comments are considered, please carefully follow the instructions in the public participation section below.

Public Participation

You can make a difference by providing us with your specific comments or concerns about the project. By becoming a commentor, your concerns will be addressed in the EA and considered by the Commission. You should focus your comments on the potential environmental effects of the proposal, alternatives to the proposal (including alternative locations), and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impact. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. Please carefully follow these instructions to ensure that your comments are received in time and properly recorded:

- Send two copies of your letter to: David P. Boergers, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426;
- Label one copy of the comments for the attention of the Environmental

¹ Alliance's amended application was filed with the Commission under Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations. The original application in Docket No. CP97-168-000 was filed by Alliance on December 24, 1996.

² The appendices referenced in this notice are not being printing the **Federal Register**. Copies are available from the Commission's Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, or call (202) 208-1371. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.

Review and Compliance Branch, PR-11.1;

- Reference Docket No. CP97-168-003; and
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before July 26, 1999.

Becoming an Intervenor

In addition to involvement in the EA scoping process, you may want to become an official party to the proceeding known as an "intervenor." Intervenor play a more formal role in 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 2). 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 or on the FERC website (www.ferc.fed.us) using the "RIMS" link to information in this docket number. Click on the "RIMS" link, select "Docket #" from the RIMS Menu, and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to RIMS, the RIMS helpline can be reached at (202) 208-2222.

Similarly, the "CIPS" link on the FERC Internet website provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings. From the FERC Internet website, click on the "CIPS" link, select "Docket #" from the CIPS menu, and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to CIPS, the CIPS helpline can be reached at (202) 208-2474.

David P. Boergers,

Secretary.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[ER-FRL-6244-2]

Environmental Impact Statements and Regulations; Availability of EPA Comments

Availability of EPA comments prepared June 07, 1999 Through June 11, 1999 pursuant to the Environmental Review Process (ERP), under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act and Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act as amended. Requests for copies of EPA comments can be directed to the Office of Federal Activities at (202) 564-7167. An explanation of the ratings assigned to draft environmental impact statements (EISs) was published in FR dated April 09, 1999 (64 FR 17362).

Draft EISs

ERP No. D-AFS-L65322-AK Rating EC2, Luck Lake Timber Sales Project, Implementation, Tongass National Forest, Thorne Bay Ranger District, Prince of Wales Island, AK.

Summary: EPA expressed environmental concerns related to the projects' potential environmental impacts and requested additional information on road construction, drinking water impacts, mitigation measures, and log transfer facility impacts.

ERP No. D-AFS-L65323-OR Rating EC2, Wolfmann Projects, Implementation, Blue River Landscape Strategy, Central Cascades Adaptive Management Area, Blue River Ranger District, Willamette National Forest, Lane County, OR.

Summary: EPA expressed environmental concerns about the limited information provided in the Monitoring plan, and a need for a cumulative effects analysis.

ERP No. D-AFS-L82017-ID Rating EC2, St. Joe Ranger District Noxious Weed Control Project, Implementation, Proposal from Control Noxious Weeds on 131 Sites, Idaho Panhandle National Forests, St. Joe Ranger District, Benewah, Latah and Shoshone Counties, Idaho.

Summary: EPA expressed environmental concerns about potential adverse water quality impacts from harvesting activities and related road construction. More detail on the noxious weed management plan should be included in the final EIS.

ERP No. D-FAA-B51017-MA Rating EO2, Logan Airside Improvements Planning Project (EOEA #10458), Construction and Operation of a new Unidirectional Runway 14/32,

Centerfield Taxiway and Additional Taxiway Improvements, Boston Logan International Airport, Federal Funding, Airport Layout Plan and NPDES Permit, Boston, MA.

Summary: EPA expressed environment objections based on environmental justice issues and planning issues. EPA requested that the EIS look beyond airside improvements to resolve flight delay problems and consider the critical questions of whether the improvements will spur additional airport growth. EPA also suggested revisions to the noise impact modeling for the project.

ERP No. D-FRC-K05055-CA Rating EC2, Potter Valley Project, Protection and Maintenance of Fishery Resources, (FERC No. 22-110), Eel River, Lake and Mendocino County, CA.

Summary: EPA expressed concerns involving the long-term sustainability of the project, the range of alternatives analyzed, data gaps in the environmental impacts analysis, the scope and depth of the cumulative impacts analysis, and the relative weight given to various balancing factors used in the selection of a preferred alternative.

ERP No. DA-AFS-L65099-ID Rating EC2, Grade-Dukes Timber Sale, Proposal to Harvest and Regenerate Timber, Implementation, Cuddy Mountain Roadless Area, Payette National Forest, Weiser Ranger District, Washington County, Idaho.

Summary: EPA expressed environmental concerns about adverse impacts to water quality, limited quantitative data on aquatic conditions, and analysis of cumulative impacts from private lands.

Final EISs

ERP No. F-FRC-F03005-00, Vector Pipeline Project, Natural Gas Pipeline and Associated above ground Facilities Construction and Operation, Approval, Joliet, IL to Vector Canada at the International Border near St. Clair, MI, several counties, MI, IN, and IL.

Summary: EPA expressed environmental concerns regarding impacts of the project to forested upland and wetland areas and recommended additional mitigation measures to offset these impacts.

ERP No. F-NPS-B65007-VT, Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, General Management Plan, Implementation, Woodstock, VT.

Summary: EPA had no objections to the project as described.

ERP No. FS-AFS-L67004-ID, Thompson Creek Molybdenum Project, Cyprus Mines Corporation, Custer County, ID.