

environmental effects of the proposal, alternatives to the proposal (including alternative routes), 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 an original and two copies of your letter to: Magalie R. Salas, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., NE., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426.
- Label one copy of the comments for the attention of Gas 1 Branch.
- Reference Docket No. CP02-204-000.
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before *June 26, 2002*.

Please note that we are continuing to experience delays in mail deliveries from the U.S. Postal Service. As a result, we will include all comments that we receive within a reasonable time frame in our environmental analysis of this project. However, the Commission encourages electronic filing of any comments or interventions or protests to this proceeding. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the "e-Filing" link and the link to the User's Guide. Before you can file comments you will need to create a free account which can be created by clicking on "Login to File" and then "New User Account."

#### *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 status is 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).<sup>5</sup> Only intervenors have the right to seek rehearing of the Commission's decision.

Affected landowners and parties with environmental concerns may be granted

intervenor status upon showing good cause by stating that they have a clear and direct interest in this proceeding which would not be adequately represented by any other parties. You do not need intervenor status to have your environmental comments considered.

#### *Environmental Mailing List*

This notice is being sent to individuals, organizations, and government entities interested in and/or potentially affected by the proposed project. It is also being sent to all identified potential right-of-way grantors. By this notice we are also asking governmental agencies, especially those in appendix 3, to express their interest in becoming cooperating agencies for the preparation of the EA.

#### *Additional Information*

Additional information about the proposed project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs at (202) 208-1088 (direct line) or you can call the FERC operator at 1-800-847-8885 and ask for External Affairs. Information is also available on the FERC website ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)) 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) 208-2222.

**Magalie R. Salas,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-13658 Filed 5-30-02; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

#### Notice of Request To Use Alternative Procedures in Preparing a License Application

May 24, 2002.

Take notice that the following request to use alternative procedures to prepare a new license application has been filed with the Commission.

a. *Type of Application:* Request to use alternative procedures to prepare a license application.

b. *Project No.:* 2150.

c. *Date filed:* May 20, 2002.

d. *Applicant:* Puget Sound Energy, Inc.

e. *Name of Project:* Baker River Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location:* On the Baker River in Skagit and Whatcom Counties, Washington. The project occupies 5,335 acres of United States lands managed by the U.S. Forest Service.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act, 16 U.S.C. 791(a)—825(r).

h. *Applicant Contact:* Connie Freeland, Puget Sound Energy, Inc., P.O. Box 97034, Bellevue, WA, 98009-9734; [cfreel@puget.com](mailto:cfreel@puget.com) (425) 462-3556.

i. *FERC Contact:* Steve Hocking, [steve.hocking@ferc.gov](mailto:steve.hocking@ferc.gov) (202) 219-2656.

j. *Deadline for Comments:* 30 days from the date of this notice.

*All documents (an original and eight copies) should be filed with:* Magalie R. Salas, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426.

Comments may be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>) under the "e-Filing" link.

k. The existing Baker River Project has two developments. The Upper Baker Development is located at river mile 9.35 on the Baker River about 8 miles upstream of the City of Concrete, Washington. This development has the following existing facilities: (1) A 312-foot-high and 1,200-foot-long dam with an ogee-type spillway containing three radial gates that are each 25 feet wide and 30 feet high; (2) a 115-foot-high and 1,200-foot-long West Pass dike; (3) a 9-mile-long reservoir (Baker Lake) with a surface area of 4,797 acres at a normal maximum pool elevation of 724 feet mean sea level (fmsl); (4) a 122-foot-long and 59-foot-wide reinforced concrete powerhouse located in the north half of the existing riverbed and housing two turbine-driven generators with an authorized capacity of 90.7 megawatts (MW) and a hydraulic capacity of 5,100 cubic feet per second (cfs); (5) transmission lines; (6) downstream fish passage facilities and artificial spawning beaches; and (7) appurtenant facilities.

The Lower Baker Development is located 0.5 mile upstream of the confluence of the Baker and Skagit Rivers. This development has the following existing facilities: (1) A 285-foot-high and 570-foot-long concrete gravity arch dam with a spillway containing 23 vertical slide gates that

<sup>5</sup> Interventions may also be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. See the previous discussion on filing comments electronically.

are each 14 feet high and 9.5 feet wide; (2) a concrete intake equipped with trashracks and gatehouse located near the left dam abutment; (3) one concrete and steel-lined penstock; (4) a 7-mile-long reservoir (Lake Shannon) with a surface area of 2,190 acres at a normal maximum pool elevation of 438.6 fmsl; (5) a reinforced concrete powerhouse that is 90 feet long and 66 feet wide housing a single turbine-generator with an authorized capacity of 71.4 MW and a hydraulic capacity of 4,100 cfs; (6) transmission lines; (7) a barrier dam; (8) upstream and downstream fish passage facilities; and (9) appurtenant facilities.

l. A copy of the request to use alternative procedures is on file with the Commission and is available for public inspection. This filing may also be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "RIMS" link—select "Docket #" and follow the instructions (call 202-208-2222 for assistance). A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in item h above.

m. Puget Sound Energy, Inc. has demonstrated that it has made an effort to contact all federal and state resources agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGO), and others affected by the project. Puget Sound Energy Inc. has also demonstrated that a consensus exists that the use of alternative procedures is appropriate in this case. Puget Sound Energy Inc. has submitted a communications protocol that is supported by the stakeholders.

The purpose of this notice is to invite any additional comments on Puget Sound Energy Inc.'s request to use the alternative procedures, pursuant to Section 4.34(i) of the Commission's regulations. Additional notices seeking comments on the specific project proposal, interventions and protests, and recommended terms and conditions will be issued at a later date. Puget Sound Energy Inc. will develop and file a preliminary National Environmental Policy Act Document, in lieu of an exhibit E in its license application. This differs from the traditional process, in which an applicant consults with agencies, Indian tribes, NGOs, and other parties during preparation of the license application and before filing the application, but the Commission staff performs the environmental review after the application is filed. The alternative procedures are intended to simplify and expedite the licensing process by combining the pre-filing consultation and environmental review processes into a single process, to facilitate greater participation, and to improve communication and cooperation among the participants.

Puget Sound Energy Inc. has met with federal and state resources agencies, NGOs, elected officials, environmental groups, business and economic development organizations, and members of the public regarding the Baker River Project. Puget Sound Energy Inc. intends to file 6-month progress reports during the alternative procedures process that leads to the filing of a license application by April 30, 2004.

**Magalie R. Salas,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 02-13664 Filed 5-30-02; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RM98-1-000]

#### Regulations Governing Off-the-Record Communications; Public Notice

May 24, 2002.

This constitutes notice, in accordance with 18 CFR 385.2201(h), of the receipt of exempt and prohibited off-the-record communications.

Order No. 607 (64 FR 51222, September 22, 1999) requires Commission decisional employees, who make or receive an exempt or a prohibited off-the-record communication relevant to the merits of a contested on-the-record proceeding, to deliver a copy of the communication, if written, or a summary of the substance of any oral communication, to the Secretary.

Prohibited communications will be included in a public, non-decisional file associated with, but not part of, the decisional record of the proceeding. Unless the Commission determines that the prohibited communication and any responses thereto should become part of the decisional record, the prohibited off-the-record communication will not be considered by the Commission in reaching its decision. Parties to a proceeding may seek the opportunity to respond to any facts or contentions made in a prohibited off-the-record communication, and may request that the Commission place the prohibited communication and responses thereto in the decisional record. The Commission will grant such requests only when it determines that fairness so requires. Any person identified below as having made a prohibited off-the-record communication should serve the document on all parties listed on the official service list for the applicable

proceeding in accordance with Rule 2010, 18 CFR 385.2010.

Exempt off-the-record communications will be included in the decisional record of the proceeding, unless the communication was with a cooperating agency as described by 40 CFR 1501.6, made under 18 CFR 385.2201(e)(1)(v).

The following is a list of exempt and prohibited off-the-record communications recently received in the Office of the Secretary. Copies of these filings are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection. The documents may be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "RIMS" link, select "Docket#" and follow the instructions (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

#### EXEMPT

Docket No.	Date filed	Presenter or requester
1. Project No. 1354-000.	5-15-02	Noreen L. McDonald.
2. CP00-40-000.	5-15-02	Senator Bill Nelson (U. S. Senate).
3. CP00-36-000.	5-15-02	Senator Russell D. Feingold (U. S. Senate).
4. Project No. 2055-010. Carol Gleichman..	5-16-02	
5. Project No. 2342-000.	5-21-02	Gwill Ging.

**Magalie R. Salas,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 02-13668 Filed 5-30-02; 8:45 am]

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-2002-0076; FRL-7179-3]

### Solutions By Design II, LLC and Roy Hiler; Transfer of Data

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces that pesticide related information submitted to EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) pursuant to the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), including information that may have been claimed as Confidential Business Information (CBI) by the submitter, will be