

at 1-866-208-FERC or on the FERC Internet Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>) using the FERRIS link. Click on the FERRIS link, enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the Docket Number field. Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll-free at (866) 208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659. The FERRIS link on the FERC Internet Web site also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. CP02-374-000, CP02-376-000, CP02-377-000 and CP02-378-000]

Hackberry LNG Terminal, L.L.C.; Notice of Availability of and Public Comment Meetings on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Hackberry LNG Project

March 28, 2003.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) on the construction and operation of the liquefied natural gas (LNG) import terminal and natural gas pipeline facilities proposed by Hackberry LNG Terminal, L.L.C (Hackberry LNG) in the above-referenced dockets.

The draft EIS was prepared to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The staff concludes that approval of the proposed project, with appropriate mitigating measures as recommended, would have limited adverse environmental impact. The draft EIS also evaluates alternatives to the proposal, including system alternatives, alternative sites for the LNG import terminal, and pipeline alternatives.

The draft EIS addresses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the following facilities in Cameron, Calcasieu, and Beauregard Parishes, Louisiana:

- A ship unloading slip with two berths, each equipped with mooring and breasting dolphins, three liquid

unloading arms, and one vapor return arm;

- three LNG storage tanks, each with a usable volume of 1,006,000 barrels (3.5 billion standard cubic feet of gas equivalent);
- nine first-stage pumps, each sized for 250 million standard cubic feet per day (MMscf/d);
- ten second-stage pumps, each sized for 188 MMscf/d;
- twelve submerged combustion vaporizers, each sized for 150 MMscf/d;
- a boil-off gas compressor and condensing system;
- an LNG circulation system;
- a natural gas liquids recovery unit;
- ancillary utilities, buildings, and service facilities at the LNG terminal; and
- a 35.4-mile, 36-inch-diameter natural gas sendout pipeline.

The purpose of these facilities is to transport approximately 1.5 billion cubic feet per day of imported natural gas to the United States market. As part of the proposed project, Hackberry LNG plans to remove the existing liquefied petroleum gas facilities and associated dock at the proposed terminal site.

Comment Procedures and Public Meetings

Any person wishing to comment on the draft EIS may do so. To ensure consideration prior to a Commission decision on the proposal, it is important that we receive your comments before the date specified below. Please carefully follow these instructions to ensure that your comments are received in time and are 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;
- Reference Docket No. CP02-374-000;
- Label one copy of your comments for the attention of the Gas 1, PJ-11.1;
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before May 19, 2003.

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 strongly encourages electronic filing of any comments or interventions 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 an account by clicking on "Login to File" and then "New User Account."

In addition to or in lieu of sending written comments, we invite you to attend the public comment meeting that staff will conduct in the project area. The time and location for this meeting is listed below: April 22, 2003, 7 pm, Holiday Inn Express, 102 Mallard Street, Sulphur, Louisiana 70665, Telephone: (337) 625-2500.

Interested groups and individuals are encouraged to attend and present oral comments on the draft EIS. Transcripts of the meetings will be prepared.

After these comments are reviewed, any significant new issues are investigated, and necessary modifications are made to the draft EIS, a final EIS will be published and distributed by the staff. The final EIS will contain the staff's responses to timely comments received on the draft EIS.

Comments will be considered by the Commission but will not serve to make the commenter a party to the proceeding. Any person seeking to become a party to the proceeding must file a motion to intervene pursuant to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (Title 18 Code of Federal Regulations, part 385.214). Anyone may intervene in this proceeding based on this draft EIS. You must file your request to intervene as specified above. You do not need intervenor status to have your comments considered.

The draft EIS has been placed in the public files of the FERC and is available for public inspection at: Federal Regulatory Energy Commission, Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street, NE., Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426, (202) 502-8371.

A limited number of copies of the draft EIS are available from the Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch identified above. In addition, the draft EIS has been mailed to Federal, state, and local agencies; elected officials; public interest groups; affected landowners; public libraries; newspapers; parties to the proceeding; and individuals who requested a copy of the draft EIS.

Additional information about the proposed project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs at 1-866-208-FERC (1-866-208-3372) or on the FERC Web site (www.ferc.gov). Click on the "FERRIS" link, enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the Docket Number field. Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. The application and supplemental filings in these dockets are available for viewing on FERRIS. For

assistance, contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll-free at (866)208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202)502-8659.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Application Accepted for Filing and Soliciting Motions to Intervene and Protests

March 28, 2003.

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection.

a. *Type of Application:* New Major License.

b. *Project No.:* P-287-009.

c. *Date filed:* April 8, 2002.

d. *Applicant:* Midwest Hydro Inc.

e. *Name of Project:* Dayton Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location:* On the Fox River, near the City of Dayton, in La Salle County, Illinois. The project does not affect any federal lands.

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

h. *Applicant Contact:* Charles Alsberg, Executive Vice President, North American Hydro, PO Box 167, Neshkoro, WI 54960, (920) 293-4628 ext. 11.

i. *FERC Contact:* Tom Dean, (202) 502-6041, thomas.dean@ferc.gov.

j. *Deadline for filing motions to intervene and protests:* 60 days from the issuance date of this notice.

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

The Commission's Rules of Practice require all intervenors filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person 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.

Motions to intervene and protests may be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings. 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. This application has been accepted for filing, but is not ready for environmental analysis at this time.

l. The existing Dayton Hydroelectric Project consists of: (1) 594-foot-long arch-buttress uncontrolled fixed crest overflow concrete dam; (2) a 200-foot-long earthen embankment on the east side; (3) a 200 acre impoundment with a normal pool elevation of 498.90 msl; (4) a concrete head gate structure with four 15.5-foot-wide and 9.5 foot-high wooden gates located at the west abutment; (5) a 900-foot-long, 135-foot-wide, 10-foot-deep power canal; (6) a powerhouse containing three turbines with a total installed capacity of 3,680 kW; (7) a 150-foot-long, 2.4 kV transmission line; and (8) appurtenant facilities. The average annual generation is 14,200 megawatt-hours.

m. A copy of the application is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "FERRIS" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll-free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, (202) 502-8659. A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in item h above.

n. *Procedural schedule:* The application will be processed according to the following Hydro Licensing Schedule. Revisions to the schedule will be made as appropriate. The Commission staff proposes to issue one environmental assessment rather than issue a draft and final EA. The EA will have at least a 30 day period for entities to file comments, and will take into consideration all comments received on the EA before final action is taken on the license application. If any person or organization objects to this proposal, they should file comments during the comment period stipulated in item j above, briefly explaining the basis for their objection. *Issue Scoping Document:* April 2003. *Notice that application is ready for environmental analysis:* June 2003. *Notice of the availability of the EA:* October 2003. *Ready for Commission decision on the application:* December 2003.

o. Anyone may submit a protest, or a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.210, 385.211, 385.214. In determining the

appropriate action to take, the Commission will consider all protests or other comments filed, but only those who file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules may become a party to the proceeding. Any protests or motions to intervene must be received on or before the specified comment date for the particular application.

All filings must (1) Bear in all capital letters the title "PROTEST" or "Motion to Intervene;" (2) set forth in the heading the name of the applicant and the project number of the application to which the filing responds; (3) furnish the name, address, and telephone number of the person protesting or intervening; and (4) otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 385.2001 through 385.2005. Agencies may obtain copies of the application directly from the applicant. A copy of any protest or motion to intervene must be served upon each representative of the applicant specified in the particular application.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RM98-1-000]

Regulations Governing Off-the-Record Communications Public Notice

March 28, 2003.

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