

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory
Commission

[Project No. 2552-058]

FPL Energy Maine Hydro, LLC; Notice
of Availability of Final Environmental
Assessment

May 8, 2003.

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 FR 47897), Office of Energy Projects staff reviewed the application for surrender of project license for the Fort Halifax Project, located on the Sebasticook River, Kennebec County, Maine, and prepared a final environmental assessment (EA) for the project. In the final EA, staff analyze the potential environmental effects of the surrender of license and conclude that the surrender, or any other alternative considered, would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

Copies of the final EA can be viewed 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. To be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects, register online at <http://www.ferc.gov/esubscribenow.htm>. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll-free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, (202) 502-8659.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-12016 Filed 5-13-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory
Commission

[Docket No. CP02-37-000]

Williston Basin Interstate Pipeline
Company; Notice of Availability of the
Final Environmental Impact Statement
for the Proposed Grasslands Pipeline
Project

May 8, 2003.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) on the natural gas pipeline facilities proposed by Williston Basin Interstate Pipeline Company (WBI), the Grasslands Pipeline Project, in the above-referenced docket.

The FEIS was prepared to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The staff concludes that approval of the proposed project with the appropriate mitigating measures as recommended, would have limited adverse environmental impact. The FEIS also evaluates alternatives to the proposal, including a system alternative; major route alternatives; and route variations.

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is participating as a cooperating agency in the preparation of this FEIS because the project would cross Federal land under the jurisdiction of two field offices in Wyoming and Montana. The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service (USFS) is also a cooperating agency in the preparation of this document because the Little Missouri National Grasslands would be crossed by the project. The FEIS will be used by the BLM to consider issuance of a right-of-way grant for the portion of the project on all Federal lands.

The FEIS addresses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the following facilities:

- Approximately 223 miles of new 16-inch-diameter pipeline from near Belle Creek, Montana, to the proposed Manning Compressor Station in Dunn County, North Dakota;
- Approximately 28 miles of 16-inch-diameter pipeline loop¹ adjacent to WBI's existing Bitter Creek supply lateral pipeline in Wyoming;
- Maximum allowable operating pressure (MAOP) upgrade on

¹ A loop is a segment of pipeline that is usually installed adjacent to an existing pipeline and connected to it at both ends. The loop allows more gas to be moved through the system.

approximately 28 miles of existing 8-inch-diameter Bitter Creek supply lateral pipeline in Wyoming from 1,203 pounds per square inch gauge (psig) to 1,440 psig, and abandonment in-place of segments of existing pipe at three road crossings and replacement with heavier walled pipe;

- MAOP upgrade on approximately 40 miles of existing 8-inch-diameter Recluse-Belle Creek supply lateral pipeline in Wyoming and Montana from 1,203 psig to 1,440 psig, and abandonment in-place of segments of existing pipe at eight road crossings and replacement with heavier walled pipe;

- 4,180 horsepower (hp) of gas fired compression (comprised of two 2,090 hp compressors) at one new compressor station located in Dunn County, North Dakota (Manning Compressor Station), and electric coolers installation at this station;

- An additional transmission compressor unit (1,200 hp) at the existing Cabin Creek Compressor Station in Fallon County, Montana;

- 0.9 mile of 12-inch-diameter pipeline from the proposed mainline to the existing Cabin Creek Compressor Station in Fallon County, Montana;

- 1.0 mile of 16-inch-diameter pipeline from the proposed Manning Compressor Station to interconnect with Northern Border Pipeline Company's Compressor Station 5 in Dunn County, North Dakota; and

- Various additional facilities, including 14 mainline valves, 6 cathodic protection units, 8 pig launchers/receivers, 5 metering stations, and 3 regulators.

The purpose of the proposed facilities would be to provide an additional outlet for the increased production of natural gas in the Powder River Basin, allowing transportation of about 80 million cubic feet per day of natural gas; provide access to WBI's storage facilities to shippers of gas produced in the Powder River Basin and elsewhere; and provide access to and from WBI's storage facilities to and from the facilities of Northern Border Pipeline Company for delivery to Midwestern and other national markets.

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

Copies of the FEIS have been mailed to Federal, state and local agencies, public interest groups, individuals who have requested the FEIS, newspapers, and parties to this proceeding.

In accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act, no agency decision on a proposed action may be made until 30 days after the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency publishes a notice of availability of an FEIS. However, the CEQ regulations provide an exception to this rule when an agency decision is subject to a formal internal appeal process which allows other agencies or the public to make their views known. In such cases, the agency decision may be made at the same time the notice of the FEIS is published, allowing both periods to run concurrently. The Commission decision for this proposed action is subject to a 30-day rehearing period.

Additional information about the project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, 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 with FERRIS, the FERRIS helpline can be reached at 1-866-208-3676, TTY (202) 502-8659 or FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov. 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.

In addition, the Commission now offers a free service called eSubscription which allows you to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets. This can reduce the amount of time you spend researching proceedings by automatically providing you with notification of these filings, document summaries and direct links to the documents. Go to <http://www.ferc.gov/esubscribenow.htm>.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-12008 Filed 5-13-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Application for Amendment of Exemption and Soliciting Comments, Motions To Intervene, and Protests

May 8, 2003.

Take notice that the following application has been filed with the

Commission and is available for public inspection:

a. *Application Type:* Amendment of Exemption to Increase its Authorized Nameplate Capacity.

b. *Project No:* 12094-004.

c. *Date Filed:* April 11, 2003.

d. *Applicant:* Hydro Technology Systems Inc.

e. *Name of Project:* Meyers Falls 1910 Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location:* The project is located on the Colville River, in Stevens County, Washington.

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

h. *Applicant Contact:* Michael Johnson, President, Hydro Technology Systems Inc., P.O. 683 Kettle Falls, WA 99141 (509) 738-6544.

i. *FERC Contact:* Any questions on this notice should be addressed to Mr. Robert Shaffer at (202) 502-8944, or e-mail address: robert.shaffer@ferc.gov.

j. *Deadline for filing comments and or motions:* June 9, 2003.

k. *Description of Request:* The exempt project has an authorized capacity of 300 kW (one generating unit) with a hydraulic capacity of 50 cfs. Now the exemptee is planning to install two units instead of one but with the same authorized installed and hydraulic capacity. In addition, the exemptee is proposing to add a small 65-kW generating unit with a hydraulic capacity of 12 cfs. The exemptee states this proposal would improve the operations efficiency of the project by utilizing low flows (0 to 12 cfs) that are available for generation but fall below the minimum hydraulic capacity of the bigger generating units.

l. *Locations of the Application:* A copy of the application is available for inspection and reproduction at the Commission's Public Reference Room, located at 888 First Street, NE., Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426, or by calling (202) 502-8371. This filing may also 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, call 1-866-208-3676 or e-mail FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov. For TTY, call (202) 502-8659. A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in item (h) above.

m. Individuals desiring to be included on the Commission's mailing list should so indicate by writing to the Secretary of the Commission.

n. *Comments, Protests, or Motions to Intervene:* Anyone may submit comments, 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 comments, protests, or motions to intervene must be received on or before the specified comment date for the particular application.

o. *Filing and Service of Responsive Documents:* Any filings must bear in all capital letters the title "COMMENTS", "RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TERMS AND CONDITIONS", "PROTEST", OR "MOTION TO INTERVENE", as applicable, and the Project Number of the particular application to which the filing refers. 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. A copy of any motion to intervene must also be served upon each representative of the Applicant specified in the particular application.

p. *Agency Comments:* Federal, state, and local agencies are invited to file comments on the described application. A copy of the application may be obtained by agencies directly from the Applicant. If an agency does not file comments within the time specified for filing comments, it will be presumed to have no comments. One copy of an agency's comments must also be sent to the Applicant's representatives.

q. Comments, protests and interventions 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 at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the "e-Filing" link.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-12009 Filed 5-13-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Application Ready for Environmental Analysis and Soliciting Comments, Recommendations, Terms and Conditions, and Prescriptions

May 8, 2003.

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