

of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Dated: December 20, 2012.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2012-31265 Filed 12-28-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2727-086]

#### Black Bear Hydro Partners, LLC;

Notice of Intent To File License Application, Filing of Pre-Application Document (PAD), Commencement of Pre-Filing Process and Scoping; Request For Comments on the Pad and Scoping Document, and Identification of Issues and Associated Study Requests

a. *Type of Filing:* Notice of Intent to File License Application for a New License and Commencing Pre-filing Process.

b. *Project No.:* 2727-086.

c. *Dated Filed:* October 24, 2012.

d. *Submitted By:* Black Bear Hydro Partners, LLC (Black Bear Hydro).

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

f. *Location:* On the Union River in the City of Ellsworth and the towns of Waltham and Mariaville in Hancock County, Maine. The project would not occupy federal lands.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* 18 CFR part 5 of the Commission's Regulations.

h. *Applicant Contact:* Scott Hall, Davenport Street, P.O. Box 276, Milford, ME 04461. 207-827-5364.

i. *FERC Contact:* Nicholas Palso, Ph.D. at (202) 502-8854 or email at [nicholas.palso@ferc.gov](mailto:nicholas.palso@ferc.gov).

j. *Cooperating agencies:* Federal, state, local, and tribal agencies with jurisdiction and/or special expertise with respect to environmental issues that wish to cooperate in the preparation of the environmental document should follow the instructions for filing such requests described in item o. below. Cooperating agencies should note the Commission's policy that agencies that cooperate in the preparation of the environmental document cannot also intervene. See 94 FERC ¶ 61,076 (2001).

k. *With this notice, we are initiating informal consultation with:* (a) The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or NOAA Fisheries under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and the joint agency regulations thereunder at 50 CFR, Part 402 and (b) the State Historic Preservation Officer, as required by section 106, National Historical Preservation Act, and the implementing regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation at 36 CFR 800.2.

l. With this notice, we are designating Black Bear Hydro as the Commission's non-federal representative for carrying out informal consultation pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, section 305(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, and section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

m. Black Bear Hydro filed with the Commission a Pre-Application Document (PAD; including a proposed process plan and schedule), pursuant to 18 CFR 5.6 of the Commission's regulations.

n. A copy of the PAD is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>), using the "eLibrary" 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](mailto: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 paragraph h.

Register online at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp> to be notified via email of new filing and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

o. With this notice, we are soliciting comments on the PAD and Commission staff's Scoping Document 1 (SD1), as well as study requests. All comments on the PAD and SD1, and study requests should be sent to the address above in paragraph h. In addition, all comments on the PAD and SD1, study requests, requests for cooperating agency status, and all communications to and from Commission staff related to the merits of the potential application must be filed with the Commission. Documents may be filed electronically via the Internet. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the

eComment system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ecomment.asp>. You must include your name and contact information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support. Although the Commission strongly encourages electronic filing, documents may also be paper-filed. To paper-file, mail an original and seven copies to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426.

All filings with the Commission must include on the first page, the project name (Ellsworth Hydroelectric Project) and number (P-2727-086), and bear the appropriate heading: "Comments on Pre-Application Document," "Study Requests," "Comments on Scoping Document 1," "Request for Cooperating Agency Status," or "Communications to and from Commission Staff." Any individual or entity interested in submitting study requests, commenting on the PAD or SD1, and any agency requesting cooperating status must do so by February 21, 2013.

p. We intend to prepare an environmental assessment (EA) for this project. The scoping meetings identified below satisfy the NEPA scoping requirements.

#### Scoping Meetings

Commission staff will hold two scoping meetings in the vicinity of the project at the time and place noted below. The daytime meeting will focus on resource agency, Indian tribes, and non-governmental organization concerns, while the evening meeting is primarily for receiving input from the public. We invite all interested individuals, organizations, and agencies to attend one or both of the meetings, and to assist staff in identifying particular study needs, as well as the scope of environmental issues to be addressed in the environmental document. The times and locations of these meetings are as follows:

#### Daytime Scoping Meeting

*Date:* Wednesday, January 16, 2013.

*Time:* 9:00 a.m.

*Location:* Black Bear Hydro Partners, LLC, Davenport Street, Milford, ME 04461.

*Phone:* (207) 827-5364.

#### Evening Scoping Meeting

*Date:* Tuesday, January 15, 2013.

*Time:* 7:00 p.m.

*Location:* Ellsworth City Hall, One City Hall Plaza, Ellsworth, Maine 04605.

*Phone:* (207) 667-2563.

Scoping Document 1 (SD1), which outlines the subject areas to be

addressed in the environmental document, was mailed to the individuals and entities on the Commission's mailing list. Copies of SD1 will be available at the scoping meetings, or may be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.gov>, using the "eLibrary" link. Follow the directions for accessing information in paragraph n. Based on all oral and written comments, a Scoping Document 2 (SD2) may be issued. SD2 may include a revised process plan and schedule, as well as a list of issues, identified through the scoping process.

### Meeting Objectives

At the scoping meetings, staff will: (1) Initiate scoping of the issues; (2) review and discuss existing conditions and resource management objectives; (3) review and discuss existing information and identify preliminary information and study needs; (4) review and discuss the process plan and schedule for pre-filing activity that incorporates the time frames provided for in Part 5 of the Commission's regulations and, to the extent possible, maximizes coordination of federal, state, and tribal permitting and certification processes; and (5) discuss the appropriateness of any federal or state agency or Indian tribe acting as a cooperating agency for development of an environmental document.

Meeting participants should come prepared to discuss their issues and/or concerns. Please review the PAD in preparation for the scoping meetings. Directions on how to obtain a copy of the PAD and SD1 are included in item n. of this document.

### Meeting Procedures

The meetings will be recorded by a stenographer and will be placed in the public records of the project.

Dated: December 20, 2012.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2012-31262 Filed 12-28-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

#### Combined Notice of Filings

Take notice that the Commission has received the following Natural Gas Pipeline Rate and Refund Report filings:

#### Filings Instituting Proceedings

*Docket Numbers:* RP13-403-000.

*Applicants:* Northern Border Pipeline Company.

*Description:* Settlement Compliance to RP12-1093 to be effective 1/1/2013.

*Filed Date:* 12/19/12.

*Accession Number:* 20121219-5103.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 12/31/12.

*Docket Numbers:* RP13-404-000.

*Applicants:* Transwestern Pipeline Company, LLC.

*Description:* 2012 TW Stipulation & Agreement—Alert Day, etc. to be effective 12/31/9998 reply comments due by 1/7/2013.

*Filed Date:* 12/19/12.

*Accession Number:* 20121219-5206.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 12/31/12.

Any person desiring to intervene or protest in any of the above proceedings must file in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Regulations (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214) on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on the specified comment date. Protests may be considered, but intervention is necessary to become a party to the proceeding.

#### Filings in Existing Proceedings

*Docket Numbers:* RP13-373-001.

*Applicants:* Cimarron River Pipeline, LLC.

*Description:* NAESB Version 2.0 Extension Filing 2 to be effective 1/1/2013.

*Filed Date:* 12/19/12.

*Accession Number:* 20121219-5062.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 12/31/12.

*Docket Numbers:* RP13-374-001.

*Applicants:* Dauphin Island Gathering Partners.

*Description:* NAESB Version 2.0 Extension Filing 2 to be effective 1/1/2013.

*Filed Date:* 12/19/12.

*Accession Number:* 20121219-5061.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 12/31/12.

Any person desiring to protest in any of the above proceedings must file in accordance with Rule 211 of the Commission's Regulations (18 CFR 385.211) on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on the specified comment date.

The filings are accessible in the Commission's eLibrary system by clicking on the links or querying the docket number.

eFiling is encouraged. More detailed information relating to filing requirements, interventions, protests, and service can be found at: <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling/filing-req.pdf>. For other information, call (866) 208-3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502-8659.

Dated: December 20, 2012.

**Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2012-31369 Filed 12-28-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

#### Combined Notice of Filings

Take notice that the Commission has received the following Natural Gas Pipeline Rate and Refund Report filings:

#### Filings Instituting Proceedings

*Docket Numbers:* RP13-405-000.

*Applicants:* Questar Pipeline Company.

*Description:* Pt. 1 Sec. 6.17, Request to Acquire Released Capacity, Version 1.0.0 to be effective 1/20/2013.

*Filed Date:* 12/20/12.

*Accession Number:* 20121220-5038.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 1/2/13.

*Docket Numbers:* RP13-406-000.

*Applicants:* Questar Overthrust Pipeline Company.

*Description:* Section 31.2, Limits of Segmentation Version 1.0.0 to be effective 1/20/2013.

*Filed Date:* 12/20/12.

*Accession Number:* 20121220-5054.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 1/2/13.

*Docket Numbers:* RP13-407-000.

*Applicants:* Dominion Transmission, Inc.

*Description:* DTI—December 20, 2012 Negotiated Rate Agreements and Nonconforming SA to be effective 1/1/2013.

*Filed Date:* 12/20/12.

*Accession Number:* 20121220-5152.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 1/2/13.

*Docket Numbers:* RP13-408-000.

*Applicants:* Energy West Development, Inc.

*Description:* NAESB Compliance Order No. 587-V CORRECTION to be effective 12/21/2012.

*Filed Date:* 12/20/12.

*Accession Number:* 20121220-5243.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 1/2/13.

*Docket Numbers:* RP13-409-000.

*Applicants:* First ECA Midstream LLC.

*Description:* Compliance Filing to be effective 11/29/2012.

*Filed Date:* 12/20/12.

*Accession Number:* 20121220-5245.

*Comments Due:* 5 p.m. ET 1/2/13.

*Docket Numbers:* RP13-410-000.

*Applicants:* Alliance Pipeline L.P.

*Description:* Alliance Pipeline L.P. submits tariff filing per 154.204: Jan 1—