

463-6315, or Mike Henry of the Commission at (503) 326-5858 ext. 224. Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,
Acting Secretary.
[FR Doc. 96-23996 Filed 9-18-96; 8:45 am]
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[Project No. 3663-004-MN]

**Minnesota Power and Light Company;
Notice of Site Visit and Scoping
Meeting Pursuant to the National
Environmental Policy Act of 1969**

September 13, 1996.

On October 2, 1995, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) issued a letter accepting the Minnesota Power and Light Company's application for new license for the Pillager Hydro Project, located on the Crow Wing River in Cass and Morrison Counties, near Pillager, Minnesota.

The purpose of this notice is to: (1) Advise all parties as to the proposed scope of the staff's environmental analysis, including cumulative effects, and to seek additional information pertinent to this analysis; and (2) advise all parties of their opportunity for comment.

Scoping Process

The Commission's scoping objectives are to:

- Identify significant environmental issues;
- Determine the depth of analysis appropriate to each issue;
- Identify the resource issues not requiring detailed analysis; and
- Identify reasonable project alternatives.

The purpose of the scoping process is to identify significant issues related to the proposed action and to determine what issues should be addressed in the environmental document to be prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). The document entitled "Scoping Document I" (SDI) will be circulated shortly to enable appropriate federal, state, and local resource agencies, developers, Indian tribes, nongovernmental organizations (NGO's), and other interested parties to effectively participate in and contribute to the scoping process. SDI provides a brief description of the proposed action, project alternatives, the geographic and temporal scope of a cumulative effects analysis, and a list of preliminary issues identified by staff.

Project Site Visit

The applicant and the Commission staff will conduct a site visit of the

Pillager Hydro Project on October 3, 1996, at 10:00 a.m. They will meet at the project powerhouse, located one mile southwest of the City of Pillager, on Pillager Dam Road. All interested individuals, NGO's and agencies are invited to attend. All participants are responsible for their own transportation and should bring a hard hat. For more details, interested parties should contact Christopher D. Anderson, the applicant contact, at (218) 723-3961, prior to the site visit date.

Scoping Meetings

The Commission staff will conduct two scoping meetings. All interested individuals, organizations, and agencies are invited to attend and assist the staff in identifying the scope of environmental issues that should be analyzed in the NEPA document.

The public scoping meeting will be held on October 3, 1996, from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Pillager High School, corner of East Second Street and Daisy Avenue, Pillager, Minnesota 56473.

The agency scoping meeting will be held on October 2, 1996, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, 3815 East 80th Street, Bloomington, Minnesota 55425. For more details, interested parties should contact Lynn Lewis, US Fish and Wildlife Service, at (612) 725-3548, prior to the meeting date.

The Commission will decide, based on the application, and agency and public comments at the scoping session, whether licensing the Pillager Project constitutes a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. Irrespective of the Commission's determination to prepare an environmental assessment or an environmental impact statement for the Pillager Project, the Commission staff will not hold additional scoping meetings other than those scheduled, as listed above.

Objectives

At the scoping meetings, the Commission staff will: (1) Summarize the environmental issues tentatively identified for analysis in the NEPA document; (2) solicit from the meeting participants all available information, especially quantified data, on the resources at issue, and (3) encourage statements from experts and the public on issues that should be analyzed in the NEPA document. Individuals, organizations, and agencies with environmental expertise and concerns are encouraged to attend the meetings and to assist the staff in defining and clarifying the issues to be addressed.

Meeting Procedures

The meetings will be recorded by a stenographer and become a part of the formal records of the Commission proceeding on the Pillager Project. Individuals presenting statements at the meetings will be asked to identify themselves for the record.

Concerned parties are encouraged to offer us verbal guidance during public meetings. Speaking time allowed for individuals will be determined before each meeting, based on the number of persons wishing to speak and the approximate amount of time available for the session, but all speakers will be provided at least 5 minutes to present their views.

All those attending the meeting are urged to refrain from making any communications concerning the merits of the application to any member of the Commission staff outside of the established process for developing the record as stated in the record of the proceeding.

Persons choosing not to speak but wishing to express an opinion, as well as speakers unable to summarize their positions within their allotted time, may submit written statements for inclusion in the public record no later than October 11, 1996.

All filings should contain an original and 8 copies. Failure to file an original and 8 copies may result in appropriate staff not receiving the benefit of your comments in a timely manner. See 18 CFR 4.34(h). In addition, commenters *may* submit a copy of their comments on a 3½-inch diskette formatted for MS-DOS based computers. In light of our ability to translate MS-DOS based materials, the text need only be submitted in the format and version that it was generated (i.e., MS Word, WordPerfect 5.1/5.2, ASCII, etc.). It is not necessary to reformat word processor generated text to ASCII. For Macintosh users, it would be helpful to save the documents in Macintosh word processor format and then write them to files on a diskette formatted for MS-DOS machines. All comments should be submitted to the Office of the Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, and should clearly show the following captions on the first page: Pillager Hydro Project, FERC No. 2663.

Further, interested persons are reminded of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures, requiring parties or interceders (as defined in 18 CFR 385.2010) to file documents on each person whose name is on the official service list for this proceeding. See 18 CFR 4.34(b).

The Commission staff will consider all written comments and may issue a Scoping Document II (SDII). SDII will include a revised list of issues, based on the scoping sessions.

For further information regarding the scoping process, please contact Rich Takacs, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Office of Hydropower Licensing, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC, 20426 at (202) 219-2840, or Ed Lee at (202) 219-2809.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,
Acting Secretary.

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[Project No. 8864-012]

Weyerhaeuser Company and Calligan Hydro, Inc.; Errata Notice to Notice of Application Filed With the Commission

September 13, 1996.

In the Commission's Notice of Joint Application for Transfer of License for FERC Project No. 9025-008, issued August 12, 1996, (61 FR 43354, August 22, 1996), the Comment Date should be changed from "September 27, 1996" to October 14, 1996.

Lois D. Cashell,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-24034 Filed 9-18-96; 8:45 am]

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[Project No. 9025-008]

Weyerhaeuser Company and Hancock Hydro, Inc.; Errata to Notice of Application Filed With the Commission

September 13, 1996.

In the Commission's Notice of Joint Application for Transfer of License for FERC Project No. 9025-008, issued August 12, 1996, (61 FR 43355, August 22, 1996), the Comment Date should be changed from "September 27, 1996" to October 14, 1996.

Lois D. Cashell,
Secretary.

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Office of Hearings and Appeals

Notice of Issuance of Decisions and Orders From the Week of June 24 Through June 28, 1996

During the week of June 24 through June 28, 1996, the decisions and orders summarized below were issued with respect to appeals, applications, petitions, or other requests filed with the Office of Hearings and Appeals of

the Department of Energy. The following summary also contains a list of submissions that were dismissed by the Office of Hearings and Appeals.

Copies of the full text of these decisions and orders are available in the Public Reference Room of the Office of Hearings and Appeals, Room 1E-234, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585-0107, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m., except federal holidays. They are also available in *Energy Management: Federal Energy Guidelines*, a commercially published loose leaf reporter system. Some decisions and orders are available on the Office of Hearings and Appeals World Wide Web site at <http://www.oha.doe.gov>.

Dated: September 5, 1996.

George B. Breznay,

Director, Office of Hearings and Appeals.

Appeals

Anibal L. Taboas, 6/26/96, VFA-0171

The OHA remanded on appeal a request to the Chicago Operations Office (COO) for information concerning complaints, investigations, or other information concerning the appellant. COO had withheld responsive documents in their entirety pursuant to Exemptions 5, 6, and 7A of the Freedom of Information Act. The OHA found that COO had failed to consider whether the withheld documents contained releasable material that could be reasonably segregated, and had failed to apply a foreseeable harm test to withheld material.

Bradley S. Tice, 6/26/96, VFA-0172

Bradley S. Tice filed an Appeal from a determination issued to him on May 8, 1996 by the Department of Energy's Albuquerque Operations Office (AO) which denied a request for information he filed under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). The request sought information regarding "aspects of nuclear propulsion for aircraft as well as Richard Feynman's patented design for a nuclear reactor to heat air for a jet engine." AO stated that it conducted a search of its records as the Los Alamos National Laboratory and found no responsive documents. The Appeal challenged the adequacy of the search conducted by AO. In considering the Appeal, the DOE found that AO conducted an adequate search which was reasonably calculated to discover documents responsive to Mr. Tice's Request. Accordingly, the Appeal was denied.

David W. Smith, 6/27/96 VFA-0173

David W. Smith filed an Appeal from a determination by the Department of Energy's Albuquerque Operations Office (AO). Mr. Smith's mother had filed a request for records relating to her late husband's exposure to radiation while he worked for the Atomic Energy Commission from 1948 to 1956. AO stated that it had conducted a search of its records at AO's Occupational Safety and Health Division (OSHD) and at the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), and provided Mrs. Smith with a copy of the radiation dosimetry records it discovered at LANL. In his Appeal, Mr. Smith implicitly argued that AO conducted an inadequate search for records relating to his father. In considering the Appeal, the DOE found that AO conducted an adequate search which was reasonably calculated to discover documents responsive to Mrs. Smith's Request. Accordingly, the Appeal was denied.

Keith E. Loomis, 6/28/96 VFA-0166

Keith E. Loomis filed an Appeal from a denial by the Office of Naval Reactors of a request for information that he filed under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). In considering one report that was withheld but was not addressed in either of the previous Decisions and Orders regarding this Appeal, the Director of Naval Reactors reviewed the report and identified it as Naval Nuclear Propulsion Information (NNPI) material. The DOE therefore determined that the report should be withheld under Exemption 3 of the FOIA. Accordingly, the Appeal was denied.

The Cincinnati Enquirer, 6/25/96 VFA-0169

The Cincinnati Enquirer filed an Appeal from a determination issued to it by the Ohio Field Office of the Department of Energy (DOE) in response to a Request for Information submitted under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). In considering the Appeal, the DOE found that the Ohio Field Office improperly withheld names of DOE evaluators of a contractor "rebaseline" preliminary proposal under Exemption 6 of the FOIA. In particular, the DOE found that, except in unusual cases, federal employees have no privacy interest either in being identified as federal employees or in their work for the federal government. The DOE also found that where as here a branch of the agency acts in the spirit of the FOIA and releases the substance of internal, predecisional, deliberative documents, it may be permissible to withhold the names of DOE reviewers/evaluators under the "deliberative process" privilege incorporated into Exemption 5