

at the site to protect the area's environmental resources. Thus, staff concludes that approval of the proposed amendment of license would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

Copies of the EA can be viewed at the Commission's Public Reference Room, Room 2A, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426, or by calling (202) 208-1371. The EA also may be viewed on the Web at www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm. Call (202) 208-2222 for assistance.

For further information, please contact Jim Haimes at (202) 219-2780.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-32946 Filed 12-20-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 4718-011]

Cocheco Falls Associates; Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Assessment

December 15, 1999.

A draft environmental assessment (DEA) is available for public review. The DEA is for petitions to revise the license for the Cocheco Falls Project with respect to fish passage. The DEA recommends reasonable modifications to project structures and operation to benefit fish passage and that such modifications would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

The DEA was written by staff in the Office of Hydropower Licensing, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Copies of the DEA can be viewed in the Reference and Information Center, Room 2A, of the Commission's Offices at 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426.

Comments on the DEA are invited. Any comments, conclusions, or recommendations that draw upon studies, reports, or other working papers for substance should be supported by appropriate documentation. Comments should be filed within 60 days from the date of this notice with David P. Boergers, Secretary, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426, and should reference Project No. 4718.

For further information, please contact the project manager, Mr. Robert H. Grieve, at (202) 219-2655.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-32950 Filed 12-20-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2177-037]

Georgia Power Company; Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment

December 15, 1999.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission's) regulations, the Office of Hydropower Licensing has received the application requesting the Commission's authorization to permit the Smiths Water and Sewer Authority (Authority) to increase the rate of water withdrawal at its existing pumping station at Lake Oliver reservoir to 8.0 million gallons per day and has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed action.

Existing facilities at the Authority's water pumping station are able to accommodate the increased water withdrawal; consequently, the proposed action would not require any new construction activity.

Lake Oliver, the reservoir formed by Oliver Dam, is the second of three impoundments that comprise the Middle Chattahoochee Project. The project's three developments abut one another over a 16-mile-long distance of the Chattahoochee River.

In the EA, Commission staff does not identify any significant impacts that would result from Commission's approval of the proposed additional water withdrawal from Lake Oliver reservoir. Further, staff finds that Commission-imposed mitigative or enhancement measures are not needed at the site to protect the area's environmental resources. Thus, staff concludes that approval of the proposed amendment of license would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

Copies of the EA can be viewed at the Commission's Public Reference Room, Room 2A, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426, or by calling (202) 208-1371. The EA also may be viewed on the Web at www.ferc.fed.us/

online/rims.htm. Call (202) 208-2222 for assistance.

For further information, please contact Jim Haimes at (202) 219-2780.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-32949 Filed 12-20-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Application Accepted For Filing With The Commission and Soliciting Motions To Intervene and Protest

December 15, 1999.

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

- a. *Type of Application:* Major License.
- b. *Project No.:* P-2631-007.
- c. *Date Filed:* August 31, 1999.
- d. *Applicant:* International Paper Company.

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

f. *Location:* On the Westfield River in the Town of Russell, Hampden County, Massachusetts.

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

h. *Applicant Contact:*

Ted Lewellyn, P.E., International Paper Company, Paper Mill Road, Millers Falls, MA 01349, (413) 659-2337

Michael K. Chapman, Esq., International Paper Company, 6400 Poplar Avenue, Memphis, TN 38197, (901) 763-5888
Jon Christensen, Kleinschmidt Associates, 75 Main Street, Pittsfield, ME 04967, (207) 487-3328

i. *FERC Contact:* Allan Creamer (202) 219-0365 or E-mail at allan.creamer@ferc.fed.us.

j. *Deadline for Filing Motions to Intervene and Protest:* February 4, 2000.

k. *Status of Environmental Analysis:* This application has been accepted for filing, but is not ready for environmental analysis at this time—see attached paragraph E1.

l. *Description of Project:* The proposed run-of-river project would consist of the following features: (1) two non-contiguous dam sections, with lengths of about 307 feet (North dam) and 351 feet (South dam), and a crest elevation of 229 feet NGVD; (2) a 655-foot-long earthen dike with a sheet steel core; (3) a 40-foot-wide by 15-foot-high intake structure, having trashracks with 1.25-inch clear bar spacing; (4) a 550-foot-long penstock; (5) a powerhouse

containing three Francis turbines and generating units, having an installed capacity of 2,700 kW; (6) a 43-acre impoundment that extends approximately 1.2 miles upstream; (7) an interim downstream fish passage facility; and (8) appurtenant facilities. The applicant estimates that the total average annual generation would be approximately 7,700 MWh. No federal lands are affected by the proposed project.

m. Purpose of Project: The power generated by the project is sold on the local power grid. If the adjacent mill facilities and the hydro station (both owned by International Paper Company) is sold to a manufacture, power generated by the proposed project could be used to run the mill as well as be sold on the local power grid.

o. Availability of Application: A copy of the application is available for inspection and reproduction at the Commission's Public Reference and Files and Maintenance Branch, located at 888 First Street, NE, Room 2-A, Washington, DC 20426, or by calling (202) 219-1371. A copy of the application may be viewed or printed by accessing the Commission's website at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm>, or call (202) 208-2222 for assistance. Copies are also available for inspection and reproduction at International Paper Company, Paper Mill Road, Millers Falls, Massachusetts 01349 and through the Town of Russell, Robert P. Drake, Chairman, Board of Selectman, Town of Russell, Russell, Massachusetts 01071.

Protests or Motions to Intervene— 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, and 385.214. In determining the appropriate action to take, the Commission will consider all protests 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 deadline date for the particular application.

Filing and Service of Responsive Documents— The application is not ready for environmental analysis at this time; therefore, the Commission is not now requesting comments, recommendations, terms and conditions, or prescriptions.

When the application is ready for environmental analysis, the Commission will issue a public notice requesting comments, recommendations, terms and conditions, or prescriptions.

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. Any of these documents must be filed by providing the original and the number of copies required by the Commission's regulations to: The Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426. An additional copy must be sent to Director, Division of Project Review, Office of Hydropower Licensing, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, at the above address. A copy of any protest or motion to intervene must be served upon each representative of the applicant specified in the particular application.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-32945 Filed 12-20-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project Nos. 1980-009 and 1759-036 et al.]

Notice of Public Meetings; Wisconsin Electric Power Co. and Norway, WI; Upper Menominee River Basin Projects

December 15, 1999.

In the matter of: Wisconsin Electric Power Company; Project Nos. 1980-009, 1759-036, 2072-008, 2073-008, 2074-007, 2131-020, 11830-000, and 11831-000. Upper Menominee River Basin Hydroelectric Projects; Project No. 2471-005, Sturgeon Plant Project; City of Norway; Project No. 2720-032, Sturgeon Falls Project; Notice of Public Meetings.

Pursuant to the Energy Policy Act of 1992, and as part of the license applications, Wisconsin Electric Power Company (hereinafter, referred to as "WE") prepared an Applicant-Prepared Environmental Assessment (APEA) for the Upper Menominee River Basin Projects and filed it with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) on October 1, 1999. WE also filed with the Commission a surrender application and APEA for the Sturgeon Plant Project (P-2471-005). The City of Norway filed with the Commission an amendment of license

and APEA for the Sturgeon Falls Project (P-2720-032).

Two public meetings will be held, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, to solicit comments about the Upper Menominee River Basin Projects, the Sturgeon Plant Project, and the Sturgeon Falls Project. The meetings will be held on Wednesday, March 1, 2000, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. and from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. The meetings will be at the Premier Center, located at 300 East F Street, Iron Mountain, in Iron County, Michigan. The public meetings are open to all interested parties.

Meeting Procedures

The public meetings will be conducted according to the procedures used at Commission scoping meetings. The public meetings will be recorded by a stenographer and, thereby, will become a part of the formal record of the proceedings. Individuals presenting statements at the meetings will be asked to identify themselves for the record.

Concerned parties are encouraged to offer verbal guidance during public meetings. Speaking time allowed for individuals will be determined at the beginning of 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 ten minutes to present their views.

Persons choosing not to speak but wishing to express an opinion, as well as speakers unable to summarize their positions within the allotted time, may submit written statements for inclusion in the public record.

Written public comments may also be mailed to the Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426, by March 10, 2000. Correspondence should clearly show the following caption on the first page for each separate proceeding: (1) Public Meeting Comments, Upper Menominee River Basin Hydroelectric Projects, FERC Nos. 1980-009, 1759-036, 2072-008, 2073, 2074-007, 2131-020, 11830-000, and 11831-000; (2) Public Meeting Comments, Sturgeon Plant Project, FERC No. 2471-005; or (3) Public Meeting Comments, Sturgeon Falls Project, FERC No. 2720-032.

For further information, please contact Ms. Patti Leppert-Slack at the Commission, (202) 219-2767.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-32948 Filed 12-20-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M