

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Federal Energy Regulatory
Commission**

[Project No. 2652-007, Montana]

**Notice of Availability of Draft
Environmental Assessment, PacifiCorp**

Issued: April 15, 2002.

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 47,897), the Office of Energy Projects staff has reviewed the application for a subsequent license for the Bigfork Hydroelectric Project located on the Swan River, in Flathead County, Montana, and has prepared a draft environmental assessment (EA) for the project. The project does not occupy any federal or tribal lands. In the draft EA, the Commission's staff has analyzed the potential environmental effects of the existing project and has concluded that approval of the project, with appropriate environmental protection measures, would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

Copies of the draft EA can be viewed at the Commission's Reference and Information Center, Room 2A, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, or by calling 202-208-1371. The document also can be viewed on the web at <http://rimsweb1.ferc.gov/rims> (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

Any comments should be filed by May 27, 2002, and should be addressed to Magalie R. Salas, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. Please add Project No. 2652-007 to all comments. Comments 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/documents/makeanelectronicfiling/doorbell.htm>.

For further information, contact Steve Hocking at 202-219-2656.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-9706 Filed 4-19-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Federal Energy Regulatory
Commission**

[Docket No. CP02-45-000]

**Notice of Availability of the
Environmental Assessment for the
Proposed Hanging Rock Lateral
Project; Texas Eastern Transmission,
L.P.**

April 15, 2002.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared an environmental assessment (EA) on the natural gas pipeline facilities proposed by Texas Eastern Transmission, L.P. (Texas Eastern) in the above-referenced docket.

The EA 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, would not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

The EA assesses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the proposed pipeline facilities including:

- 9.6 miles of 24-inch-diameter pipeline extending from milepost (MP) 562.18 on Texas Eastern's 30-inch-diameter Line Nos. 10 and 15 (the Texas Eastern Interconnect) in Scioto County, Ohio, to the Hanging Rock Plant in Lawrence County, Ohio;
- 150 feet of 20-inch-diameter pipeline at the Texas Eastern Interconnect;
- 150 feet of 12-inch-diameter pipeline at MP 2.1 on the Hanging Rock Lateral to interconnect with the existing Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company (Tennessee) pipeline Scioto County, Ohio (the Tennessee Interconnect);
- 2 new metering and regulating (M&R) stations at the Tennessee Interconnect;
- The Hanging Rock Plant M&R station on the Hanging Rock Plant property at MP 9.6 in Lawrence County, Ohio; and
- Appurtenant facilities.

The purpose of the proposed facilities would be to provide service to the Hanging Rock Power Plant, a 1,240 megawatt gas-fired electric power plant (Hanging Rock Plant) which would be constructed in Lawrence County, Ohio, by Duke Energy Hanging Rock, L.P. (Duke-Hanging Rock). The pipeline facilities would allow Texas Eastern to provide a total of 250,000 dekatherms per day of transportation service to the Hanging Rock Plant. These facilities

have a proposed in-service date of November 1, 2002.

The EA has been placed in the public files of the FERC. A limited number of copies of the EA are available for distribution and public inspection at: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street, NE., Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426, (202) 208-1371.

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

Any person wishing to comment on the EA 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 properly recorded:

- Send an original and two copies of your comments to: Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., NE., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426;
- Label one copy of the comments for the attention of the Gas Branch 2, PJ11.2.
- Reference Docket No. CP02-45-000; and
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before May 15, 2002.

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 encourages electronic filing of any comments or interventions or protests 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 a free account which can be created by clicking on "Login to File" and then "New User Account."

Comments will be considered by the Commission but will not serve to make the commentator 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 Procedures (18 CFR 385.214).¹ Only intervenors have the

¹ Interventions may also be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. See the previous discussion on filing comments electronically.

right to seek rehearing of the Commission's decision.

Affected landowners and parties with environmental concerns may be granted intervenor status upon showing good cause by stating that they have a clear and direct interest in this proceeding which would not be adequately represented by any other parties. You do not need intervenor status to have your comments considered.

Additional information about the proposed project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at (202) 208-1088 or on the FERC Internet website (www.ferc.gov) using the "RIMS" link to information in this docket number. Click on the "RIMS" link, select "Docket #" from the RIMS Menu, and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to RIMS, the RIMS helpline can be reached at (202) 208-2222.

Similarly, the "CIPS" link on the FERC Internet website provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings. From the FERC Internet website, click on the "CIPS" link, select "Docket #" from the CIPS menu, and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to CIPS, the CIPS helpline can be reached at (202) 208-2222.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-9703 Filed 4-19-02; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 516]

South Carolina Electric and Gas Company; Notice of Scoping Meetings and Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment

Issued April 16, 2002.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) is requiring the seismic remediation of the Saluda Dam, part of the Saluda Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 516). The Saluda Dam impounds the 48,000-acre Lake Murray and is located in Richland, Lexington, Newberry, and Saluda counties, South Carolina. Remediation of the dam is being required to ensure public safety, pursuant to Paragraph 12.4 (b) (2) (iv) of the Commission's Regulations, and will necessitate a temporary partial drawdown of Lake Murray. The drawdown will lower the reservoir approximately 15 feet below its normal

operating level for approximately 20 months.

The Commission intends to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Saluda Dam Remediation Project, which will be used by the Commission to identify impacts and to identify measures that may help mitigate the impacts caused by the project. To support and assist our environmental review, we are beginning the public scoping process to ensure that all pertinent issues are identified and analyzed, and that the environmental document is thorough and balanced.

We invite the participation of governmental agencies, non-governmental organizations, and the general public in the scoping process, and will be preparing Scoping Document 1 (SD1) to provide information on the proposed project and to solicit written and verbal comments and suggestions on our preliminary list of issues and alternatives to be addressed in the EA. The SD1 will be distributed to parties on the mailing list for this project, as well as other individuals and organizations that we have identified as having an interest in this project. The SD1 will be available from our Public Reference Room at (202) 208-1371. It will also be accessible online at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "RIMS" link—select "Docket #" and follow the instructions (call (202)-208-2222 for assistance).

We will hold two scoping meetings on May 17, 2002, to receive input on the appropriate scope of the environmental analysis. Both meetings will be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 200 Stoneridge Drive, Columbia, SC. A resource agency meeting will be held from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. The public meeting will be held 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. The public and agencies may attend either or both meetings. The agency scoping meeting will focus on resource agency concerns, while the public scoping meeting is primarily for public input.

At the scoping meetings, the staff will: (1) summarize the environmental issues tentatively identified for analysis in the EA; (2) solicit from the meeting participants all available information, especially quantifiable data, on the resources at issue; (3) encourage statements from experts and the public on issues that should be analyzed in the EA, including viewpoints in opposition to, or in support of, the staff's preliminary views; (4) determine the resource issues to be addressed in the EA; and (5) identify those issues that require a detailed analysis, as well as those issues that do not require a detailed analysis. Staff will also be

soliciting input on potential measures that could be implemented to minimize the impacts of the remediation project, including the drawdown.

The meetings will be recorded by a stenographer and will become part of the formal record for this project.

Individuals, organizations, and agencies with environmental expertise and concerns are encouraged to attend the meetings and assist the staff in defining and clarifying the issues to be addressed in the EA.

Interested parties may also file written scoping comments. All such comments (original and eight copies) should be filed with: Magalie R. Salas, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. The deadline for filing scoping comments is June 21, 2002.

Scoping comments 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 (<http://www.ferc.gov>) under the "e-Filing" link.

Please direct any questions about the scoping process to John M. Mudre at (202) 219-1208.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-9767 Filed 4-19-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Transfer of License, Substitution of Relicense Applicant, and Soliciting Comments, Motions To Intervene, and Protests

April 15, 2002.

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

a. *Application Types:* (1) Transfer of License and (2) Request for Substitution of Applicant for New License.

b. *Project Nos:* 7000-016 and 7000-015.

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

d. *Applicants:* Newton Falls Holdings, LLC (transferor) and Erie Boulevard Hydropower, L.C. (transferee).

e. *Project Name and Location:* The Newton Falls Project is on the East Branch of the Oswegatchie River near the Village of Newton Falls in St. Lawrence County, New York. The project does not occupy federal or tribal lands.