

newspapers and libraries in the project area; and parties to this proceeding.

Any person wishing to comment on the EA may do so. Your comments should focus on the potential environmental effects, reasonable alternatives, and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impacts. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. To ensure that your comments are properly recorded and considered prior to a Commission decision on the proposal, it is important that the FERC receives your comments in Washington, DC on or before October 31, 2011.

For your convenience, there are three methods you can use to submit your comments to the Commission. In all instances, please reference the project docket number (CP11-46-000) with your submission. The Commission encourages electronic filing of comments and has dedicated eFiling expert staff available to assist you at (202) 502-8258 or efiling@ferc.gov.

(1) You may file your comments electronically by using the *eComment* feature, which is located on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the link to *Documents and Filings*. An *eComment* is an easy method for interested persons to submit brief, text-only comments on a project;

(2) You may file your comments electronically by using the *eFiling* feature, which is located on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the link to *Documents and Filings*. With *eFiling*, you can provide comments in a variety of formats by attaching them as a file with your submission. New *eFiling* users must first create an account by clicking on "eRegister." You will be asked to select the type of filing you are making. A comment on a particular project is considered a "Comment on a Filing"; or

(3) You may file a paper copy of your comments at the following address:

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426.

Although your comments will be considered by the Commission, simply filing comments will not serve to make the commenter 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).² Only intervenors have the 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 project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at (866) 208-FERC or on the FERC Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>) using the eLibrary link. Click on the eLibrary link, click on "General Search" and enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the Docket Number field (*i.e.*, CP11-46). Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll free at (866) 208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659. The eLibrary link also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

In addition, the Commission 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>.

Dated: September 30, 2011.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2011-25962 Filed 10-6-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2567-041]

Northern States Power Company; Notice of Application To Amend License and Accepted for Filing, Soliciting Comments, Motions To Intervene, and Protests

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

² Interventions may also be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. See the previous discussion on filing comments electronically.

a. *Type of Application:* Amendment to License.

b. *Project No:* 2567-041.

c. *Date Filed:* August 23, 2011.

d. *Applicant:* Northern States Power Company.

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

f. *Location:* The project is located on the Chippewa River, near the towns of Lafayette and Anson, in Chippewa County, Wisconsin.

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

h. *Applicant Contact:* William P. Zawacki, Director of Hydro Plants, Xcel Energy, 1414 W. Hamilton Ave., P.O. Box 8, Eau Claire, WI 54702-0008; and Matthew J. Miller, Hydro Licensing Specialist, Xcel Energy, 1414 W. Hamilton Ave., P.O. Box 8, Eau Claire, WI 54702-0008.

i. *FERC Contact:* Christopher Chaney; (202) 502-6778;

christopher.chaney@ferc.gov.

j. Deadline for filing comments, motions to intervene, and protests, is 30 days from the issuance date of this notice. All 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 at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>. If unable to be filed electronically, documents may be paper-filed. To paper-file, an original and seven copies should be mailed to: Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. 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.

Please include the project number (P-2567-041) on any comments, motions, or recommendations filed.

k. *Description of Request:* The licensee is seeking to amend the license for the Wisconsin Hydroelectric Project to authorize the proposed rehabilitation of two of the project's six units. The project's total authorized installed capacity would increase by 1,400 kW [from 36,000 kW to 39,000 kW] and the maximum hydraulic capacity would increase by 720 cubic feet per second (cfs) [from 9,600 cfs to 10,320 cfs].

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/docs-filing/elibrary.asp>. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. You may also register online at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp> to be notified via e-mail of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. 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, .211, .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 filing must (1) bear in all capital letters the title "COMMENTS", "PROTEST", or "MOTION TO INTERVENE" as applicable; (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. All comments, motions to intervene, or protests must set forth their evidentiary basis and otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 4.34(b). All comments, motions to intervene, or protests should relate to project works which are the subject of the license surrender. Agencies may obtain copies of the application directly from the applicant. A copy of any protest or motion to intervene must be served upon each representative of the applicant specified in the particular application. If an intervenor files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, they must also serve a copy of the document

on that resource agency. A copy of all other filings in reference to this application must be accompanied by proof of service on all persons listed in the service list prepared by the Commission in this proceeding, in accordance with 18 CFR 4.34(b) and 385.2010.

Dated: September 30, 2011.

Kimberly D. Bose,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2011-25964 Filed 10-6-11; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 14201-000]

Bison Peak Pumped Storage, LLC.; Notice of Preliminary Permit Application Accepted for Filing and Soliciting Comments, Motions To Intervene, and Competing Applications

On May 5, 2011, the Bison Peak Pumped Storage, LLC., filed an application for a preliminary permit, pursuant to section 4(f) of the Federal Power Act (FPA), proposing to study the feasibility of the Bison Peak Pumped Storage Project (Bison Peak Project or project) to be located in the Tehachapi Mountains south of Tehachapi, Kern County, California. The sole purpose of a preliminary permit, if issued, is to grant the permit holder priority to file a license application during the permit term. A preliminary permit does not authorize the permit holder to perform any land-disturbing activities or otherwise enter upon lands or waters owned by others without the owners' express permission.

The applicant has proposed four alternatives for the placement of a lower reservoir, termed "South," "Tejon," "Horsethief," and "Sawmill." Water for the initial fill of each of the alternatives would be obtained from local water agency infrastructure via a route that would be identified during studies.

The South alternative proposal would consist of the following: (1) An upper dam with a height of 50 feet, a crest length of 7,128 feet, and with a reservoir having a total storage capacity of 5,500 acre-feet at a normal maximum operating elevation of 7,860 feet mean sea level (msl); (2) a lower dam with a height of 310 feet, a crest length of 1,160 feet, and with a reservoir having a total storage capacity of 5,805 acre-feet at a normal maximum operating elevation of 5,100 feet msl; (3) a 9,060-foot-long underground conduit; (4) a powerhouse

containing four 250-megawatt (MW) reversible pump turbines and located 900 feet below ground level, approximately midway between the upper and lower reservoirs; (5) a powerhouse access tunnel of approximately 2,090 feet; and (6) a 3.2- or 5.3-mile-long, 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line to either the existing Cottonwind or Windhub substations, respectively.

The Tejon alternative proposal would consist of the following: (1) An upper dam with a height of 50 feet, a crest length of 7,128 feet, and with a reservoir having a total storage capacity of 5,500 acre-feet at a normal maximum operating elevation of 7,860 feet msl; (2) a lower dam with a height of 260 feet, a crest length of 1,480 feet, and with a reservoir having a total storage capacity of 6,355 acre-feet at a normal maximum operating elevation of 5,250 feet msl; (3) a 10,350-foot-long underground conduit; (4) a powerhouse containing four 250-MW reversible pump turbines and located 900 feet below ground level, approximately midway between the upper and lower reservoirs; and (5) a 14.2- or 14.8-mile-long transmission line (including both new construction of a 345-kV line and upgrades to existing transmission lines) to either the existing Cottonwind or Windhub substations, respectively. The estimated annual generation of the Bison Peak Pumped Storage Project would be 3,066 gigawatt-hours.

The Horsethief alternative would consist of the following: (1) An upper dam with a height of 50 feet, a crest length of 7,128 feet, and with a reservoir having a total storage capacity of 5,500 acre-feet at a normal maximum operating elevation of 7,860 feet msl; (2) a lower dam with a height of 310 feet, a crest length of 1,000 feet, and with a reservoir having a total storage capacity of 4,460 acre-feet at a normal maximum operating elevation of 5,650 feet msl; (3) a 11,000-foot-long underground conduit; (4) a powerhouse containing four 125-MW reversible pump turbines and located 1,500 feet below ground level, approximately midway between the upper and lower reservoirs; and (5) a 15.7- or 11.5-mile-long transmission line (including both new construction of a 230-kV line and upgrades to existing transmission lines) to either the existing Whirlwind or Windhub substations, respectively. The estimated annual generation of the Bison Peak Pumped Storage Project would be 1,533 gigawatt-hours.

The Sawmill alternative would consist of the following: (1) An upper dam with a height of 50 feet, a crest length of 7,128 feet, and with a reservoir