### Office of the Secretary, USDA

deadline for the Departments to file preliminary conditions with FERC.

(b) *Content.* Your hearing request must contain:

(1) A numbered list of the factual issues that you allege are in dispute, each stated in a single, concise sentence; and

(2) The following information with respect to each issue:

(i) The specific factual statements made or relied upon by the Forest Service under §1.620(a) that you dispute;

(ii) The basis for your opinion that those factual statements are unfounded or erroneous;

(iii) The basis for your opinion that any factual dispute is material; and

(iv) With respect to any scientific studies, literature, and other documented information supporting your opinions under paragraphs (b)(2)(ii) and (b)(2)(ii) of this section, specific citations to the information relied upon. If any such document is not already in the license proceeding record, you must provide a copy with the request.

(c) Witnesses and exhibits. Your hearing request must also list the witnesses and exhibits that you intend to present at the hearing, other than solely for impeachment purposes.

(1) For each witness listed, you must provide:

(i) His or her name, address, telephone number, and qualifications; and

(ii) A brief narrative summary of his or her expected testimony.

(2) For each exhibit listed, you must specify whether it is in the license proceeding record.

(d) *Page limits.* (1) For each disputed factual issue, the information provided under paragraph (b)(2) of this section may not exceed two pages.

(2) For each witness, the information provided under paragraph (c)(1) of this section may not exceed one page.

#### §1.622 How do I file a notice of intervention and response?

(a) General. (1) To intervene as a party to the hearing process, you must:

(i) Be a license party; and

(ii) File with NFS a notice of intervention and a written response to any request for a hearing within 15 days after the date of service of the request for a hearing.

(2) A license party filing a notice of intervention and response may not raise issues of material fact beyond those raised in the hearing request.

(b) *Content*. In your notice of intervention and response you must explain your position with respect to the issues of material fact raised in the hearing request under §1.621(b).

(1) If you agree with the information provided by the Forest Service under §1.620(a) or by the requester under §1.621(b), your response may refer to the Forest Service's explanation or the requester's hearing request for support.

(2) If you wish to rely on additional information or analysis, your response must provide the same level of detail with respect to the additional information or analysis as required under §1.621(b).

(c) Witnesses and exhibits. Your response and notice must also list the witnesses and exhibits that you intend to present at the hearing, other than solely for impeachment purposes.

(1) For each witness listed, you must provide:

(i) His or her name, address, telephone number, and qualifications; and

(ii) A brief narrative summary of his or her expected testimony; and

(2) For each exhibit listed, you must specify whether it is in the license proceeding record.

(d) *Page limits.* (1) For each disputed factual issue, the information provided under paragraph (b) of this section may not exceed two pages.

(2) For each witness, the information provided under paragraph (c)(1) of this section may not exceed one page.

# §1.623 When will hearing requests be consolidated?

(a) Initial Department coordination. If the Forest Service has received a copy of a hearing request, it must contact the other Departments within 10 days after the deadline for filing hearing requests under §1.621 and determine:

(1) Whether any of the other Departments has also filed a preliminary condition or prescription relating to the license with FERC; and

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(2) If so, whether the other Department has also received a hearing request with respect to the preliminary condition or prescription.

(b) *Decision on consolidation*. Within 25 days after the deadline for filing hearing requests under §1.621, if the Forest Service has received a hearing request, it must:

(1) Consult with any other Department that has also received a hearing request; and

(2) Decide jointly with the other Department:

(i) Whether to consolidate the cases for hearing under paragraphs (c)(3)(ii)through (c)(3)(iv) of this section; and

(ii) If so, which Department will conduct the hearing on their behalf.

(c) *Criteria*. Cases will or may be consolidated as follows:

(1) All hearing requests with respect to any conditions from the same Department will be consolidated for hearing.

(2) All hearing requests with respect to any prescriptions from the same Department will be consolidated for hearing.

(3) Any or all of the following may be consolidated for hearing, if the Departments involved determine that there are common issues of material fact or that consolidation is otherwise appropriate:

(i) Two or more hearing requests with respect to any condition and any prescription from the same Department;

(ii) Two or more hearing requests with respect to conditions from different Departments;

(iii) Two or more hearing requests with respect to prescriptions from different Departments; or

(iv) Two or more hearing requests with respect to any condition from one Department and any prescription from another Department.

### §1.624 How will the Forest Service respond to any hearing requests?

(a) General. Within 45 days after the deadline in \$1.621(a)(2), the Forest Service may file with the Hearing Clerk an answer to any hearing request under \$1.621.

(b) *Content*. If the Forest Service files an answer:

(1) For each of the numbered factual issues listed under §1.621(b)(1), the answer must explain the Forest Service's position with respect to the issues of material fact raised by the requester, including one or more of the following statements as appropriate:

(i) That the Forest Service is willing to stipulate to the facts as alleged by the requester;

(ii) That the Forest Service believes the issue listed by the requester is not a factual issue, explaining the basis for such belief;

(iii) That the Forest Service believes the issue listed by the requester is not material, explaining the basis for such belief; or

(iv) That the Forest Service agrees that the issue is factual, material, and in dispute.

(2) The answer must also indicate whether the hearing request will be consolidated with one or more other hearing requests under §1.623 and, if so:

(i) Identify any other hearing request that will be consolidated with this hearing request; and

(ii) State which Department will conduct the hearing and provide contact information for the appropriate Department hearings component.

(c) *Witnesses and exhibits.* The Forest Service's answer must also list the witnesses and exhibits that it intends to present at the hearing, other than solely for impeachment purposes.

(1) For each witness listed, the Forest Service must provide:

(i) His or her name, address, telephone number, and qualifications; and

(ii) A brief narrative summary of his or her expected testimony.

(2) For each exhibit listed, the Forest Service must specify whether it is in the license proceeding record

(d) *Page limits.* (1) For each disputed factual issue, the information provided under paragraph (b)(1) of this section may not exceed two pages.

(2) For each witness, the information provided under paragraph (c)(1) of this section may not exceed one page.

(e) *Notice in lieu of answer*. If the Forest Service elects not to file an answer to a hearing request: