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Information concerning the involvement of the FS is available from John Oppenlander at (970) 346-5005. Information concerning the involvement of the FWS is available from Dan Mulhern at (785) 539-3474 (ext. 109).

**Magalie R. Salas,**

*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2574-032 Maine]

#### Merimil Limited Partnership; Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Assessment

October 3, 2003.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) regulations, 18 CFR part 380 (Order No. 486, 52 FR 47897), the Office of Energy Projects has reviewed the application for license for the Lockwood Hydroelectric Project, located on the Kennebec River in Kennebec County, Maine, and prepared a draft environmental assessment (DEA). The DEA contains staff's analysis of the environmental effects of the proposal and concludes that licensing the project, with additional staff recommended measures, would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the human environment.

A copy of the DEA is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room, or it may be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number, excluding the last three digits in the docket number field, to access the document. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll-

free at (866) 208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659.

Please file any comments (an original and 8 copies) within 45 days from the date of this letter. The comments should be addressed to Magalie R. Salas, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. Please affix the Project No. 2574-032 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 [www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov) under the "e-filing" link). The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings.

**Magalie R. Salas,**

*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2000-036]

#### Power Authority of the State of New York ; Notice of Comment Deadline

October 3, 2003.

On September 30, 2003, pursuant to Rule 602 (18 CFR 385.603) the Power Authority of the State of New York (PASNY) filed an offer of settlement on behalf of itself, the Allegheny Electric Cooperative, Inc., Public Power Association of New Jersey, Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission, and the Vermont Department of Public Service, in the relicensing proceeding for PASNY's St. Lawrence Hydroelectric Project No. 2000.

The offer of settlement was not joined in by intervenor Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company.

Comments on the offer of settlement may be filed not later than 10 days after the filing of the offer, and reply comments may be filed not later than 15 days after the filing of the offer.

**Magalie R. Salas,**

*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. PL03-6-000]

#### Natural Gas Markets Conference; Supplemental Notice of Public Conference and Agenda

October 3, 2003.

1. As announced in the Notice of Conference issued September 23, 2003, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) will convene a public conference on October 14, 2003. To provide sufficient time for the agenda, the meeting time has been changed, and will now start at 9 a.m. in the Commission Meeting Room. This year's conference on natural gas markets will focus on the findings and recommendations contained in the National Petroleum Council's (NPC) report: *Balancing Natural Gas Policy—Fueling the Demands of a Growing Economy*.<sup>1</sup> All interested persons are invited to attend. No registration is required for attendance. All visitors must check-in at the First Street entrance and have picture identification readily available to ensure quick admittance.

2. The conference will consist of two sessions. The first session will feature three panel presentations by the NPC study team. Panel 1 will address gas supply. Panel 2 will address gas demand. Panel 3 will address infrastructure issues. A question and answer period will follow the presentations, with an opportunity for audience participation.

3. The second session will feature an open forum to discuss any issues the Commission should consider in shaping its future regulatory policies concerning the natural gas industry. The open forum will consist of oral presentations by interested parties, limited to five minutes, followed by responsive discussion.

4. To assist in organizing the conference, parties wishing to participate in discussions regarding the NPC presentations or to speak at the open forum are requested to submit an expression of interest by October 10, 2003, via e-mail to Robert Flanders at [robert.flanders@ferc.gov](mailto:robert.flanders@ferc.gov). Parties should identify the speaker and indicate

<sup>1</sup> The NPC Report's summary of findings and recommendations was released by the NPC on September 25, 2003, and is available on the NPC Web site at [www.npc.org](http://www.npc.org). The entire integrated report is scheduled to be released by the NPC on or about the day of the conference on the NPC Web site. Printed copies of the integrated report will not be distributed at the conference.