

pages of comments on any aspect of the Government's proposed plans (as described herein) to implement FutureGen. Such submissions should include the party's name, telephone number, mailing address, and e-mail address. In formulating the path forward for implementing FutureGen, the Department will consider all comments received. It will also prepare a report containing a synopsis of comments. The report will be posted on the Fossil Energy Web site.

Interested parties may submit their comments by e-mail or by regular mail to: Keith R. Miles, U.S. Department of Energy, National Energy Technology Laboratory, PO Box 10940, MS 921-107, Pittsburgh, PA 15236, E-mail Address: miles@netl.doe.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Keith R. Miles, U.S. Department of Energy, National Energy Technology Laboratory, PO Box 10940, MS 921-107, Pittsburgh, PA 15236, E-mail Address: miles@netl.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

An affordable, reliable, and environmentally sound supply of electricity is critical to our Nation's future. Coal provides over half of our Nation's electricity. However, coal-fired power plants also emit one-third of the U.S. anthropogenic carbon dioxide emissions. As a key step towards making significant reductions in these emissions, and preserve the security and cost benefits of using coal to produce electricity for our Nation, it is necessary to validate the engineering, economic, and environmental viability of coal-based systems to produce electricity with zero emissions. This is one of the key objectives of FutureGen.

Another FutureGen objective is to produce coal-based hydrogen with zero emissions. The production of hydrogen supports the President's Hydrogen Initiative. Using our abundant, readily available, low-cost coal to produce hydrogen—an environmentally superior transportation fuel—would help ensure America's energy security. Thus, FutureGen will also provide a zero emissions technology option for the transportation sector—a sector that accounts for another one-third of our Nation's anthropogenic carbon dioxide emissions.

The Department envisions that the FutureGen project will employ coal gasification technology to co-produce electricity and hydrogen. The size of the plant will nominally be 275 MW equivalent electricity output.

Power generation and hydrogen production will be integrated with the capture of carbon dioxide and its

sequestration in deep underground geologic formation(s). The project will seek to sequester carbon dioxide emissions at an operating rate of one million metric tons (or more) of carbon dioxide sequestered per year. The project will also work with the appropriate domestic and international communities to establish standardized technologies and protocols for carbon dioxide measuring, monitoring, and verification. The Department anticipates placing separate contracts to independently validate carbon dioxide sequestration.

In addition, the plant will virtually eliminate environmental emissions associated with coal use, specifically nitrogen and sulfur oxides, particulate matter, and mercury. The plant will showcase cutting-edge technologies that can virtually eliminate environmental concerns associated with coal use. This includes establishing beneficial uses for coal utilization by-products from the plant.

The initial FutureGen plant configuration will incorporate cutting edge technologies to address scaling and integration issues for coal-based, zero emissions energy plants. The plant will also be operated as a research facility—it will test and validate additional advanced technologies as they emerge from research programs. These advanced technologies will offer the promise of clean environmental performance, at a reduced cost and increased reliability. Thus, FutureGen will be designed and constructed with the flexibility to conduct both full scale and slipstream tests of such advanced technology over the entire operational phase of the project. The large scale of FutureGen is driven by the need to adequately validate the engineering, economic, and environmental viability of coal-based, zero emissions technologies.

Global acceptance of the concept of coal-based systems integrated with sequestration technology is a key goal of FutureGen. Broad involvement in the FutureGen project is required to achieve this goal. Although membership of the Consortium will be limited to coal and coal-fueled electricity generation owners and producers, and while equipment and service vendors may participate through a competitive selection process for their goods and services, the Department expects the Consortium to encourage and provide mechanisms for future participation in the project, as appropriate, of interested parties such as state governments, regulators, and the environmental community. The Department also expects the Consortium to be an “open”

consortium—working to expand its initial membership to one that is inclusive and open to other coal and coal-fueled electricity owners and producers.

The Consortium will be expected to contribute at least a 20 percent industry cost share. Terms and conditions of inclusion of additional domestic and foreign industrial coal producers and coal-fueled electricity generators will be determined by the Consortium. Foreign government participation in FutureGen will be subject to negotiations that are not contrary to the Department's terms and conditions established in its cooperative agreement with the Consortium.

Disclaimer: This Request for Information shall not be construed as a commitment by the Government to award a cooperative agreement at this time.

Issued in Pittsburgh, PA, on April 11, 2003.

Randolph Kesling,

*Senior Management and Technical Advisor,
Office of Business Logistics.*

[FR Doc. 03-9704 Filed 4-18-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. ER03-18-001, et al.]

Athens Generating Company, L.P., et al.; Electric Rate and Corporate Filings

April 14, 2003.

The following filings have been made with the Commission. The filings are listed in ascending order within each docket classification.

1. Athens Generating Company, L.P.; Covert Generating Company, LLC; Harquahala Generating Company, LLC; Millennium Power Partners, L.P.; New GenHoldings

[Docket No. EC03-18-001]

Take notice that on April 10, 2003, Athens Generating Company, L.P., Covert Generating Company, LLC, Harquahala Generating Company, LLC, and Millennium Power Partners, L.P., (collectively, the NEG Companies) each of which is an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of PG&E National Energy Group, Inc. (PG&E NEG), and New GenHoldings (which may be referred to hereafter individually as Applicant or jointly as Applicants) tendered for filing, pursuant to section 203 of the Federal Power Act, 16 U.S.C. 824b, and part 33 of the Commission's regulations, 18 CFR part 33, an amended and

restated application for authorization to dispose of jurisdictional facilities. The Applicants state that more specifically, PG&E NEG seeks approval to effectuate an internal corporate reorganization with respect to some or all of the NEG Companies and then transfer all of its ownership interests in the NEG Companies to New GenHoldings that are direct, or indirect, wholly-owned subsidiaries of the lenders to the NEG Companies and/or to their upstream owners.

Comment Date: May 1, 2003.

2. Northern Indiana Public Service Company

[Docket No. ER96-399-004]

Take notice that on April 10, 2003, Northern Indiana Public Service Company (Northern Indiana) filed a revised tariff sheet as part of its FERC Electric Tariff, First Revised Volume No. 5. Northern Indiana states that the revised tariff sheet is submitted to clarify the filing that it made on March 17, 2003, in compliance with the Order issued by the Commission on December 30, 2002.

Northern Indiana states that copies of this filing have been sent to all parties on the Commission's official service list.

Comment Date: May 1, 2003.

3. GenWest, LLC

[Docket No. ER03-352-001]

Take notice that on April 10, 2003, GenWest, LLC, filed an amendment to its application for authority to sell power at market-based rates.

Comment Date: May 1, 2003.

4. Duke Energy Corporation

[Docket No. ER03-481-001]

Take notice that on April 10, 2003, Duke Energy Corporation, on behalf of Duke Electric Transmission, (collectively, Duke) tendered for filing the revised First Amended and Restated Generation Interconnection and Operating Agreement (Restated IOA) between Duke and Rowan County Power, LLC, as the successor in interest to Carolina Power and Light Company in compliance with the Commission's March 1, 2003 letter order.

Comment Date: May 1, 2003.

5. Portland General Electric Company

[Docket No. ER03-733-000]

Take notice that on April 10, 2003, Portland General Electric Company (PGE) tendered for filing an executed Facility Interconnection and Operation Agreement between PGE and SP Newsprint Co., (SP Newsprint). PGE states that the agreement is pursuant to PGE's Open Access Transmission Tariff

(OATT), Attachment K, section 6, effective April 2, 2001.

PGE requests a waiver of the Commission's 60-day notice requirement and an effective date of May 12, 2003. PGE also states that a copy of the filing was served upon SP Newsprint and the Oregon Public Utility Commission.

Comment Date: May 1, 2003.

6. Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc.

[Docket No. ER03-732-000]

Take notice that on April 10, 2003, Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc. (Midwest ISO) pursuant to section 205 of the Federal Power Act, submitted for filing an Interconnection and Operating Agreement among Otter Tail Power Company (Transmission Side) and Otter Tail Power Company (Generation Side).

Midwest ISO states that a copy of this filing was sent to Otter Tail Power Company (Transmission Side) and Otter Tail Power Company (Generation Side).

Comment Date: May 1, 2003.

7. Westar Energy, Inc.

[Docket No. ER03-734-000]

Take notice that on April 10, 2003, Westar Energy, Inc. (Westar) submitted for filing revisions to Sheet No. 133 through Sheet No. 135 of the Open Access Transmission Tariff, FERC Electric Tariff Second Revised Volume No. 5.

Westar states that it proposes to update Schedule 4—Energy Imbalance Service to clarify how customers will be billed or credited when there is a difference between a customer's scheduled and delivered energy. Westar also states that it proposes to set a minimum price of \$100 per MWh whenever a customer is billed for service under this schedule.

Westar states that a copy of the filing was served upon the Kansas Corporation Commission.

Comment Date: May 1, 2003.

Standard Paragraph

Any person desiring to intervene or to protest this filing should file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's rules of practice and procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214). Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. All such motions or protests should be filed on

or before the comment date, and, to the extent applicable, must be served on the applicant and on any other person designated on the official service list. This filing is available for review at the Commission or may be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov>, using the "FERRIS" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll-free at (866) 208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659. Protests and interventions 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 under the "e-Filing" link. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings.

Magalie R. Salas,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-9679 Filed 4-18-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. EG03-59-000, et al.]

Ely Wind Company, LLC, et al.; Electric Rate and Corporate Filings

April 11, 2003.

The following filings have been made with the Commission. The filings are listed in ascending order within each docket classification.

1. Ely Wind Company, LLC

[Docket No. EG03-59-000]

Take notice that on April 9, 2003, Ely Wind Company, LLC (Applicant) filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) an Application for Determination of Exempt Wholesale Generator Status pursuant to part 365 of the Commission's regulations.

Applicant states that it is developing a wind-powered eligible facility with a capacity of 50 megawatts, which will be located in Ruth, Nevada.

Comment Date: May 2, 2003.

2. Southwestern Electric Power Company

[Docket No. ER02-2313-002]

Take notice that on April 9, 2003, Southwestern Electric Power Company tendered for filing a refund report in compliance with the Commission's Order dated February 25, 2003.