

Access at: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/nara/index.html>.

Dated: July 24, 2007.

**Troy R. Justesen,**

*Assistant Secretary for Vocational and Adult Education.*

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**BILLING CODE 4000-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Bonneville Power Administration

#### Long-Term Regional Dialogue Policy

**AGENCY:** Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), Department of Energy (DOE).

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Record of Decision (ROD).

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the availability of the NEPA ROD for BPA's adoption of a policy for its power supply role after fiscal year 2011. This policy is intended to provide BPA's customers with greater clarity about their Federal power supply so they can effectively plan for the future and, if they choose, make capital investments in long-term electricity infrastructure. Each of the issues in this Long-Term Regional Dialogue Policy that were found to have any environmental effects were determined to be within the scope of the Market-Driven Alternative adopted in the Business Plan ROD. Thus, this NEPA ROD is consistent with and tiered to the Business Plan Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0183, June 1995) and the Business Plan ROD (August 15, 1995). The Policy, which is the result of a Regional Dialogue process that began in 2002, is described more fully in a separately issued Administrator's ROD that addresses the legal and policy rationale supporting the administrative decisions in the Regional Dialogue.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the following documents may be obtained by calling BPA's toll-free document request line, 1-800-622-4520, or by visiting the Web site at: <http://www.efw.bpa.gov>: the NEPA ROD for the Long-Term Regional Dialogue Policy; the Administrator's ROD on the policy; and the Business Plan EIS and ROD.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:** Katherine S. Pierce, Bonneville Power Administration KEC-4, P.O. Box 3621, Portland, Oregon, 97208-3621; toll-free telephone number 1-800-282-3713; fax number 503-230-5699; or e-mail [kspierce@bpa.gov](mailto:kspierce@bpa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Business Plan EIS and ROD to which this NEPA ROD is tiered were prepared to support a number of decisions including the products and services BPA will market, rates for BPA's products and services, policy direction for BPA's sale of power products to customers, contract terms BPA will offer for power sales, and plans for BPA's resource acquisitions and power purchase contracts. Each of the issues in this Long-Term Regional Dialogue Policy has been evaluated for environmental effects. Some of the policy issues do not have the potential to result in environmental effects; others are a continuation of the status quo. For the remaining issues, any environmental effects have already been addressed in the Business Plan EIS.

Issued in Portland, Oregon, on July 19, 2007.

**Stephen J. Wright,**

*Administrator and Chief Executive Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Western Area Power Administration

#### Construction and Operation of the Proposed NextGen Energy Facility, South Dakota

**AGENCY:** Western Area Power Administration, DOE.

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Conduct Scoping Meetings; Notice of Floodplain and Wetlands Involvement.

**SUMMARY:** The Western Area Power Administration (Western), an agency of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) intends to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the construction and operation of the proposed NextGen Energy Facility (Project) in South Dakota. Basin Electric Power Cooperative (Basin Electric) has applied to interconnect the proposed Project to Western's electric power transmission system. The EIS will address the construction and operation of the proposed Project, which includes a 500 to 700 megawatt (MW) (net) coal-fired generation facility and ancillary equipment and facilities east of the Missouri River in South Dakota. Portions of the proposed Project may affect floodplains and wetlands in the area. Western will hold public scoping meetings near the Project area during the public scoping period to share information and receive comments and suggestions on the scope of the EIS.

**DATES:** Open house public scoping meetings will be held August 21, 22, and 23, 2007, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. The public scoping period starts with publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** and will continue through August 31, 2007. To be assured consideration, all comments or suggestions regarding the appropriate scope of the EIS must be received by the close of the scoping period.

**ADDRESSES:** Open-house public scoping meetings will be held at the following locations:

1. August 21, 2007, Selby Opera House, 3409 Main Street, Selby, SD 57472.

2. August 22, 2007, Phoenix Center, 117 South Main Street, Onida, SD 57564.

3. August 23, 2007, Woonsocket Community Center, Dumont Avenue, Woonsocket, SD 57385.

Written comments on the scope of the EIS should be addressed to:

Ms. Catherine Cunningham, Western Area Power Administration, P.O. Box 281213, Lakewood, CO 80228, fax (720) 962-7269, e-mail: [NextGenEIS@wapa.gov](mailto:NextGenEIS@wapa.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Catherine Cunningham, Western Area Power Administration, P.O. Box 281213, Lakewood, CO 80228, telephone (720) 962-7000, fax (720) 962-7269, e-mail: [NextGenEIS@wapa.gov](mailto:NextGenEIS@wapa.gov). For general information on DOE's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review procedures or status of a NEPA review, contact Ms. Carol M. Borgstrom, Director of NEPA Policy and Compliance, GC-20, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585, telephone (202) 586-4600 or (800) 472-2756.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Western, an agency within DOE, markets Federal hydro-electric power to preference customers, as specified by law.

These customers include municipalities, cooperatives, public utilities, irrigation districts, Federal and State agencies, and Native American tribes in 15 western states, including South Dakota. Western owns and operates about 17,000 miles of transmission line.

Basin Electric is a regional wholesale electric generation and transmission cooperative owned and controlled by its member cooperatives. Basin Electric serves approximately 2.5 million customers covering 430,000 square miles in portions of Colorado, Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming.