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#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

Development and operation of the hydropower system in the Columbia River Basin has had far-reaching effects on many species of wildlife. Some floodplain and riparian habitats important to wildlife were inundated when reservoirs filled. BPA needs mitigation for the loss of wildlife habitat caused by the federal portion of this development. Specific mitigation actions that BPA may support to satisfy this need are initially developed in a public process managed by the Northwest Power Planning Council. Future mitigation actions with potential environmental effects are expected to include fee-title land acquisition and management, property lease and management, conservation easement acquisition and management, water rights acquisition and management, habitat restorations and enhancements, installation of watering devices, riparian fencing, and similar wildlife conservation actions. Potential project implementors and managers include Indian Tribes, states, private conservation groups, and other federal agencies. The area of potential impact is most of the Columbia River Basin, including land in Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington.

#### **Proposed Action**

The proposed action to be considered in this BPA Wildlife Mitigation Program EIS is the establishment of principles to guide program implementation. A primary purpose of these program implementation principles will be cost-effective achievement of wildlife mitigation goals. General issues the EIS may address include wildlife management, vegetation management, water management, ecosystem management, fire management, multiple use and public access management, cultural resource management, Indian treaty rights, and local economic effects. Identification of additional issues may result from the public scoping process, and scoping may also eliminate some issues from in-depth analysis. The proposed program principles may establish criteria for implementing specific mitigation actions without further review, or with limited site-specific analysis tiered to the Program EIS. Undertaking preparation of the EIS necessarily assumes future BPA funding of wildlife mitigation, but is not a commitment to program funding. If

funds are available, the EIS will help to achieve maximum benefits for wildlife.

#### **Process to Date**

BPA began mitigating for wildlife losses under the Northwest Power Act following issuance of the Council's initial Fish and Wildlife Program in 1982. To date, BPA has performed environmental review of requests for wildlife mitigation funding concurrent with site-specific proposals for action. Issues common to many of these site-specific reviews have helped to tentatively define the scope of the Wildlife Mitigation Program EIS. To the extent practical, the Council and BPA intend to integrate the Wildlife Mitigation Program EIS process with this year's process to amend the wildlife section of the Council's Fish and Wildlife Program.

Information developed from other environmental reviews in the Pacific Northwest, particularly the System Operation Review EIS jointly undertaken by BPA, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, may be included in the Wildlife Mitigation Program EIS as appropriate.

#### **Possible Alternatives**

Alternatives to be considered in the BPA Wildlife Mitigation Program EIS would include alternative implementation principles for each management issue addressed. The EIS will also consider a No Action alternative, *i.e.*, program implementation without defined program-wide implementation principles.

#### **Identification of Environmental Issues**

The environmental issues associated with wildlife mitigation activities include changes in land use, vegetation patterns, wildlife populations, recreational opportunities, and water use and quality. Additional environmental issues concern protection of historic and cultural resources, introduction of herbicides into the environment, and smoke from vegetation burning.

Issued in Portland, Oregon, on June 12, 1995.

**Randall W. Hardy,**

*Administrator.*

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#### **Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

#### **Central Vermont Public Service Corporation; Notice of Intent To File an Application for a New License**

**[Project No. 2737 Vermont]**

June 16, 1995.

Take notice that the Central Vermont Public Service Corporation, the existing licensee for the Lower Middlebury Hydroelectric Project No. 2737, filed a timely notice of intent to file an application for a new license, pursuant to 18 CFR 16.6 of the Commission's Regulations. The original license for Project No. 2737 was issued effective April 1, 1962, and expires July 1, 2000.

The project is located on the Otter Creek in Addison County, Vermont. The principal works of the Lower Middlebury Project include an 80-foot-long, 15-foot-high concrete gravity West Dam with two stop log sections, and a 270-foot-long, 10-foot-high buttressed concrete gravity East Dam with a headrace structure and eight sliding gates; a reservoir with an area of about 16 acres at 314.48 feet U.S.G.S.; a power intake canal about 400 feet long and 40 feet wide; a concrete and brick powerhouse containing three 750-Kw generators; transformers and transmission line; and appurtenant facilities.

Pursuant to 18 CFR 16.7, the licensee is required henceforth to make available certain information to the public. This information is available from the licensee at 77 Grove Street, Rutland, Vermont 05701.

Pursuant to 18 CFR 16.8, 16.9 and 16.10, each application for a new license and any competing license application must be filed with the Commission at least 24 months prior to the expiration of the existing license. All applications for license for this project must be filed by July 1, 1998.

**Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,**

*Acting Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 95-15266 Filed 6-21-95; 8:45 am]

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**[Docket No. RP95-341-000]**

#### **Colorado Interstate Gas Co.; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff**

June 16, 1995.

Take notice that on June 13, 1995, Colorado Interstate Gas Company (CIG), tendered for filing to become part of its FERC Gas Tariff, First Revised Volume No. 1, First Revised Sheet No. 271 to be effective August 1, 1995.

CIG states the purpose of this filing is to: