

Site vs. Source Energy

Comment: EEI's first comment on this topic was that DOE should only use site energy and energy cost results in its determination and that source energy results should not be used.

DOE response: DOE notes that EEI submitted a similar comment on the Notice of Preliminary Determination for Standards 90.1–2010 and 2013. DOE continues to believe that source energy estimates are of interest to many stakeholders and are important to the discussion of global resources and environmental issues.

However, DOE realizes that site energy is the energy that typically appears on utility bills and that is seen by the consumer, and that energy cost (as shown on energy bills) is a metric also important to many consumers. It is for these reasons that DOE provides all three metrics—site energy, source energy, and energy cost—in its determinations.

Comment: EEI also stated that the value associated with source energy for electricity overstates losses and does not appropriately characterize the significant improvements in the overall efficiency of the electricity sector because: (1) DOE considered only commercial customers; (2) the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) fossil fuel heat rate assigned to renewable energy is too high; (3) estimates of primary energy values should look forward not backward; and (4) estimates of primary energy values should account for regional differences in electricity generation and renewable portfolio standards.

DOE response: DOE notes that EEI submitted a similar comment on the Notice of Preliminary Determination for Standards 90.1–2010 and 2013. DOE continues to believe that its use of EIA data, conversion factors, and treatment of renewable energy is appropriate and remains consistent with past determinations and DOE's Appliance and Equipment Standards Program (AESP) analyses. While it is true that the site-to-source conversion factor used in this analysis is derived from EIA data for commercial sector energy use, analyzing the data from all sectors results in the same conversion factor. The determination methodology does not calculate the future impact of the new Standard, and thus DOE believes that using conversion factors from the year of publication of the Standard is appropriate. DOE notes that it makes analyses available for states on the future impact of energy codes, which are beneficial for determining the long-term benefits of new code adoption. Finally, the use of the conversion factor from 2016 in this analysis also mitigates the impact of using the fossil fuel equivalency approach to determine the conversion factor for electricity because the proportion of renewable sources in the overall fuel mix was very small in 2016.

[FR Doc. 2018–03931 Filed 2–26–18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

National Energy Technology Laboratory

Notice of Intent To Grant a Partially Exclusive License

AGENCY: National Energy Technology Laboratory, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of intent to grant a partially exclusive license.

SUMMARY: The National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) hereby gives notice that the Department of Energy (DOE) intends to grant a partially exclusive license to practice the invention described and claimed in U.S. Patent Application Number 15/782,315 and International Patent Application Number PCT/US2017/056421, “Stable Immobilized Amine Sorbents for REE and Heavy Metal Recovery from Liquid Sources” to PQ Corporation, having its principal place of business in Malvern, Pennsylvania. The invention is owned by the United States of America, as represented by DOE.

DATES: Written comments, objections, or nonexclusive license applications must be received at the **ADDRESS** listed no later than March 14, 2018. Objections submitted in response to this notice will not be made available to the public for inspection and, to the extent permitted by law, will not be released under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552.

ADDRESSES: Comments, applications for nonexclusive licenses, or objections relating to the prospective partially exclusive license should be submitted to Jessica Lamp, Technology Transfer Program Manager, U.S. Department of Energy, National Energy Technology Laboratory, P.O. Box 10940, Pittsburgh, PA 15236–0940 or via facsimile to (412) 386–4183.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jessica Lamp, Technology Transfer Program Manager, U.S. Department of Energy, National Energy Technology Laboratory, P.O. Box 10940, Pittsburgh, PA 15236; Telephone (412) 386–7417; Email: jessica.lamp@netl.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 209(c) of title 35 of the United States Code gives DOE the authority to grant exclusive or partially exclusive licenses in Department-owned inventions where a determination is made, among other things, that the desired practical application of the invention has not been achieved, or is not likely to be achieved expeditiously, under a nonexclusive license. The statute and implementing regulations (37 CFR 404)

require that the necessary determinations be made after public notice and opportunity for filing written comments and objections.

PQ Corporation, has applied for a partially exclusive license to practice the invention and has a plan for commercialization of the invention. DOE intends to grant the license, upon a final determination in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 209(c), unless within 15 days of publication of this notice, NETL's Technology Transfer Program Manager (contact information listed) receives in writing any of the following, together with supporting documents:

- (i) A statement from any person setting forth reasons why it would not be in the best interest of the United States to grant the proposed license; or
- (ii) An application for a nonexclusive license to the invention, in which applicant states that it already has brought the invention to practical application or is likely to bring the invention to practical application expeditiously.

The proposed license would be partially exclusive, subject to a license and other rights retained by the United States, and subject to a negotiated royalty. The exclusive fields of use are: removal of rare earth elements from liquids, coal tailings, fly ash and acid mine drainage; removal of heavy metals, such as copper, lead and arsenic from liquids; and removal of barium and strontium from liquids. DOE will review all timely written responses to this notice, and will grant the license if, after expiration of the 15-day notice period, and after consideration of any written responses to this notice, a determination is made in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 209(c) that the license is in the public interest.

Dated: February 6, 2018.

Grace M. Bochenek,
Director, National Energy Technology Laboratory.

[FR Doc. 2018–03936 Filed 2–26–18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Notice of Request for Information (RFI) on Expanding Hydropower and Pumped Storage's Contribution to Grid Resiliency and Reliability

AGENCY: Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Request for information (RFI).

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE), Water Power Technologies Office (WPTO) seeks information from the public on understanding, accessing, and utilizing the full potential of the hydropower fleet, including pumped storage, to contribute to electric grid resiliency and reliability. The WPTO also seeks information about opportunities for the existing and potential pumped storage and hydropower fleet to expand its contribution to the grid in the future. This information will help WPTO develop a research portfolio that intends to lower system costs, bring insight to hydropower technology development and research investments, promote optimization of hydroelectric resources, and ultimately support a more secure and reliable electric power system. WPTO seeks concise feedback from all relevant stakeholders.

DATES: Responses to the RFI must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. (ET) on April 6, 2018.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties are to submit comments electronically to WPTORFI@ee.doe.gov. Include "Hydropower RFI" in the subject of the title. It is recommended that attachments with file sizes exceeding 25MB be compressed (*i.e.*, zipped) to ensure message delivery. Only electronic responses will be accepted. Please identify your answers by responding to a specific question or topic if possible. Respondents may answer as many or as few questions as they wish. The complete RFI document is located at <https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions may be addressed to Timothy Welch, Hydropower Program Manager, Water Power Technologies Office, by email at Timothy.Welch@ee.doe.gov, or by phone at 202-586-7055. Further instruction can be found in the RFI document posted on EERE Exchange.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Through this RFI, WPTO seeks input on new research to maximize the value of hydropower's contribution to grid resiliency and reliability today and into the future. This approach includes pumped storage and traditional hydropower, and covers both new technology design as well as modeling and analysis to assess the range of value streams hydropower provides in the current and future power grid. This information/strategy will help build targeted insight into economic, policy and technological barriers, inform future hydropower technology development,

and improve the tools by which investment and operational decisions are made.

WPTO is looking for feedback from electric utilities, reliability oversight entities, regulatory commissions, electricity market operators, electric storage developers, hydropower owners and operators, federal hydropower asset managers and marketers, hydropower facility regulators, public and private financing institutions, environmental and recreational non-profits, industry associations, academia, research laboratories, government agencies, and other stakeholders on issues related to pumped storage hydropower and existing hydroelectric facilities. WPTO is specifically interested in understanding critical gaps in pumped storage and hydropower valuation data and analysis; and in barriers to expanding pumped storage and hydropower's value proposition that could be overcome through research investments. This is solely a request for information and not a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA). WPTO is not accepting applications at this time. The complete RFI document is located at <https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/>.

Confidential Business Information

Pursuant to 10 CFR 1004.11, any person submitting information that he or she believes to be confidential and exempt by law from public disclosure should submit via email two well marked copies: One copy of the document marked "confidential" including all the information believed to be confidential, and one copy of the document marked "non-confidential" with the information believed to be confidential deleted. DOE will make its own determination about the confidential status of the information and treat it according to its determination.

Factors of interest to DOE when evaluating requests to treat submitted information as confidential include: (1) A description of the items; (2) whether and why such items are customarily treated as confidential within the industry; (3) whether the information is generally known by or available from other sources; (4) whether the information has previously been made available to others without obligation concerning its confidentiality; (5) an explanation of the competitive injury to the submitting person that would result from public disclosure; (6) when such information might lose its confidential character due to the passage of time; and (7) why disclosure of the information would be contrary to the public interest.

Issued in Washington, DC, on February 21, 2018.

Hoyt Battey,

Acting Director, Water Power Technologies Office, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

[FR Doc. 2018-03938 Filed 2-26-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Combined Notice of Filings #1

Take notice that the Commission received the following electric rate filings:

Docket Numbers: ER15-1456-006; ER10-2959-013; ER11-3859-016; ER16-999-006; ER11-4634-006; ER10-2934-012; ER17-436-004; ER17-437-007; ER14-1699-006; ER10-2615-011; ER15-1457-006.

Applicants: Beaver Falls, L.L.C., Chambers Cogeneration, Limited Partnership, Dighton Power, LLC, Greenleaf Energy Unit 1 LLC, Hazleton Generation LLC, Logan Generating Company, L.P., Marcus Hook Energy, L.P., Marcus Hook 50, L.P., Milford Power, LLC, Plum Point Energy Associates, LLC, Syracuse, L.L.C.

Description: Notice of Change in Status of Beaver Falls, L.L.C., et al.

Filed Date: 2/20/18.

Accession Number: 20180220-5225.

Comments Due: 5 p.m. ET 3/13/18.

Docket Numbers: ER18-724-000.

Applicants: Grid Power Direct, LLC.

Description: Amendment to January 29, 2018 Grid Power Direct, LLC tariff filing (Transmittal Letter). Also submitted (Asset List).

Filed Date: 2/16/18.

Accession Number: 20180216-5232f; 20180216-5233.

Comments Due: 5 p.m. ET 3/9/18.

Docket Numbers: ER18-872-000.

Applicants: Mercuria Commodities Canada Corporation.

Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing: Seller Category change to be effective 4/17/2018.

Filed Date: 2/16/18.

Accession Number: 20180216-5188.

Comments Due: 5 p.m. ET 3/9/18.

Docket Numbers: ER18-873-000.

Applicants: Mercuria Energy America, Inc.

Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing: Seller Category Change to be effective 4/17/2018.

Filed Date: 2/16/18.

Accession Number: 20180216-5198.

Comments Due: 5 p.m. ET 3/9/18.

Docket Numbers: ER18-874-000.