

85 FERC No. - - -

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

New England Power Company)	Project No. 1855-021
and USGen New England, Inc.)	Project No. 1892-011
		Project No. 2077-013
		Project No. 2669-015

ORDER AMENDING LICENSES
(Issued November 19, 1998)

On August 10, 1998, and supplemented on November 16, 1998, New England Power Company (NEP) and USGen New England, Inc. (USGen) filed amendment applications for four licensed projects; the Bellows Falls Project, FERC No. 1855, the Wilder Project, FERC No. 1892, the Fifteen Mile Falls Project, FERC No. 2077, and the Bear Swamp Project, FERC No. 2669. 1/ By order issued February 27, 1998, the Commission approved the transfer of these licenses from NEP to USGen. 2/ NEP and USGen filed the applications to revise the projects' boundaries.

The Bellows Falls Project is located on the Connecticut River, in Cheshire & Sullivan Counties, New Hampshire, and in Windham & Windsor Counties, Vermont. The Wilder Project is located on the Connecticut River, in Grafton County, New Hampshire, and Orange & Windsor Counties, Vermont. The Fifteen Mile Project is located on the Connecticut River, in Grafton County, New Hampshire, and Caledonia County, Vermont. The Bear Swamp Project is located on the Deerfield River, in Franklin and Berkshire Counties, Massachusetts.

In the filing, NEP proposes to delete from the projects' boundaries transmission lines/facilities that are no longer considered primary facilities.

BACKGROUND

The Bellows Falls Project was licensed in 1979, with the following transmission facilities: (i) generator leads to the 6.9-kV bus; (ii) the 6.9-kV bus; (iii) Nos. 1, 2, and 3 step-up transformers, rated 6.9/115 kV, 6.9/46/115 kV, and 6.9/69/115 kV, respectively.

The Wilder Project was licensed in 1979 with the following transmission facilities: (i) two generator leads to the 13.8-kV bus; (ii) the 13.8-kV bus; (iii) the two banks of 13.8/46-kV

1/ 8 FERC ¶61,122 (August 3, 1979), 9 FERC ¶ 61,322 (December 10, 1979), 11 FPC 751 (January 25, 1952), and 43 FPC 568 (April 28, 1970), respectively.

2/ 82 FERC ¶62,138 (February 27, 1998).

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step-up transformers; (iv) the 13.8/115-kV step-up transformer bank; and (v) the 115-kV appurtenances to connect to the 115-kV bus at which the Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc., and the 115-kV Wilder-Bellows Falls lines are connected.

The Fifteen Mile Falls Project was licensed in 1952, and consists of three developments; McIndoes, Comerford, and Moore (originally called Littleton). McIndoes Development has the following transmission facilities: a step-up substation, four 2.4/34.5-kV step-up transformers, and a 34.5-kV transmission line about 5.6 miles long extending from the transformer bank to the Comerford switching station. Comerford Development has the following transmission facilities: a substation, a switchyard, four 13.8/230-kV step-up generation transformers, and four 1,500-foot-long circuits extending from the step-up transformers to the 230-kV switchyard. The Moore Development has the following transmission facilities: a step-up substation, two 230-kV single circuit transmission lines about 7 miles extending from the switchyard to the Comerford switchyard.

The Bear Swamp Project was licensed in 1970, and it has the following transmission facilities: a 13.8-kV, single-circuit transmission line originating at the Fife Brook powerhouse and terminating at the Deerfield No. 5 switchyard; a 2.6-mile-long 115-kV single-circuit tap line from the Adams-Harriman (B-131) line to the Bear Swamp switchyard; the 115-kV portion of the Bear Swamp switchyard, including the 115/230-kV step-up transformers; two 230-kV single-circuit tap lines, each of which is about one-mile long, connecting the Bear Swamp transformer portal with the 230-kV portion of the Bear Swamp switchyard. 3/

Some of the transmission facilities of the above projects are now integral parts of NEP's regional transmission systems. NEP is, therefore, requesting the removal of these transmission facilities from the projects' descriptions and boundaries.

THE AMENDMENTS

NEP is proposing to delete from the licenses certain transmission lines/facilities of the projects as follows:

Bellows Falls Project (P-1855): Three multi-wound step-up transformers, which are now integral parts of the licensee's regional transmission system.

Wilder Project (P-1892): A 13.8-kV bus, two banks of 13.8/46-kV step-up transformers, a 13.8/115-kV step-up transformer bank, and the 115-kV appurtenances. These transmission facilities are now integral parts of the

3/ 56 FPC 3,310.

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licensee's regional transmission system.

Fifteen Mile Falls Project (P-2077): This project consists of three development, and the transmission facilities proposed for deletion are:

McIndoes Development: the step-up substation (except the four 2.4/34.5-kV step-up transformers), and the 34.5-kV, 5.6-mile-long transmission line extending from the transformer bank to the Comerford switching station.

Comerford Development: the substation and switchyard (except the four 13.8/230-kV step-up transformers and four 1,500-foot-long circuits extending from the step-up generation transformers to the 230-kV switchyard).

Moore Development: the step-up substation and the two 230-kV, 7-mile-long single circuit transmission lines extending from the switchyard to the Comerford switchyard.

The above transmission facilities of the Fifteen Mile Falls project are now integral parts of the licensee's regional transmission system.

Bear Swamp Project (P-2699): a 2.6-mile-long 115-kV single-circuit tap line from the Adams-Harriman (B-131) line to the Bear Swamp switchyard; and the 115-kV portion of the Bear Swamp switchyard, including the 115/230-kV step-up transformers. These transmission facilities are now integral parts of the licensee's regional transmission system.

DISCUSSION

Section 3(11) of the Federal Power Act defines "project" to consist among other things of "... the primary line or lines transmitting power therefrom to the point of junction with the distribution system or with the interconnected primary transmission system..." The above mentioned transmission facilities serve local areas and/or interconnection for NEP's regional transmission system. The subject transmission lines/facilities are no longer the primary lines/facilities for the projects, but rather part of the regional transmission system. Therefore, they are no longer considered project features.

This order approves the amendment applications to delete the subject transmission lines/facilities from the boundaries of the projects.

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The Director orders:

(A) The amendment applications for the Bellows Falls Project, FERC No. 1855, the Wilder Project, FERC No. 1892, the Fifteen Mile Falls Project, FERC No. 2077, and the Bear Swamp Project, FERC No. 2669, are approved as provided for in this order.

(B) Ordering Paragraph (B)(2)(f) of the license for the Bellows Falls Project, FERC No. 1855, is amended by deleting the following part: (iii) Nos. 1, 2, and 3 step-up transformers, rated 6.9/115 kV, 6.9/46/115 kV, and 6.9/69/115 kV, respectively.

(C) Ordering Paragraph (B)(2)(4) of the license for the Wilder Project, FERC No. 1892, is amended by deleting the following parts:

(ii) the 13.8-kV bus; (iii) the two banks of 13.8/46-kV step-up transformers; (iv) the 13.8/115-kV step-up transformer bank; and (v) the 115-kV appurtenances to connect to the 115-kV bus at which the Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc., and the 115-kV Wilder-Bellows Falls lines are connected

(D) The license order for the Fifteen Mile Falls is amended as follows:

1. McIndoes Development: By deleting the step-up substation (except the four 2.4/34.5-kV step-up transformers), and the 34.5-kV, 5.6-mile-long transmission line extending from the transformer bank to the Comerford switching station. Also, by deleting FERC drawing No. 2077-27, which shows the boundary of the 5.6-mile-long transmission line.

2. Comerford Development: By deleting the substation and switchyard (except the four 13.8/230-kV step-up transformers and four 1,500-foot-long circuits extending from the step-up generation transformers to the 230-kV switchyard).

3. Moore Development: By deleting the step-up substation and the two 230-kV, 7-mile-long single circuit transmission lines extending from the switchyard to the Comerford switchyard. Also, by deleting FERC drawing No. 2077-57, which shows the boundary of the 7-mile-long transmission line.

(E) Ordering Paragraph (C)(ii) of the license for the Bear Swamp Project, FERC No. 2669, is amended by deleting the following parts: (14) a 2.6-mile-long 115-kV single-circuit tap line from the Adams-Harriman (B-131) line to the Bear Swamp switchyard; and (15) the 115-kV portion of the Bear Swamp switchyard, including the 115/230-kV step-up transformers.

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(F) Within 90 days from the date of issuance of this order, the licensee shall file a revised exhibits J-1B, J-2B and K-3 (currently FERC drawing Nos. 2669-33, 2669-26 and 2669-35, respectively), to reflect the deletion of the 2.6-mile-long transmission line from the Adams-Harriman (B-131) line to the Bear Swamp switchyard.

(G) This order constitutes final agency action. Requests for rehearing by the Commission may be filed within 30 days of the date of issuance of this order, pursuant to 18 C.F.R. § 385.713.

Carol L. Sampson
Director,
Office of Hydropower Licensing