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SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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January 13, 2005

Aberdeen American News
124 South 2nd Street
Aberdeen, SD 57501

Attention: Sheri

Re: In the Matter of the Application of Basin Electric Power
Cooperative, Inc. for an Energy Conversion Facility Permit
for the Construction of a Combustion Turbine Generator
near Groton, South Dakota
Docket EL04-041

Dear Sheri:

Please publish the enclosed Notice of Public Hearing for Proposed Energy Conversion Facility in the Aberdeen American News as a display advertisement for one issue on January 19, 2005. Please send us your Affidavit of Publication, together with your invoice, and we will promptly remit.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Karen E. Cremer
Staff Attorney

KEC:dk
Enc.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED ENERGY CONVERSION FACILITY

The South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) will hold a public hearing on an application submitted by Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. (Basin Electric) for a permit to construct a new 100 MW (nominal) General Electric LMS100 simple cycle gas turbine in Brown County, approximately five miles south of the city of Groton. The proposed site is located five miles south of the city of Groton, three miles north of the community of Ferney and 18 miles southeast of the city of Aberdeen, all of which is in Brown County. The proposed natural gas supply pipeline will originate from the existing Northern Border Pipeline located in the SE1/4 of Section 11, Township 120 North, Range 61 West in Spink County, South Dakota. The turbine will be fired by natural gas supplied by the nearby Northern Border Pipeline's existing 42" diameter interstate transmission line. This proposed project location will require approximately 12 miles of new pipeline to be installed to interconnect the gas turbine site with the major pipeline. The proposed site has an existing Western Area Power Administration (Western) 115-kV substation and a Basin Electric 345-kV substation. An existing 345-kV transmission line owned by Basin Electric and a 115-kV line owned and operated by Western currently pass within 1/2 mile of the site. This site will be operated remotely with daytime support personnel for operating and maintenance activities. The construction phase of the project will take place over a period of 12-15 months. A maximum of approximately 30-40 construction personnel will be on site at any given time.

The Commission finds that good cause exists to schedule a public input hearing pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-15 and 49-41B-16. The purpose of the hearing shall be to hear public comment regarding Basin Electric's application. The public input hearing will be held on Thursday, February 3, 2005, at 6:00 p.m., at Coco's Steak and Seafood, Junction of Highways 12 and 37, Groton, South Dakota. At the public input hearing, interested persons may appear and present their views and comments regarding the application. A copy of the application is on file with the Brown County Auditor and Spink County Auditor pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-15(5).

The Commission further finds that pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-17 and ARSD 20:10:22:40, the parties to this proceeding are Basin Electric and the Commission. Further, each municipality, county, and governmental agency in the area where the facility is proposed to be sited; any non-profit organization, formed in whole or in part to promote conservation or natural beauty, to protect the environment, personal health or other biological values, to preserve historical sites, to promote consumer interests, to represent commercial and industrial groups, or to promote the orderly development of the area in which the facility is to be sited; or any interested person, may be granted party status in this proceeding by making written application to the Commission on or before February 21, 2005.

Basin Electric must show that the proposed energy conversion facility will comply with all applicable laws and rules; that the energy conversion facility will not pose a threat of serious injury to the environment nor to the social and economic condition of inhabitants or expected inhabitants in the siting area; the energy conversion facility will not

substantially impair the health, safety or welfare of the inhabitants; and the energy conversion facility will not unduly interfere with the orderly development of the region with due consideration having been given to the views of governing bodies of affected local units of government. The Commission shall decide whether the permit should be granted, denied, or granted upon such terms, conditions or modifications of the construction, operation or maintenance as the Commission finds appropriate.

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, this hearing is being held in a physically accessible location. Please contact the Commission at 1-800-332-1782 at least 48 hours prior to the hearing if you have special needs so arrangements can be made to accommodate you.