

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
BASIN ELECTRIC POWER COOPERATIVE, INC. PROJECT IN
BROWN COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA
DOCKET EL07-002**

WHEN: Monday, February 5, 2007, at 6:00 p.m. CST
WHERE: Coco's Steak and Seafood, Junction of Highways 12 and 37, Groton, SD

Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-15 and 49-41B-16, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) will hold a public input hearing at the above time and place on an application filed by Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. (Basin Electric) seeking an energy conversion facility permit to construct a second peaking resource generator at the existing Groton Generation Station near Groton, South Dakota. The project is proposed to serve projected member load growth and is known as the Groton Generation Station Unit 2 Project. The proposed project will include a second 80 to 100 megawatt simple cycle natural gas combustion turbine generator.

At the hearing, interested persons may appear and present their questions, views and comments regarding the application. Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-15(5), the application is on file in the Brown County Auditor's office and in the Commission's office in the Capitol Building in Pierre, and the application and all other documents in the case may also be accessed on the Commission's web site at www.puc.sd.gov under "Commission Actions," "Commission Dockets," "2007 Electric Dockets," "EL07-002."

The parties to this proceeding are currently Basin Electric and the Commission. Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-17, any person residing in the area of the project, each municipality, county, and governmental agency in the project area, 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 project area, or any interested person, may be granted formal party status in this proceeding by making written application to the Commission as provided in ARSD 20:10:22:40 on or before March 6, 2007. Application forms for party status will be available at the public input hearing on February 5, 2007.

For approval, Basin Electric must show that the proposed energy conversion facility will comply with all applicable laws and rules, 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, will not substantially impair the health, safety or welfare of the inhabitants, and 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. Based upon these factors, the Commission will 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 are appropriate.

The parties will have the right to appeal the final decision in this case to the appropriate Circuit Court by serving and filing a notice of appeal of the decision in accordance with SDCL 1-26-31, within thirty (30) days after the date of service of the notice of entry of decision in this case.

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, this hearing is being held in a physically accessible location. Please contact the Commission at least 48 hours prior to the hearing if you have special needs so arrangements can be made to accommodate you. The Commission's contact information is: ph (800) 332-1782; fax (605) 773-3809; www.puc.sd.gov; 500 E. Capitol Ave., Pierre, SD 57501.