

term of the proposed preliminary permit would be 36 months. The work proposed under the preliminary permit would include economic analysis, preparation of preliminary engineering plans, and a study of environmental impacts. Based on the results of these studies, the Applicant would decide whether to proceed with the preparation of a development application to construct and operate the project.

p. **Comments, Protests, or Motions to Intervene**—Anyone may submit comments, a protest, or a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.210, .211, .214. In determining the appropriate action to take, the Commission will consider all protests or other comments filed, but only those who file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules may become a party to the proceeding. Any comments, protests, or motions to intervene must be received on or before the specified comment date for the particular application.

q. **Filing and Service of Responsive Documents**—Any filings must bear in all capital letters the title "COMMENTS", "NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE COMPETING APPLICATION", "COMPETING APPLICATION", "PROTEST", or "MOTION TO INTERVENE", as applicable, and the Project Number of the particular application to which the filing refers. Any of the above-named documents must be filed by providing an original and eight copies to: The Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. An additional copy must be sent to Director, Division of Hydropower Administration and Compliance, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, at the above-mentioned address. A copy of any notice of intent, competing application or motion to intervene must also be served upon each representative of the Applicant specified in the particular application.

Comments, protests and interventions may be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper; see 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site under the "e-Filing" link. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings.

r. **Agency Comments:** Federal, state, and local agencies are invited to file comments on the described application. A copy of the application may be obtained by agencies directly from the Applicant. If an agency does not file comments within the time specified for filing comments, it will be presumed to have no comments. One copy of an

agency's comments must also be sent to the Applicant's representatives.

**Magalie R. Salas,**  
Secretary.

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**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

#### Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment, Conduct Scoping Meetings and Site Visit and Soliciting Scoping Comments

March 26, 2003.

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with Commission and is available for public inspection:

a. *Type of Application:* New Major License.

b. *Project No.:* 2726-012.

c. *Date filed:* July 29, 2002.

d. *Applicant:* Idaho Power Company.

e. *Name of Project:* Upper and Lower Malad Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location:* On the Malad River in the Town of Hagerman, Gooding County, Idaho.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act, 16 U.S.C. 791(a)-825(r).

h. *Applicant Contact:* Lewis Wardle, Relicensing Project Manager, Idaho Power Company, 1221 West Idaho Street, Boise, ID 83707, (208) 388-2964

i. *FERC Contact:* John Blair, (202) 502-6092, or [john.blair@FERC.gov](mailto:john.blair@FERC.gov).

j. *Deadline for filing scoping comments:* June 7, 2003

All documents (original and eight copies) should be filed with: Magalie R. Salas, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426.

The Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure require all interveners filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person on the official service list for the project. Further, if an intervenor files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, they must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency.

Scoping comments may be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>) under the "e-Filing" link.

k. This application is not ready for environmental analysis at this time.

l. *Description of the Project:* the project consists of (1) an upper diversion dam consisting of a gated spillway section 100 feet long and a flume section 123 feet long; (2) a concrete flume 4,635 feet long between the upper diversion dam and the upper intake structure; (3) the upper concrete intake structure 80.5 feet long and approximately 21 feet wide; (4) a steel penstock 10 feet in diameter and approximately 238 feet long connected to the upper powerhouse; (5) the upper reinforced concrete powerhouse containing one generating unit having an installed nameplate capacity of 8.27 megawatts; (6) a lower diversion dam consisting of a gated spillway section 163 feet long and a flume section 136 feet long; (7) a concrete flume 5,318 feet long between the lower diversion dam and the lower intake structure; (8) the lower concrete intake structure 85 feet long and approximately 23 feet wide; (9) a steel penstock 12 feet in diameter and approximately 301 feet long connected to the lower powerhouse; (10) the lower reinforced concrete powerhouse containing one generating unit having an installed capacity of 13.5 megawatts; and (11) other appurtenances.

m. A copy of the application is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "FERRIS" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll-free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, (202) 502-8659. A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in item h above.

n. *Scoping Process:* The Commission intends to prepare an Environmental assessment (EA) on the project in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act. The EA will consider both site-specific and cumulative environmental impacts and reasonable alternatives to the proposed action.

#### Scoping Meetings

FERC staff will conduct one agency scoping meeting and one public meeting. The agency scoping meeting will focus on resource agency and non-governmental organization (NGO) concerns, while the public scoping meeting is primarily for public input. All interested individuals, organizations, and agencies are invited to attend one or both of the meetings, and to assist the staff in identifying the scope of the environmental issues that