

302(a) of the Department of Energy (DOE) Organization Act, 42 U.S.C. 7152(a). This act transferred to and vested in the Secretary of Energy (Secretary) the power marketing functions of the Secretary of the Department of the Interior and the Bureau of Reclamation under the Reclamation Act of 1902, ch. 1093, 32 Stat. 388, as amended and supplemented by subsequent enactments, particularly section 9(c) of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939, 43 U.S.C. 485h(c), and other acts that specifically apply to the project system involved.

By Delegation Order No. 00-0037.00 approved December 6, 2001, the Secretary delegated: (1) The authority to develop long-term power and transmission rates on a non-exclusive basis to Western's Administrator; (2) the authority to confirm, approve, and place such rates into effect on an interim basis to the Deputy Secretary; and (3) the authority to confirm, approve, and place into effect on a final basis, to remand, or to disapprove such rates to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). This rate extension is issued following the Delegation Order and the DOE rate extension procedures at 10 CFR part 903.23(b).

Background

The Deputy Secretary approved the existing Rate Schedules L-NT1, L-FPT1, L-NFPT1, L-AS1, L-AS2, L-AS3, L-AS4, L-AS5, and L-AS6 on March 23, 1998 (Rate Order No. WAPA-80, 63 FR 16778, April 6, 1998). FERC confirmed and approved the formula rate schedules for Rate Order No. WAPA-80 on July 21, 1998, under FERC Docket No. EF98-5181-000 (at 84 FERC ¶ 61,066). The existing formula rates became effective on April 1, 1998, and are approved through March 31, 2003.

Subsequently, Rate Schedule L-AS4, Energy Imbalance Service, was revised and approved by the Secretary on May 30, 2002 (Rate Order No. WAPA-97, 67 FR 39970, June 11, 2002). Rate Order No. WAPA-97 became effective July 1, 2002, and is approved through March 31, 2003. FERC confirmed and approved the formula rate schedule for Energy Imbalance Service on February 3, 2003 (Docket No. EF02-5181-000).

Discussion

On March 31, 2003, Western's LAP Transmission and Ancillary Service rates and the Energy Imbalance Service rate expire. Western's existing formula rate schedules, which are recalculated annually, will sufficiently recover project expenses (including interest) and capital requirements through the

extension period. Western is seeking this extension to provide more time for the evaluation of new rates for ancillary services, particularly energy imbalance and regulation, and to provide a concurrent public process and rate approval period for new rates for firm electric service, transmission service, and ancillary services.

The process will take several months to complete because of the complex issues Western and its interested public must address. It will also offer opportunities for public information and comment forums.

For these reasons, Western seeks to extend existing Rate Schedules L-NT1, L-FPT1, L-NFPT1, L-AS1, L-AS2, L-AS3, L-AS4, L-AS5, and L-AS6 under 10 CFR 903.23(b) through March 31, 2004.

Order

In view of the above and under the authority delegated to me by the Secretary, I hereby extend the existing Rate Schedules L-NT1, L-FPT1, L-NFPT1, L-AS1, L-AS2, L-AS3, L-AS4, L-AS5, and L-AS6 for LAP Transmission and Ancillary services from April 1, 2003, through March 31, 2004.

Dated: March 20, 2003.

Kyle E. McSlarrow,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-8377 Filed 4-4-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7476-8]

Request for Applications for the National Environmental Education Advisory Council

SUMMARY: Section 9 (a) and (b) of the National Environmental Education Act of 1990 (Pub. L. 101-619) mandates a National Environmental Education Advisory Council. The Advisory Council provides advice, consults with, and makes recommendations to the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on matters relating to the activities, functions, and policies of EPA under the Act. EPA is requesting nominations of candidates for membership on the Council. The Act requires that the Council be comprised of eleven (11) members appointed by the Administrator of EPA. Members represent a balance of perspectives, professional qualifications, and experience. The Act specifies that members must represent the following:

- Primary and secondary education (one of whom shall be a classroom teacher)—two members;
- Colleges and universities—two members;
- Not-for-profit organizations involved in environmental education—two members;
- State departments of education and natural resources—two members;
- Business and industry—two members;
- Senior Americans—one member.

Members are chosen to represent various geographic regions of the country, and the Council strives for a diverse representation. The professional backgrounds of Council members should include education, science, policy, or other appropriate disciplines. Each member of the Council shall hold office for a one (1) to three (3) year period. Members are expected to participate in up to two (2) meetings per year and monthly or more conference calls per year. Members of the Council shall receive compensation and allowances, including travel expenses, at a rate fixed by the Administrator. There are currently three (3) vacancies on the Advisory Council that must be filled:

- Business and Industry—one vacancy (2003-2006);
- Non-Profit Organization—one vacancy (2003-2005);
- Senior American—one vacancy (2003-2005).

Additionally, there will be three (3) vacancies on the Advisory Council beginning in June 2003 that must be filled:

- Business and Industry—one vacancy (2003-2005);
- Primary and Secondary Education—one vacancy (2003-2006);
- State Department of Natural Resources—one vacancy (2003-2006).

EPA particularly seeks candidates with demonstrated experience and/or knowledge in any of the following environmental education issue areas:

- Integrating environmental education into state and local education reform and improvement;
- State, local and tribal level capacity building;
- Cross-sector partnerships; leveraging resources for environmental education;
- Design and implementation of environmental education research;
- Professional development for teachers and other education professionals; and
- Targeting under-represented audiences, including low-income and multi-cultural audiences, senior citizens, and other adults.