

Susan Tseng 202-502-6065 or susan.tseng@ferc.gov, by December 4, 2003, to receive the toll free telephone number to join the teleconference.

Anyone interested in participating in the workshop via video teleconference from one of the Commission's regional offices should call or e-mail the

following staff, by December 4, 2003, to make arrangements. Seating capacity is limited.

Regional office	Staff contact	Telephone No.	E-mail address
Atlanta	Charles Wagner	770-452-3765	charles.wagner@ferc.gov
Chicago	John Hawk	312-596-4437	john.hawk@ferc.gov
New York	Chuck Goggins	212-273-5910	charles.goggins@ferc.gov
Portland	Pat Regan	503-552-2741	patrick.regan@ferc.gov
San Francisco	John Wiegel	415-369-3336	john.wiegel@ferc.gov

By December 1, 2003, an agenda for the workshop and information about the pending license applications will be posted on the Commission's web site under Hydro Licensing Status Workshop 2003. Anyone without access to the Commission's Web site, or who has questions should contact Mark Pawlowski at 202-502-6052, or e-mail mark.pawlowski@ferc.gov or Nick Jayjack at 202-502-6073, or e-mail nicholas.jayjack@ferc.gov. This meeting is posted on the Commission's calendar located at <http://www.ferc.gov/EventCalendar/EventsList.aspx> along with other related information.

Magalie R. Salas,

Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Southwestern Power Administration

Robert Douglas Willis Power Rate Schedule

AGENCY: Southwestern Power Administration, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of rate order.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Delegation Order No. 00-037.00 and 00-001-00A, effective December 6, 2001 and September 17, 2002, respectively, the Deputy Secretary of Energy has approved and placed into effect on an interim basis Rate Order No. SWPA-50 which increases the power rate for the Robert Douglas Willis Hydropower (Robert D. Willis) Project pursuant to the following Robert D. Willis Rate Schedule: Rate Schedule RDW-03, Wholesale Rates for Hydro Power and Energy Sold to Sam Rayburn Municipal Power Agency (Contract No. DE-PM75-85SW00117).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Forrest E. Reeves, Assistant Administrator, Office of Corporate Operations, Southwestern Power Administration, Department of Energy, One West Third Street, Tulsa, OK

74103-3519, (918) 595-6696, gene.reeves@swpa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The existing hydroelectric power rate for the Robert D. Willis project is \$353,700 per year. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission approved this rate on a final basis on October 22, 2001, for the period ending September 30, 2005. The FY 2003 Robert D. Willis Power Repayment Studies indicates the need for an increase in the annual rate by \$99,952 or 28.1 percent beginning November 1, 2003.

The Administrator of Southwestern Power Administration (Southwestern) has followed Title 10, Part 903 Subpart A, of the Code of Federal Regulations, "Procedures for Public Participation in Power and Transmission Rate Adjustments and Extensions" in connection with the proposed rate schedule. On June 24, 2003, Southwestern published notice in the **Federal Register**, 68 FR 37483, of a 60-day comment period, together with a Public Information Forum and a Public Comment Forum, to provide an opportunity for customers and other interested members of the public to review and comment on a proposed rate increase for the Robert D. Willis project. Both public forums were canceled when no one expressed an intention to participate. Written comments were accepted through August 25, 2003. The only comment received was from Gillis & Angley, Counsellors at Law, on behalf of Sam Rayburn Municipal Power Agency (SRMPA), which stated that SRMPA (the sole hydropower customer) had no objection to the proposed rate adjustment.

Information regarding this rate proposal, including studies and other supporting material, is available for public review and comment in the offices of Southwestern Power Administration, Suite 1400, One West Third Street, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74103.

Following review of Southwestern's proposal within the Department of Energy, I approved Rate Order No. SWPA-50, which increases the existing Robert D. Willis rate to \$452,952 per

year for the period November 1, 2003, through September 30, 2007.

Dated: October 10, 2003.

Kyle E. McSlarrow,
Deputy Secretary.

Department of Energy

Deputy Secretary of Energy

In the matter of: Southwestern Power Administration, Robert Douglas Willis Hydropower Project; Rate Order No. SWPA-50.

Order Confirming, Approving and Placing Increased Power Rate Schedule in Effect on an Interim Basis

Pursuant to Sections 302(a) and 301(b) of the Department of Energy Organization Act, Public Law 95-91, the functions of the Secretary of the Interior and the Federal Power Commission under Section 5 of the Flood Control Act of 1944, 16 U.S.C. 825s, relating to the Southwestern Power Administration (Southwestern) were transferred to and vested in the Secretary of Energy. By Delegation Order No. 00-037.00 (December 6, 2001), the Secretary of Energy delegated to the Administrator of Southeastern the authority to develop power and transmission rates, and delegated to the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Energy the authority to confirm, approve, and place in effect such rates on an interim basis and delegated to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) the authority to confirm and approve on a final basis or to disapprove rates developed by the Administrator under the delegation. This rate order is issued by the Deputy Secretary pursuant to said delegation, and pursuant to Delegation Order No. 00-001-00A, effective September 17, 2002.

Background

Dam B (Town Bluff Dam), located on the Neches River in eastern Texas downstream from the Sam Rayburn Dam, was originally constructed in 1951 by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and provides streamflow regulation of releases from the Sam