

Project title: Rate Order No. WAPA-199 Salt Lake City Area Integrated Projects (SLCA/IP) Firm Power Rate and Transmission and Ancillary Services Rate

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Date Submitted: 07/21/2021

Summary:

The Colorado River Storage Project Management Center (CRSP MC) of the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) proposes a new Salt Lake City Area Integrated Projects (SLCA/IP) fixed firm power rates for use December 1, 2021, through December 31, 2023. The SLCA/IP consists of the CRSP units and its participating projects, Dolores and Seedskadee, as well as two small individual projects, Rio Grande and Collbran, which were integrated with CRSP for marketing and ratemaking purposes. The CRSP MC is proposing a new rate to be effective December 1, 2021, that will provide sufficient revenue to cover all annual costs and required repayment.

Description of the Project

The existing rates for these services are not set to expire until September 30, 2025; however, CRSP MC is initiating this rate action in response to a 35-percent projected increase to the firm power composite rate caused by a large increase in purchased power costs due to on-going drought conditions. Additionally, it is set to cover a small increase to Operation, Maintenance, and Replacement (OM&R) expenses.

Based on the FY 2021 toll on the Upper Colorado River Basin Fund (Basin Fund) and the drought-induced purchased power projections from the Reclamation May 24-Month Study, existing rates will not sustain a balance in the Basin Fund capable of supporting operations. CRSP MC proposes modifying how purchased power is calculated and purchased power costs would be assessed on a pass-through cost basis charged to each customer.

CRSP MC proposes modifying language to implement the Cost Recovery Charge (CRC) throughout the year, if warranted, and would be able to implement a CRC if water levels drop below the intake structures at Glen Canyon Dam. Additionally, updated Colorado River Storage Project (CRSP) transmission and ancillary services rate schedules are proposed for use December 1, 2021, through December 31, 2023, with no material change proposed other than updating effective dates. The CRSP MC is proposing adjustments to the CRSP Transmission and Ancillary Services Rates in accordance with 10 CFR 903.

Joint Dispatch Transmission Service is also proposed to be added and is proposed to be in effect on October 1, 2021.

Rate Actions

The CRSP MC proposes the following changes¹:

1. SLCA/IP Firm Power Rate:

The current firm power rate is proposed to decrease as described in the Table 1 below:

TABLE 1—COMPARISON OF EXISTING AND PROPOSED FIRM POWER RATES

Rate schedule	Existing rate under rate schedule SLIP-F11 effective October 1, 2020	Proposed rate under rate schedule SLIP-F12 effective December 1, 2021	Change (%)
<i>Base Rate:</i>			
Firm Energy: (mills/kWh)	11.43	12.70	+11.11
Firm Capacity: (\$kW/month)	4.85	5.40	+11.25
Composite Rate: (mills/kWh)	27.45	30.44	+10.89
<i>Purchased Power Rate: Average Monthly Purchase Energy (mills/kWh)</i>	N/A	Market Price	

2. Cost Recovery Charge (CRC):

The CRC is an additional surcharge on all Sustainable Hydro Power (SHP) energy deliveries, which are long-term energy sales provided under WAPA’s SLCA/IP firm electric service contracts. The CRC may be implemented when, among other things, the Basin Fund’s cash balance is at risk due to low hydropower generation, high prices for firming power, or emergency capitalized investment funding. The CRC is based only on Basin Fund cash analysis and is independent of the SLCA/IP Power Repayment Study calculations. The CRC will continue to be a feature of the SLCA/IP rate and may be implemented in the event projected expenses significantly exceed projected revenue.

3. Transmission Rate:

WAPA does not propose any changes to the existing formula rate for calculating *Annual Transmission Revenue Requirement (ATRR)*, applicable to both Network Integration and Point-to-Point transmission service rates. The ATRR is the annual cost of the CRSP Transmission System adjusted for Non-Firm Point-to-Point revenue credits, other miscellaneous charges or credits, and the prior year true-up.

4. Ancillary Services:

Energy Imbalance and Generator Imbalance Services WAPA proposes no changes to the Energy Imbalance and Generator Imbalance Rate Schedule. These services are provided to CRSP, as a Transmission Service Provider, by the Western Area Colorado Missouri Balancing Authority under Rate Schedule L-AS9.

5. Spinning and Supplemental Reserves:

WAPA proposes no changes to the Operating Reserves—Spinning and Supplemental Reserves Services formula rate.

6. Sale of Surplus Products

WAPA proposes no changes to the rate schedule for the sale of the following surplus energy and capacity products: Energy, regulation, reserves, and frequency response.

7. Joint Dispatch Transmission Service

Joint Dispatch Transmission Service is currently being added, in a separate parallel process, to WAPA’s rates under Rate Order No. WAPA-195 3 and is proposed to be effective October 1, 2021. This Rate Order would supersede WAPA-195 for the purpose of aligning expiration dates. No other changes are proposed.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

Colorado River Storage Project Management Center

Western Area Power Administration

1. Note that all numbers are subject to change as the CRSP MC proceeds through the public process and considers new information

In consideration of 10 CFR Part 1021 Subpart D, B.4.3, this Rate Process will not affect the generation projects and operations will remain within normal operating limits.

Category of Action

B4.3. Electric Power Marketing Rate Changes.

Rate changes for electric power, power transmission, and other products or services provided by a Power Marketing Administration that are based on a change in revenue requirements if the operations of generation projects would remain within normal limits.

Regulatory Requirements for a Categorical Exclusion Determination

The Department of Energy (DOE), National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Implementing Procedures, 10 CFR 1021.410(b) require the following determinations be made in order for a proposed action to be categorically excluded (see full text in regulation).

[√] The proposal fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix A or B to 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D.

To fit within the classes of actions listed in 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B, a proposal must be one that would not: (1) threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, or similar requirements of DOE or Executive Orders; (2) require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities (including incinerators), but the proposal may include categorically excluded waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment actions or facilities; (3) disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that preexist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases; (4) have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources, including, but not limited to, those listed in paragraph B(4) of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B; (5) involve genetically engineered organisms, synthetic biology, governmentally designated noxious weeds, or invasive species, unless the proposed activity would be contained or confined in a manner designed and operated to prevent unauthorized release into the environment and conducted in accordance with applicable requirements, such as those listed in paragraph B(5) of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B.

[√] There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal.

[√] The proposal has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion. This proposal is not connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.25(a) (1)), is not related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.27(b) (7)), and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211 concerning limitations on actions during preparation of an environmental impact statement.

Results of Review

In accordance with DOE environmental regulations (10 CFR 1021), WAPA has reviewed the proposed action in terms of the level of NEPA review needed. Based on this review, WAPA has determined the proposal is encompassed within a class of action listed in Appendix B to Subpart D (10 CFR 1021.410) which do not require preparation of either an environmental impact statement (EIS) or an environmental assessment (EA).

The proposed action fits within the specified class(es) of action, the other regulatory requirements set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

Action taken

- | | |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Categorical Exclusion (CX) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Integral Elements |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Assessment (EA) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NEPA Attachment Sheet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Requirements/Mitigation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other Determinations: | <input type="checkbox"/> Maps/Figures |

Determination: Based on my review of information provided to me concerning the proposed action as NEPA Compliance Officer, I have determined that the proposed action meets the requirements for the categorical exclusion listed above. Therefore, I have determined that the proposed action may be categorically excluded from further NEPA review and documentation.

7/23/2021

July 23, 2021

X S. Clayton Palmer

S. Clayton Palmer
NEPA Compliance Officer
Signed by: STANLEY PALMER

**Western Area Power Administration,
CRSP MC
NEPA Attachment Sheet**

Checklist for Categorical Exclusion Determination, revised Nov. 2011

Application of Categorical Exclusions (1021.410)	Disagree	Agree	Unknown
(b)(1) The proposal fits within a class of actions that is listed in appendix A or B to subpart D.		X	
(b)(2) There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal, including, but not limited to, scientific controversy about the environmental effects of the proposal; uncertain effects or effects involving unique or unknown risks; and unresolved conflicts concerning alternate uses of available resources		X	
(b)(3) The proposal has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion. Segmentation can occur when a proposal is broken down into small parts in order to avoid the appearance of significance of the total action. The scope of a proposal must include the consideration of connected and cumulative actions, that is, the proposal is not connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1), is not related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)), and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or § 1021.211 of this part concerning limitations on actions during EIS preparation.		X	
B. Conditions that are Integral Elements of the Classes of Actions in Appendix B:	NO	YES	UNKNOWN
(1) Threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety and health, or similar requirements of DOE or Executive Orders.	X		
(2) Require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities (including incinerators), but the proposal may include categorically excluded waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment actions or facilities;	X		
(3) Disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that preexist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases;	X		

<p>(4) Have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources. An environmentally sensitive resource is typically a resource that has been identified as needing protection through Executive Order, statute, or regulation by Federal, state, or local government, or a federally recognized Indian tribe. An action may be categorically excluded if, although sensitive resources are present, the action would not have the potential to cause significant impacts on those resources (such as construction of a building with its foundation well above a sole-source aquifer or upland surface soil removal on a site that has wetlands). Environmentally sensitive resources include, but are not limited to:</p>	<p>X</p>		
<p>(i) Property (such as sites, buildings, structures, and objects) of historic, archaeological, or architectural significance designated by a Federal, state, or local government, or property determined to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.</p>	<p>X</p>		
<p>(ii) Federally-listed threatened or endangered species or their habitat (including critical habitat) or Federally- proposed or candidate species or their habitat (Endangered Species Act); state-listed or state-proposed endangered or threatened species or their habitat; Federally-protected marine mammals and Essential Fish Habitat (Marine Mammal Protection Act; Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act); and otherwise Federally-protected species (such as under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act or the Migratory Bird Treaty Act);</p>	<p>X</p>		
<p>(iii) Floodplains and wetlands (as defined in 10 CFR 1022.4, Compliance with Floodplain and Wetland Environmental Review Requirements: "Definitions," or its successor);</p>	<p>X</p>		
<p>(iv) Areas having a special designation such as Federally- and state-designated wilderness areas, national parks, national monuments, national natural landmarks, wild and scenic rivers, state and Federal wildlife refuges, scenic areas (such as National Scenic and Historic Trails or National Scenic Areas), and marine sanctuaries;</p>	<p>X</p>		
<p>(v) Prime or unique farmland, or other farmland of statewide or local importance, as defined at 7 CFR 658.2(a), Farmland Protection Policy Act: Definitions, or its successor;</p>	<p>X</p>		
<p>(vi) Special sources of water (such as sole-source aquifers, wellhead protection areas, and other water sources that are vital in a region); and</p>	<p>X</p>		
<p>(vii) Tundra, coral reefs, or rain forests.; or</p>	<p>X</p>		

<p>(5) Involve genetically engineered organisms, synthetic biology, governmentally designated noxious weeds, or invasive species, unless the proposed activity would be contained or confined in a manner designed and operated to prevent unauthorized release into the environment and conducted in accordance with applicable requirements, such as those of the Department of Agriculture, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the National Institutes of Health.</p>	<p>X</p>		
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