

RECORDS OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

Twin Rivers Paper Company, Inc. Docket No. PP-366

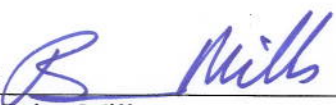
PROPOSED ACTIONS: As a result of a bankruptcy proceeding, Fraser Papers, Inc. and Twin Rivers Paper Company, Inc. jointly applied to the Office of Electricity Delivery & Energy Reliability to rescind Presidential Permit No. 11, as amended, issued to Fraser Papers, and to simultaneously issue a Presidential permit to Twin Rivers Paper Company, Inc. for the same international transmission facilities. Presidential Permit No. PP-11 (formerly Federal Power Commission Docket No. IT-5951) was issued to Fraser Paper in 1945 for a 39.6-kV transmission line connecting Fraser's Madawaska, Maine, and Edmundston, NB, Canada, papermaking facilities. A separate 6.6-kV transmission line, constructed in 1926, was added to the authorized facilities. The Presidential permit was amended on July 31, 1996, to authorize upgrading of the 39.6 facility to 69-kV by changing transformers on the line inside Canada. On September 29, 1999, the Presidential permit was again amended to authorize reconductoring of the 69-kV line to 138-kV, operated at 69-kV. These Presidential permits were issued pursuant to Executive Order 10485, as amended, and were issued after an appropriate level of NEPA review.

CX TO BE APPLIED: The elements identified above fit within the class listed in Appendix A to Subpart D, of Part 1021-Categorical exclusions applicable to specific agency actions. Specifically:

A7 Transfer, lease, disposition, or acquisition of interests in personal property (e.g., equipment and materials) or real property (e.g., permanent structures and land) if property use is to remain unchanged; i.e., the type and magnitude of impacts would remain essentially the same.

REGULATORY REQUIREMENT: The proposed action, transfer of ownership of the existing international transmission facilities as a result of bankruptcy proceedings in Canada and the United States, has previously been determined by DOE to not have a significant effect on the human environment either individually or cumulatively. Authorizing the proposed action will not (1) threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health including DOE and/or Executive orders; (2) require siting of new facilities or expansion of existing facilities; (3) disturb hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants; or (4) adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources.

DETERMINATION: Based on my review of the above information concerning the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (as authorized under DOE Order 451.1A), I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class of actions, other regulatory requirements set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

Signature: 
Brian Mills
NEPA Compliance Officer
Office of Electricity Delivery
and Energy Reliability

Date: 