



LOUP POWER DISTRICT

"SERVING YOU ELECTRICALLY"

GENERAL OFFICE

2404 15th Street
P.O. Box 988
Columbus, NE 68602-0988

Phone:

402/564-3171

Fax:

402/564-0970

Via Electronic Filing

October 16, 2008

Honorable Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20426

Subject: Loup River Hydroelectric Project
FERC Project No. 1256
Notice of Intent to File and Pre-Application Document

Dear Secretary Bose:

Loup River Public Power District (Loup Power District or District) herein electronically files its Notice of Intent (NOI) to file an Application for New License for the Loup River Hydroelectric Project, FERC Project No. 1256 (Project). The District is the owner, operator, and original licensee of the Project. The existing license was effective on December 1, 1982, for a term ending April 15, 2014. Loup Power District is utilizing the Integrated Licensing Process (ILP) for this relicensing effort. Therefore, pursuant to 18 CFR § 5.6, the District is concurrently filing its Project Pre-Application Document (PAD) with its NOI.

The PAD is comprised of two public volumes (including appendices) and one privileged volume. The PAD contains all of the information required by 18 CFR § 5.6(c) and (d). It is being concurrently distributed (in hard copy or electronic format) to federal and state resource agencies, local governments, and Native American tribes in conformance with 18 CFR § 5.2(a) and § 5.6(a) (1) and (2). A distribution list of those parties is attached. Other parties known to be potentially interested in the relicensing proceeding are being notified by mail that the documents are available for viewing on the District's website or at the District's office in Columbus, Nebraska.

At this time, and pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.2(c)(4), the District requests that the Commission authorize Loup Power District to initiate consultation, as described in Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, with the Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and others regarding relicensing of the Project. Please note that 36 CFR § 800.2(c)(4) requires that the Commission notify the SHPO and other consulting parties in writing (or email) if this authorization is granted.

Also at this time, pursuant to 50 CFR § 402.08, the District requests that the Commission designate Loup Power District as its non-federal representative to conduct informal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and to prepare a biological assessment(s) as necessary to comply with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.

All materials related to the current Project license as well as materials related to this NOI and PAD are available for inspection at the office of Loup Power District, 2404 15th Street, Columbus, NE 68602. A notice of this filing will be published in the *Columbus Telegram*, *Genoa Leader-Times*, *Nance County Journal*, and *Humphrey Democrat*. The NOI and PAD will also be available at the following public libraries and on the website established by the District for the relicensing of the Project, www.loup.com/relicense, and in accordance with the conditions of the Information Distribution Protocol contained within the PAD.

Columbus Public Library
2504 14th Street
Columbus, Nebraska

Genoa City Library
421 Willard Avenue
Genoa, Nebraska

The District looks forward to working with the Commission and all interested parties on relicensing the Loup River Hydroelectric Project. If you have any questions regarding this letter, the NOI, or the PAD, please contact me at (402) 564-3171 ext. 268.

Respectfully submitted,



Neal D. Suess
President/CEO
Loup Power District

Attachments: Notice of Intent to File for a New License
Pre-Application Document – Loup River Hydroelectric Project
Distribution List

Federal Government / Representatives

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation*

Don Klima
Attn: John Eddins
Old Post Office Building
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 803
Washington DC 20004

Bureau of Land Management

Don Simpson
State Director
PO Box 1828
Cheyenne, WY 82003

Bureau of Reclamation

Mike Ferguson
Great Plains Regional Office
P.O. Box 36900
Billings, MT 59107-6900

Department of Interior

Office of Environmental Policy and
Compliance
Robert F. Stewart
Regional Environmental Officer
Denver Federal Center
P.O. Box 25007, D-108
Denver, CO 80225-0007

Department of Interior

Office of Environmental Affairs
Attn: Shawn Alam
Willie R. Taylor
Director
1849 C St. NW ROOM2353
Washington, DC

Environmental Protection Agency

Region 7
Joe Cothorn
NEPA Team Leader
901 N. 5th Street
Kansas City, KS 66101

Federal Emergency Management Agency*

Regional Office
Ken Sessa
Environmental and Historic Preservation
9221 Ward Parkway, Suite 300
Kansas City, MO 64114-3372

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission*

Regional Office
Peggy Harding
Regional Engineer
230 South Dearborn Street, Room 3130
Chicago, IL 60604

Fish and Wildlife Service

Robert Harms
Biologist
Federal Building
203 West Second Street
Grand Island, NE 68801

Forest Service*

Region 2
Rick Cables
Regional Forester
740 Simms Street
Golden, CO 80401-4720

National Park Service Field Office

Randy Thoreson
Midwest Region / Outdoor Recreation
Planner
111 E. Kellogg Blvd, Suite 105
St. Paul, MN 55101

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*

Barb Friskopp
1430 Central Avenue
Kearney, NE 68847

U.S. Geological Survey

Jason Alexander, Hydrologist
5231 South 19th
Lincoln, NE 68512

* Provided electronically per request.

U.S. House of Representatives

First District, Nebraska
Fremont Office
Jeff Fortenberry, Member of Congress
P.O. Box 377
629 Broad Street
Fremont, NE 68026

U.S. Senate

Lincoln Office
Chuck Hagel
294 Federal Building
100 Centennial Mall North
Lincoln, NE 68508

U.S. House of Representatives

Third District, Nebraska
Grand Island Office
Adrian Smith
Member of Congress
1811 West Second Street
Suite 105
Grand Island, NE 68803

U.S. Senate

Lincoln Office
Ben Nelson
440 North 8th Street
Suite 120
Lincoln, NE 68508

State Government

**Conservation and Survey Division
Geological Survey***

Director
Hardin Hall, 3310 Holdrege Street
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Lincoln, NE 68583

Nebraska Department of Agriculture*

Greg Ibach
Director
301 Centennial Mall South
PO Box 94947
Lincoln, NE 68509

Natural Resources Conservation Service*

Steve Chick
State Conservationist
Federal Building, Room 152
100 Centennial Mall North
Lincoln, NE 68508

**Nebraska Department of Environmental
Quality**

John Bender
Water Quality Standards Coordinator
PO Box 98922
Lincoln, NE 68509

Nebraska Attorney General's Office

Agriculture, Environmental and Natural
Resources
Justin Lavene
Special Counsel to the Attorney General
2115 State Capitol Drive
Lincoln, NE 68509

**Nebraska Department of Health and
Human Services**

Northeast Regional Office
David Jundt
Water Supply Specialist
304 North 5th St. Suite C
Norfolk, NE 68701

* Provided electronically per request.

Nebraska Department of Natural Resources

Jean Angell
Legal Counsel
State Office Building, 4th Floor
300 Centennial Mall South; P.O. Box 4676
Lincoln, NE 68509

Nebraska Emergency Management Agency*

Al Bendt
1300 Military Road
Lincoln, NE 68508

Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

Frank Albrecht
Assistant Director of Administration
2200 N. 33rd
Lincoln, NE 68503

Nebraska State Historical Preservation Office

Stacy Stupka-Burda
National Register Coordinator
1500 R Street
P.O. Box 82554
Lincoln, NE 68501

Nebraska Unicameral

District #34
Annette Dubas
54906 N. 180th Ave
Fullerton, NE 68634

Nebraska Unicameral

District #23
Chris Langemeier
P.O. Box 192
Schuyler, NE 68661

Nebraska Unicameral

District #41
Vickie McDonald
1104 Westridge Lane
St. Paul, NE 68873

Nebraska Unicameral

District #22
Arnie Stuthman
24160 310th Street
Platte Center, NE 68653

Local Government

City of Columbus

Joseph Mangiamelli, Administrator
City Hall ~ First Floor 2424 14th Street
P.O. Box 1677
Columbus, NE 68602

City of Fullerton

James Kramer
City Administrator
903 Broadway Street
PO Box 670
Fullerton, NE 68638

City of Genoa

Lacie Andreasen
City Administrator / Clerk
P.O. Box 279
Genoa, NE 68640

City of Monroe

Connie Kramer
City Clerk
122 Gerrard Avenue
P.O. Box 103
Monroe, NE 68647

* Provided electronically per request.

Nance County

Board of Supervisors
Dennis Jarecke
Chairman
53836 S. 320th Ave.
Fullerton, NE 68638

Platte County

Board of Supervisors
Bob Lloyd
President
2610 14th Street
Columbus, NE 68601

Nance County

Planning and Zoning Commission
Janet Lawson
PO Box 821
Fullerton, NE 68638

Public Agency

Central Platte Natural Resource District

Ron Bishop
General Manager
215 N Kaufman Avenue
Grand Island, NE 68803

Papio-Missouri Natural Resource District

John Winkler
General Manager
8901 S. 154th St.
Omaha, NE 68138

Lower Loup Natural Resource District

Leon Koehlmoos
Manager
2620 Airport Dr
P.O. Box 210
Ord, NE 68862

Upper Loup Natural Resource District

Anna Baum
General Manager
39252 Highway 2
Thedford, NE 69166

Lower Platte North Natural Resource District

John Miyoshi
Manager
511 Commercial Park
P.O. Box 126
Wahoo, NE 68066

Nebraska Public Power District

Jon Sunneberg
NPPD Resource Planning and Risk Manager
1414 15th Street
PO Box 499
Columbus, NE 68602

Lower Platte South Natural Resource District

Glenn Johnson
General Manager
3125 Portia Street
PO Box 83581
Lincoln, NE 68501

Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance*

Rodney Verhoeff
Coordinator
3125 Portia Street
P.O. Box 83581
Lincoln, NE 68501

* Provided electronically per request.

**Platte River Recovery Implementation
Program**

Jerry Kenny
Executive Director
3710 Central Avenue, Suite E
Kearney, NE 68847

Native American

Bureau of Indian Affairs, Great Plains*

Regional Office
Regional Director
115 4th Avenue SE
Aberdeen, SD 57401

Pawnee Tribal Business Council

George Howell
President
P.O. Box 470
Pawnee, OK 74058

Omaha Tribe of Nebraska

Antoine A. Provost
Executive Director
P.O. Box 368
Macy, NE 68039

Non-Governmental Organizations

**Columbus Area Recreation and Trails
(C.A.R.T.)***

Curt Alms
Treasurer
2717 33rd Street
P.O. Box 515
Columbus, NE 68601

Tern and Plover Conservation Partnership*

Mary Bomberger-Brown
Program Coordinator
3310 Holdrege Street, 153 Hardin Hall,
University
Lincoln, NE 68583

NOHVA*

Dan Nitzel
2231 W. 10th Street,
Grand Island, NE 68831

* Provided electronically per request.

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE
APPLICATION FOR NEW LICENSE**

**Loup River Public Power District
Loup River Hydroelectric Project
FERC Project No. 1256, Nebraska**

October 16, 2008

In accordance with the requirements of 18 CFR Part 5.5, Loup River Public Power District (the District) hereby notifies the Commission of its intent to file an application for a new license for the Loup River Hydroelectric Project (also known as the Loup Hydro Project), FERC Project No. 1256. The following information is provided in support of this notification:

1. Licensee's name and address:

Loup River Public Power District, aka, Loup Power District
2404 15th Street
P.O. Box 988
Columbus, Nebraska 68602-0988
(402) 564-3171

2. Project number:

FERC Project No. 1256.

3. License expiration date:

The existing license for Project No. 1256 will expire on April 15, 2014.

4. Applicant's statement of intention to file for a subsequent license:

Loup River Public Power District hereby unequivocally declares its intent to apply for a new license for the Loup River Hydroelectric Project, FERC Project No. 1256. Loup Power District intends to utilize the Integrated Licensing Process (ILP) for this undertaking.

5. Principal Project works include:

- the Diversion Weir and gated Headworks Structures at the Loup River,
- the Settling Basin,
- the Upper Power Canal,
- the Monroe Powerhouse,
- the Lower Power Canal,
- the Lake Babcock Regulating Reservoir,

- the Lake North Regulating Reservoir,
- the Intake Canal,
- the Columbus Powerhouse,
- the Tailrace Canal, and
- the Outlet Weir which overflows to the Platte River

Project No. 1256 utilizes an unlined canal system constructed between the Loup River and the Platte River. It does not include any dams or spillway structures on any natural water course; nor does it include any transmission lines.

6. *Project location:*

State: Nebraska
 Counties: Nance County and Platte County
 Nearby cities: Genoa, Monroe, Columbus
 Stream: Water is diverted from the Loup River; released to the Platte River

7. *Installed plant capacity:*

Nameplate capacity at Monroe Powerhouse is 8.25 MVA.
 Nameplate capacity at Columbus Powerhouse is 48 MVA.

8. *The names and mailing addresses of:*

- (i) ***Every county in which any part of the project is located, and in which any Federal facility that is used or to be used by the project is located:***

Portions of the Project are located in both Nance County and Platte County, Nebraska. No Federal facilities are used by Project No. 1256.

Nance County – Clerk’s Office
 Board of Commissioners
 P.O. Box 338
 Fullerton, Nebraska 68638

Platte County – Clerk’s Office
 Board of Commissioners
 2610 14th Street
 Columbus, Nebraska 68601

- (ii) ***Every city, town, or similar political subdivision:***

(A) In which any part of the project is or is to be located and any Federal facility that is or is to be used by the project is located:

Portions of the Project are located within the municipal limits of Genoa, Nebraska. No Federal facilities are used by Project No. 1256.

City of Genoa – Clerk’s Office
P.O. Box 279
Genoa, Nebraska 68640

(B) or, that has a population of 5,000 or more people and is located within 15 miles of the existing or proposed project dam:

As noted in Item 5 above, there is no dam associated with Project No. 1256. However, the city of Columbus, Nebraska (population 20,000) is included here because the City limits fall within one mile of the Project Boundary.

City of Columbus
City Administrator
P.O. Box 1677
Columbus, Nebraska 68602-1677

(iii) Every irrigation district, drainage district, or similar special purpose political subdivision:

(A) In which any part of the project is or is proposed to be located and any Federal facility that is or is proposed to be used by the project.

Portions of the Project are within the Lower Loup River Natural Resource District.

Lower Loup River NRD
P.O. Box 210
Ord, Nebraska 68862-0210

(B) That owns, operates, maintains, or uses any project facility or any Federal facility that is or is proposed to be used by the project;

The Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD), a similar public utility, purchases all power generated by the licensed project at the powerhouses. Under a joint agreement, NPPD owns portions of the powerhouse substations and all transmission lines located on special easements within the Project Boundary.

Nebraska Public Power District
P.O. Box 499
Columbus, Nebraska 68602-0499

- (iv) ***Every other political subdivision in the general area of the Project or proposed project that there is reason to believe would be likely to be interested in, or affected by, the notification:***

Lower Platte North NRD
P.O. Box 126
Wahoo, Nebraska 68066

Lower Platte South NRD
P.O. Box 83581
Lincoln, Nebraska 68501-3581

Papio Missouri River NRD
8901 South 154th Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68138-3621

Central Platte River NRD
215 North Kaufman Avenue
Grand Island, Nebraska 68803

City of Monroe – Clerk’s Office
P.O. Box 6
Monroe, Nebraska 68647

- (v) ***Affected Indian Tribes:***

There are no Tribal lands within, or immediately adjacent to, the Project Boundary. A review of the Native American Consultation Database indicates that both the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska and the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma have formal claims in the general vicinity of the Project.

Omaha Tribe of Nebraska
P.O. Box 368
Macy, Nebraska 68039

Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 470
Pawnee, Oklahoma 74058