(26) *Real property interests*, for the purposes of provisions governing application for exemption of a small conduit hydroelectric facility or a small hydroelectric power project, includes ownership in fee, rights-of-way, easements, or leaseholds.

(27) *Resource agency* means a Federal, state, or interstate agency exercising administration over the areas of flood control, navigation, irrigation, recreation, fish and wildlife, water resource management (including water rights), or cultural or other relevant resources of the state or states in which a project is or will be located.

(28) *Small conduit hydroelectric facility* means an existing or proposed hydroelectric facility that is constructed, operated, or maintained for the generation of electric power, and includes all structures, fixtures, equipment, and lands used and useful in the operation or maintenance of the hydroelectric facility, but excludes the conduit on which the hydroelectric facility is located or the transmission lines associated with the hydroelectric facility and which:

(i) Utilizes for electric power generation the hydroelectric potential of a conduit;

(ii) Is located entirely on non-Federal lands, as defined in paragraph (b)(20)(i) of this section;

(iii) Has an installed generating capacity of 15 MW or less;

(iv) Is not an integral part of a dam;

(v) Discharges the water it uses for power generation either:

(A) Into a conduit;

(B) Directly to a point of agricultural, municipal, or industrial consumption; or

(C) Into a natural water body if a quantity of water equal to or greater than the quantity discharged from the hydroelectric facility is withdrawn from that water body downstream into a conduit that is part of the same water supply system as the conduit on which the hydroelectric facility is located; and

(vi) Does not rely upon construction of a dam, which construction will create any portion of the hydrostatic head that the facility uses for power generation unless that construction would occur for agricultural, municipal, or industrial consumptive purposes even if hydroelectric generating facilities were not installed.

(29) *Small hydroelectric power project* means any project in which capacity will be installed or increased after the date of notice of exemption or application under subpart K of this chapter, which will have a total installed capacity of not more than 5 MW, and which:

(i) Would utilize for electric power generation the water power potential of an existing dam that is not owned or operated by the United States or by an instrumentality of the Federal Government, including the Tennessee Valley Authority; or

(ii)(A) Would utilize for the generation of electricity a natural water feature, such as a natural lake, waterfall, or the gradient of a natural stream, without the need for a dam or manmade impoundment; and

(B) Would not retain water behind any structure for the purpose of a storage and release operation.

(30) *PURPA benefits* means benefits under section 210 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (PURPA). Section 210(a) of PURPA requires electric utilities to purchase electricity from, and to sell electricity to, qualifying facilities.

[Order 413, 50 FR 11676, Mar. 25, 1985, as amended by Order 487, 52 FR 48404, Dec. 22, 1987; Order 499, 53 FR 27001, July 18, 1988; Order 503, 53 FR 36567, Sept. 21, 1988; Order 533, 56 FR 23146, May 20, 1991; 56 FR 61154, Dec. 2, 1991; Order 533–A, 57 FR 10809, Mar. 31, 1992; 59 FR 10577, Mar. 7, 1994]

§4.31 Initial or competing application: who may file.

(a) *Application for a preliminary permit or a license*. Any citizen, association of citizens, domestic corporation, municipality, or state may submit for filing an initial application or a competing application for a preliminary permit or a license for a water power project under Part I of the Federal Power Act.

(b) *Application for exemption of a small conduit hydroelectric facility*—(1) *Exemption from provisions other than licensing*. Any citizen, association of citizens, domestic corporation, municipality, or state that has all of the real property interests in the lands necessary to develop and operate that project, or an

option to obtain those interests, may apply for exemption of a small conduit hydroelectric facility from provisions of Part I of the Federal Power Act, other than licensing provisions.

(2) *Exemption from licensing.* Any person having all the real property interests in the lands necessary to develop and operate the small conduit hydroelectric facility, or an option to obtain those interests, may apply for exemption of that facility from licensing under Part I of the Federal Power Act.

(c) *Application for case-specific exemption of a small hydroelectric power project*—(1) *Exemption from provisions other than licensing.* Any qualified license applicant or licensee seeking amendment of its license may apply for exemption of the related project from provisions of Part I of the Federal Power Act other than licensing provisions.

(2) *Exemption from licensing*—(i) *Only Federal lands involved.* If only rights to use or occupy Federal lands would be necessary to develop and operate the proposed small hydroelectric power project, any person may apply for exemption of that project from licensing.

(ii) *Some non-Federal lands involved.* If real property interests in any non-Federal lands would be necessary to develop and operate the proposed small hydroelectric power project, any person who has all of the real property interests in non-Federal lands necessary to develop and operate that project, or an option to obtain those interests, may apply for exemption of that project from licensing.

[Order 413, 50 FR 11678, Mar. 25, 1985]

§ 4.32 Acceptance for filing or rejection; information to be made available to the public; requests for additional studies.

(a) Each application must:

(1) For a preliminary permit or license, identify every person, citizen, association of citizens, domestic corporation, municipality, or state that has or intends to obtain and will maintain any proprietary right necessary to construct, operate, or maintain the project;

(2) For a preliminary permit or a license, identify (providing names and mailing addresses):

(i) Every county in which any part of the project, and any Federal facilities that would be used by the project, would be located;

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

(A) In which any part of the project, and any Federal facilities that would be used by the project, would be located; or

(B) That has a population of 5,000 or more people and is located within 15 miles of the project dam;

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

(A) In which any part of the project, and any Federal facilities that would be used by the project, would be located; or

(B) That owns, operates, maintains, or uses any project facilities or any Federal facilities that would be used by the project;

(iv) Every other political subdivision in the general area of the project that there is reason to believe would likely be interested in, or affected by, the application; and

(v) All Indian tribes that may be affected by the project.

(3)(i) For a license (other than a license under section 15 of the Federal Power Act) state that the applicant has made, either at the time of or before filing the application, a good faith effort to give notification by certified mail of the filing of the application to:

(A) Every property owner of record of any interest in the property within the bounds of the project, or in the case of the project without a specific boundary, each such owner of property which would underlie or be adjacent to any project works including any impoundments; and

(B) The entities identified in paragraph (a)(2) of this section, as well as any other Federal, state, municipal or other local government agencies that there is reason to believe would likely be interested in or affected by such application.

(ii) Such notification must contain the name, business address, and telephone number of the applicant and a copy of the Exhibit G contained in the