



WESTERN RESOURCE
ADVOCATES

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Western Resource Advocates Statement on Latest Filing for Flaming Gorge Pipeline Proposal

BOULDER, Colo.— Stacy Tellinghuisen, an Energy/Water Policy Analyst with **Western Resource Advocates**, made the following statement today regarding Wyco Power and Water's latest submission to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on the **Flaming Gorge Pipeline**:

"Mr. Million has yet to explain why a federal *energy* agency should be overseeing a water supply pipeline. Trying to classify this pipeline proposal as an energy project is like a tobacco company saying that cigarettes are really just intended to keep people warm. The Flaming Gorge Pipeline doesn't make any sense no matter what you call it."

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

On Oct. 12, Mr. Aaron Million of Wyco Power and Water, Inc. submitted a response to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) regarding the agency's request for additional information on Wyco's Regional Watershed Supply Project proposal (generally referred to as the Flaming Gorge Pipeline). Mr. Million applied to FERC for a permit application on Sept. 1, 2011; earlier this year the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers terminated its review of the project, citing Million's failure to meet required deadlines to provide information.

According to a letter from FERC dated Oct. 5, 2011, Wyco's preliminary permit application was deemed deficient for a number of reasons. While Wyco has attempted to answer FERC's questions in its Oct. 12 response letter, Mr. Million has not outlined why FERC should be the federal agency tasked with the permitting process for this project. Even FERC seemed to ask "why us" in its Oct. 5 letter:

"Because the Commission would only have jurisdiction with regard to the proposed hydroelectric development, which is only one component of the proposed 501-mile-long water supply pipeline project, construction of substantial parts of the overall project may require permits from other federal agencies."

- *More Information on the Flaming Gorge Pipeline:*
<http://www.westernresourceadvocates.org/water/pipeline/million.php>
- *FERC Submissions/Filings:* http://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/file_list.asp?accession_num=20111013-5035

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