

January 7, 2009

Ms. Kimberly Bose Secretary Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 888 First Street, N.E. Washington, D.C. 20426

# Re: NERC Notice of Penalty regarding Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership, FERC Docket No. NP09-\_-000

Dear Ms. Bose:

The North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) hereby provides this Notice of Penalty<sup>1</sup> regarding Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership, NERC Registry ID NCR10206,<sup>2</sup> in accordance with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission or FERC) rules, regulations and orders, as well as NERC Rules of Procedure including Appendix 4C (NERC Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program (CMEP)).

This Notice of Penalty is being filed with the Commission because, based on information from SERC Reliability Corporation, the Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership does not dispute the alleged violations of FAC-008-1 Requirement (R) 1 and FAC-009-1 R1. SERC Reliability Corporation and Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership have entered into a Settlement Agreement in which Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership has agreed to the proposed penalty of \$10,000 to be assessed to Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership in addition to other actions to promote prospective compliance required under the terms and conditions of the Settlement Agreement, and to resolve all outstanding issues arising from a preliminary and non-public assessment resulting in SERC Reliability Corporation's determination and findings of enforceable alleged violations at issue in this Notice of Penalty. Accordingly, the alleged violations identified as NERC Violation Tracking Identification Numbers SERC200800119 and SERC200800127 are being filed in accordance with the NERC Rules of Procedure and the CMEP.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Rules Concerning Certification of the Electric Reliability Organization; and Procedures for the Establishment, Approval, and Enforcement of Electric Reliability Standards (Order No. 672), III FERC Stats. & Regs. ¶ 31,204 (2006); Notice of New Docket Prefix "NP" for Notices of Penalty Filed by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation, Docket No. RM05-30-000 (February 7, 2008). See also 18 C.F.R. Part 39 (2008). Mandatory Reliability Standards for the Bulk-Power System, FERC Stats. & Regs. ¶ 31,242 (2007) (Order No. 693), reh'g denied, 120 FERC ¶ 61,053 (2007) (Order No. 693-A). See 18 C.F.R § 39.7(c)(2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> SERC Reliability Corporation confirmed that Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership was included on the NERC Compliance Registry as a Generator Owner and was subject to the requirements of NERC Reliability Standard FAC-008-1 and FAC-009-1.

### Statement of Findings Underlying the Alleged Violations

This Notice of Penalty incorporates the findings and justifications set forth in the Settlement Agreement executed as of August 29, 2008, by and between SERC Reliability Corporation and Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership, which is included as Attachment a, and the and the Supplemental Record Information letter issued on October 30, 2008 by SERC Reliability Corporation to Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership. The details of the findings and basis for the penalty are set forth in the Settlement Agreement and herein. This Notice of Penalty filing contains the basis for approval of the Settlement Agreement by the NERC Board of Trustees Compliance Committee (NERC BOTCC). In accordance with Section 39.7 of the Commission's regulations, 18 C.F.R. § 39.7 (2007), NERC provides the following summary table identifying each alleged violation of a Reliability Standard resolved by the Settlement Agreement, as discussed in greater detail below.

Region	Registered Entity	NOC ID	NERC Violation ID	Reliability Std.	Req. (R)	VRF	Total Penalty (\$)
	Choctaw Generation						
SERC	Limited Partnership	NOC-83	SERC200800119	FAC-008-1	1	Medium	10,000
	<b>Choctaw Generation</b>						10,000
SERC	Limited Partnership	NOC-83	SERC200800127	FAC-009-1	1	Medium	

FAC-008-1 R1 requires an entity such as Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership to document its current methodology used for developing Facility Ratings (Facility Ratings Methodology) of its solely and jointly owned Facilities. The methodology shall include all of the following: a statement that a Facility Rating shall equal the most limiting applicable Equipment Rating of the individual equipment that comprises that Facility; the method by which the Rating (of major bulk electric system equipment that comprises a Facility) is determined; the scope of equipment addressed shall include, but not be limited to, generators, transmission conductors, transformers, relay protective devices, terminal equipment, and series and shunt compensation devices; the scope of Ratings addressed shall include, as a minimum, both Normal and Emergency Ratings; and consideration of the following: Ratings provided by equipment manufacturers, design criteria (*e.g.*, including applicable references to industry Rating practices such as manufacturer's warranty, IEEE, ANSI or other standards), ambient conditions, operating limitations, and other assumptions.

FAC-009-1 R1 requires an entity such as Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership to establish Facility Ratings for its solely and jointly owned Facilities that are consistent with the associated Facility Ratings Methodology.

Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership submitted to SERC Reliability Corporation selfcertifications on November 29, 2007 and November 30, 2007, stating that it was in full compliance with FAC-008-1 and FAC-009-1, respectively. According to the Settlement Agreement, during an on-site compliance audit on April 15, 2008 through April 17, 2008, the SERC Reliability Corporation Audit team performed a detailed review of Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership's evidence of its compliance with all requirements of FAC-008-1 and FAC-

009-1, in addition to the other standards applicable to Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership as a Generator Owner and Generator Operator. The SERC Reliability Corporation Audit team identified FAC-008-1 R1 and R2, FAC-009-1 R1 and R2, and CIP-001-1 R4 as possible violations. The SERC Reliability Corporation Audit team reported the possible violations it identified to the SERC Reliability Corporation Compliance Enforcement Staff.<sup>3</sup>

According to SERC Reliability Corporation, on April 28, 2008, the SERC Compliance Enforcement Staff initiated a detailed compliance assessment to review the findings of the Audit team and issued to Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership a Compliance Assessment Notice advising Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership of the initiation of a formal assessment to determine its compliance relative to FAC-008-1, FAC-009-1 and CIP-001-1. Based on its detailed compliance assessment, SERC Reliability Corporation Enforcement Staff determined that Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership had violated FAC-008-1 R1 and FAC-009-1 R1. On August 19, 2008, SERC Reliability Corporation Compliance Enforcement Staff also determined to dismiss the violations of FAC-008-1 R2<sup>4</sup> and FAC-009-1 R2.<sup>5</sup>

During the course of the settlement discussions, based on the additional evidence provided to SERC Reliability Corporation Compliance Enforcement Staff by Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership subsequent to the compliance audit and guidance issued by NERC on June 3, 2008, with respect to CIP-001-1 R4,<sup>6</sup> SERC Reliability Corporation also dismissed the CIP-001-1 R4

<sup>3</sup> Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership was not registered until approximately November 21, 2007. Prior to that time, SUEZ Energy Marketing NA was registered as the Generator Owner for the Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership generating facility along with the three other SUEZ-affiliated generating facilities in the SERC Reliability Corporation Region. Two of the SUEZ-affiliated generating facilities were also separately registered as Generator Owners at the time of the September 1, 2007 due date for self-certifications for the Generator Ownerrelated Reliability Standards. At the time, SUEZ Energy Marketing NA and SERC Reliability Corporation had initiated discussions regarding registration changes so as to reconcile the duplicate registrations, therefore the requirement for SUEZ Energy Marketing NA, and its affiliated generating facilities including Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership, to submit self-certifications was deferred until the registration issues were resolved. SERC Reliability Corporation and SUEZ Energy Marketing NA ultimately decided to register each of the four SUEZaffiliated generating facilities in the SERC Reliability Corporation Region as separate Registered Entities. The separate registrations of Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership and the other three SUEZ-affiliated generating facilities as Generator Owners and Generator Operators were completed on or about November 21, 2007, at which time SUEZ Energy Marketing NA was de-listed as Generator Owner and Generator Operator, and was registered instead as a Purchasing-Selling Entity. Given this late registration, Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership was not required to self-certify compliance with FAC-008-1 or FAC-009-1 until November 30, 2007.

<sup>4</sup> FAC-008-1 R2 requires an entity such as Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership to make its Facility Ratings Methodology available for inspection and technical review by those Reliability Coordinators, Transmission Operators, Transmission Planners, and Planning Authorities that have responsibility for the area in which the associated Facilities are located, within 15 business days of receipt of a request. SERC Reliability Corporation determined that Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership did not receive a request by such entities during the period at issue, which was a condition precedent to a violation of this Requirement.

<sup>5</sup> FAC-009-1 R2 requires an entity such as Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership to provide Facility Ratings for its solely and jointly owned Facilities that are existing Facilities, new Facilities, modifications to existing Facilities and re-ratings of existing Facilities to its associated Reliability Coordinator(s), Planning Authority(ies), Transmission Planner(s), and Transmission Operator(s) as scheduled by such requesting entities. SERC Reliability Corporation determined that Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership did not receive a request by such entities during the period at issue, which was a condition precedent to a violation of this Requirement.

<sup>6</sup> CIP-001-1 R4 requires an entity such as the Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership to establish communications contacts, as applicable, with local Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) or Royal Canadian Mounted Police

violation and found Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership to be compliant with this Requirement.

For FAC-008-1 R1, Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership presented as evidence of its Facility Ratings Methodology for the period from June 18, 2007 to November 13, 2007 a Draft Reference Book document. The Draft Reference Book did not contain any statements of Facility Ratings Methodologies. Furthermore, the scope of the equipment in the Draft Reference Book did not include the elements set forth in FAC-008-1 R1: generators, generator capabilities, transmission conductors, transformers, relay protective devices, terminal equipment, or series and shunt compensation devices. Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership's revised Facilities Ratings Methodology Document, dated November 13, 2007, also was reviewed by the SERC Reliability Corporation's Audit team and SERC Reliability Corporation's Compliance Enforcement Staff and was determined to contain the required content pursuant to FAC-008-1 R1.

As set forth in the Settlement Agreement, while SERC Reliability Corporation Staff determined that Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership was compliant with FAC-008-1 R1 since November 13, 2007, the documentation produced by Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership to demonstrate its compliance with this Requirement did not contain any statements of Facility Ratings Methodology. Therefore, SERC Reliability Corporation found that Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership was in violation of FAC-008-1 R1 from June 18, 2007 until November 13, 2007.

For FAC-009-1 R1, Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership presented evidence of its Facility Ratings in the form of a spreadsheet dated December 12, 2007. The SERC Reliability Corporation's Audit team and SERC Reliability Corporation's Compliance Enforcement Staff reviewed the generating facility equipment rating inventory included for the generator and associated equipment and concluded that the documentation was sufficient evidence of compliance with FAC-009-1 R1 as of December 12, 2007. However, Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership could not present evidence of established Facility Ratings consistent with the documented Facilities Ratings Methodology prior to December 12, 2007.

According to SERC Reliability Corporation, while SERC Reliability Corporation Staff determined that Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership was compliant with FAC-009-1 R1 since December 12, 2007, SERC Reliability Corporation found that Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership could not demonstrate that it had established Facility Ratings consistent with Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership's Facility Ratings Methodology prior to December 12, 2007. Therefore, SERC Reliability Corporation alleged that Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership was in violation of FAC-009-1 R1 from June 18, 2007 until December 12, 2007.

SERC Reliability Corporation assessed the alleged violation of FAC-008-1 R1 to have a "Medium" Violation Risk Factor (VRF). While FAC-008-1 R1 has a "Lower" VRF, its sub-

(RCMP) officials and develop reporting procedures as appropriate to their circumstances. SERC Reliability Corporation determined that Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership had a working telephone number for the FBI during the period at issue.



requirements have a "Medium" VRF. Therefore, SERC Reliability Corporation assessed a "Medium" VRF for the FAC-008-1 R1 violation. FAC-009-1 R1 has a "Medium" VRF.

According to the Settlement Agreement, SERC Reliability Corporation's Compliance Enforcement Staff concluded that Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership's insufficiently documented Facility Ratings Methodology and undocumented Facility Ratings for its generating facilities represented a low actual and foreseen risk to bulk power system reliability. Thus, according to SERC Reliability Corporation, its Compliance Enforcement Staff determined that, in this instance, the single, aggregate penalty amount of \$10,000 bears a reasonable relation to the seriousness and duration of the alleged violations and takes into consideration Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership's voluntary efforts to remedy the alleged violations in a timely manner. Furthermore, based on Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership's cooperation, commitment to compliance and agreement to expeditiously reconcile this issue via settlement, SERC Reliability Corporation determined that the penalty of \$10,000 was appropriate.

# **Status of Mitigation Plan<sup>7</sup>**

As noted above, both of the alleged violations had been remedied by Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership at the time of discovery by SERC Reliability Corporation. Therefore, no Mitigation Plan was required to address the deficiencies in Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership's Facility Ratings Methodology and Facility Ratings for its generating facilities.

# **Additional Actions for Prospective Compliance**

In addition to the payment of the \$10,000 financial penalty, Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership has agreed to perform the following additional actions. Because Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership's parent, SUEZ Energy Generation NA owns and operates other generating facilities across the SERC Reliability Corporation Region and other NERC Regions, the sharing of its experiences and lessons learned can add value in promoting a culture of compliance among similar entities. To that end, Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership, through SUEZ Energy Generation NA, agreed to provide panelists or speakers for at least one Regional Entity compliance workshop or conference during 2009, upon approval by the Regional Entity, to present elements of their NERC Compliance Program that include the following items:

- i. Description of the Corporate Compliance Team and functions throughout several NERC Regions;
- ii. Company Site Administrative Procedures used to promote compliance throughout the company;
- iii. Internal Audit Process used for due diligence of new acquisitions and for annual review of compliance for current assets; and
- iv. Review of Corporate Compliance internal database portal.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See 18 C.F.R § 39.7(d)(7).

The Settlement Agreement provisions regarding Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership or SUEZ Energy Generation NA's participation or presentation in such workshop or conference prohibit any action or comment disputing the findings of SERC Reliability Corporation herein and prohibit using the workshop as a forum to challenge the content or applicability of any Reliability Standard.

# Statement Describing the Proposed Penalty, Sanction or Enforcement Action Imposed<sup>8</sup>

#### **Basis for Determination**

Taking into consideration the Commission's direction in Order No. 693, the NERC Sanction Guidelines and the Commission's July 3, 2008 Guidance Order, the NERC BOTCC reviewed the Settlement Agreement and supporting documentation on October 7, 2008. The NERC BOTCC approved the Settlement Agreement, including SERC Reliability Corporation's imposition of a \$10,000 penalty against Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership, in addition to other actions to promote prospective compliance required under the terms and conditions of the Settlement Agreement. In approving the Settlement Agreement, the NERC BOTCC reviewed the applicable requirements of the Commission-approved Reliability Standards and the underlying facts and circumstances of the alleged violations at issue.

In reaching this determination, NERC BOTCC considered the following factors: (1) the alleged violations reflected a deficiency in procedures and documentation; (2) the time of actual noncompliance was during 2007; (3) Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership corrected its documentation in 2007; (4) Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership had self-certified in 2007 that it was in compliance with the Reliability Standards at issue, yet SERC Reliability Corporation found this was not the case as a result of an audit conducted in 2008; (5) the sharing of its experiences and lessons learned can add value in promoting a culture of compliance among similar entities. To that end, Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership, through SUEZ Energy Generation NA, agreed to provide panelists and speakers at a Regional Entity compliance workshop or conference, to present elements of their NERC Compliance Program that include the following items: description of the Corporate Compliance Team and functions throughout several NERC Regions; company Site Administrative Procedures used to promote compliance throughout the company; Internal Audit Process used for due diligence of new acquisitions and for annual review of compliance for current assets; and review of the Corporate Compliance internal database portal.

Therefore, NERC approves the Settlement Agreement and believes that the proposed \$10,000 dollar penalty is appropriate and consistent with NERC's goal to ensure reliability of the bulk power system.

NERC notes that there are three more Settlement Agreements in SERC Reliability Corporation region that are being contemporaneously filed also involving SUEZ-affiliated entities. Each Settlement Agreement has penalty amounts of \$10,000, involving the same facts wherein entities self-certified compliance in 2007 and were later found in 2008 by the SERC Reliability



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See 18 C.F.R § 39.7(d)(4).

Corporation not to be compliant. In each case, while self-certifying compliance in 2007, the entity revised its documentation in 2007 so that the violation did not continue into 2008, but did not self-report the violations once known or advise SERC Reliability Corporation of the changes made. In addition, also being contemporaneously filed are two Notices of Penalty involving alleged violations by SUEZ-affiliated entities located in the Texas Regional Entity area. In those cases, the SUEZ-affiliated entities self-certified non-compliance in 2007, the Texas Regional Entity subsequently confirmed in 2007 such non-compliance, the entities became compliant by year end 2007, and Texas Regional Entity assessed a zero dollar penalty. These issues were considered by NERC BOTCC in approving all six Notices of Penalty. NERC believes that the facts are sufficiently distinguishable to warrant the penalty amounts imposed by SERC Reliability Corporation and Texas Regional Entity.

Pursuant to Order No. 693, the penalty will be effective upon expiration of the 30 day period following the filing of this Notice of Penalty with FERC, or, if FERC decides to review the penalty, upon final determination by FERC.

# The Record of the Proceeding<sup>9</sup>

The record of the proceeding includes the following documents and material:

- a) Settlement Agreement by and Between Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership and SERC Reliability Corporation, included in Attachment a; and
- b) Supplemental Record Information to Support Notice of Penalty Filing.

# A Form of Notice Suitable for Publication<sup>10</sup>

A copy of a notice suitable for publication is included in Attachment b.

### **Notices and Communications**

Notices and communications with respect to this filing may be addressed to the following:

Rick Sergel President and Chief Executive Officer David N. Cook\* Vice President and General Counsel North American Electric Reliability Corporation 116-390 Village Boulevard Princeton, NJ 08540-5721 (609) 452-8060 (609) 452-9550 – facsimile david.cook@nerc.net

Herman Schopman\* President & CEO Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership 1990 Post Oak Blvd Houston, TX 77056 (713) 636-1276 (713) 636-1602 – facsimile herman.schopman@gdfsuezna.com

Rheal Caron\* Director of Operations Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership 1990 Post Oak Blvd Houston, TX 77056 (713) 636-1032 (713) 636-1602 – facsimile rheal.caron@gdfsuezna.com

\*Persons to be included on the Commission's service list are indicated with an asterisk. NERC requests waiver of the Commission's rules and regulations to permit the inclusion of more than two people on the service list. Rebecca J. Michael\* Assistant General Counsel North American Electric Reliability Corporation 1120 G Street, N.W. Suite 990 Washington, D.C. 20005-3801 (202) 393-3998 (202) 393-3955 – facsimile rebecca.michael@nerc.net

Gerry Cauley President and Chief Executive Officer SERC Reliability Corporation 2815 Coliseum Centre Drive Charlotte, NC 28217 (704) 940-8202 (704) 357-7914 – facsimile gcauley@serc1.org

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Kenneth B. Keels, Jr.\* Manager of Compliance Enforcement SERC Reliability Corporation 2815 Coliseum Centre Drive Charlotte, NC 28217 (704) 940-8214 (704) 357-7914 – facsimile kkeels@serc1.org



#### Conclusion

NERC respectfully requests that the Commission accept this Notice of Penalty as compliant with its rules, regulations and orders.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Sergel President and Chief Executive Officer David N. Cook Vice President and General Counsel North American Electric Reliability Corporation 116-390 Village Boulevard Princeton, NJ 08540-5721 (609) 452-8060 (609) 452-9550 – facsimile david.cook@nerc.net

cc: Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership SERC Reliability Corporation

Attachment(s)

<u>Rebecca J. Michael</u> Rebecca J. Michael Assistant General Counsel North American Electric Reliability Corporation 1120 G Street, N.W. Suite 990 Washington, D.C. 20005-3801 (202) 393-3998 (202) 393-3955 – facsimile rebecca.michael@nerc.net



# Attachment a

# Settlement Agreement by and between SERC Reliability Corporation and Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership

### SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT OF SERC RELIABILITY CORPORATION AND CHOCTAW GENERATION LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

# I. INTRODUCTION

 SERC RELIABILITY CORPORATION ("SERC") and CHOCTAW GENERATION LIMITED PARTNERSHIP ("CGLP") (NERC Compliance Registry ID# 10206) enter into this Settlement Agreement ("Agreement") to resolve all outstanding issues arising from a preliminary and non-public assessment resulting in SERC's determination and findings, pursuant to the North American Electric Reliability Corporation ("NERC") Rules of Procedure, of violations by CGLP of the NERC Reliability Standards FAC-009-1, Requirement R1; FAC-008-1, Requirement R1; and CIP-001-1, Requirement R4.

# **II. STIPULATION**

2. The facts stipulated herein are stipulated solely for the purpose of resolving between CGLP and SERC the matters discussed herein and do not constitute stipulations or admissions for any other purpose. CGLP and SERC hereby stipulate and agree to the following:

# Background

- 3. CHOCTAW GENERATION LIMITED PARTNERSHIP is a subsidiary of SUEZ Energy Generation NA (SEGNA). CGLP has the Red Hills Power facility which uses clean coal technology that burns lignite coal to produce 440 MW of electricity and helps meet the energy needs of the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA). The Red Hill Mine delivers 10,000 tons of lignite coal a day to the power station. Byproducts from the plant are fly ash and bottom ash, which are residual matter containing little or no carbon.
- 4. SEGNA is headquartered in Houston, Texas. SEGNA currently owns and/or operates a total of 44 power, cogeneration, steam, and chilled-water facilities, including those in construction or under development, representing a capacity of more than 5,538 MW of electricity generation, 7.0 million pounds per hour of steam, and 65,000 tons of chilled water. The facilities use a variety of fuels to produce power, heat, and cooling.

# **Alleged Violation**

- On April 16, 2008, a scheduled compliance audit of CGLP was conducted by SERC resulting in findings by the audit team of possible violations of NERC Reliability Standards FAC-008-1, Requirement R1; FAC-009-1, Requirement R1; and CIP-001-1, Requirement R4.
- SERC Compliance Enforcement Staff confirmed that CGLP was listed on the NERC Compliance Registry as a Generator Operator and Generator Owner and that CGLP, therefore, was subject to the Requirements of NERC Reliability Standards FAC-008-1, R1; FAC-009-1, R1; and CIP-001-1, R4.
- 7. SERC Compliance Enforcement Staff conducted a compliance assessment and reviewed information from the audit team along with the evidence submitted by CGLP. SERC Compliance Enforcement Staff confirmed that CGLP as a Generator Owner was expected to develop and establish a Facility Ratings Methodology pursuant to NERC Reliability Standard FAC-008-1 R1 and to establish Facility Ratings, based on such Facility Ratings Methodology, pursuant to NERC Reliability Standard FAC-009-1 R1. SERC Compliance Enforcement Staff confirmed further that CGLP as a Generator Operator was expected to establish communications contacts with local Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) officials and to develop reporting procedures based on CIP-001-1 R4.
  - i. FAC-008-1 R1 states: "Transmission Owner and Generator Owner shall each document its current methodology used for developing Facility Ratings (Facility Ratings Methodology) of its solely and jointly owned Facilities."
  - ii. FAC-009-1 R1 states: "The Transmission Owner and Generator Owner shall each establish Facility Ratings for its solely and jointly owned Facilities that are consistent with the associated Facility Ratings Methodology."
  - iii. CIP-001-1 R4 states: "Each Reliability Coordinator, Balancing Authority, Transmission Operator, Generator Operator, and Load Serving Entity shall establish communications contacts, as applicable, with local Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) or Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) officials and develop reporting procedures as appropriate to their circumstances".
- 8. SERC Compliance Enforcement Staff reviewed the findings of the audit team, conducted telephone and e-mail inquiries with CGLP, and reviewed CGLP's documentation and concluded that CGLP did not have a documented Facility Ratings Methodology from June 18, 2007 (when the standards became enforceable) until November 13, 2007 and had not developed Facility Ratings for its existing facilities consistent with the Facility Ratings Methodology, as

required by FAC-009-1, until December 12, 2007. SERC Compliance Enforcement also concluded that CGLP had not provided evidence documenting that communication had taken place between CGLP and the local FBI prior to September 30, 2007.

- In assessing the proposed penalty and sanctions associated with the violations of FAC-008-1, FAC-009-1 and CIP-001-1, SERC Compliance Enforcement Staff determined that the violations represent a gap in CGLP's post June 18, 2007 compliance and each instance of violation had been mitigated at the time of the compliance audit.
- 10. On May 20, 2008, CGLP requested the commencement of settlement discussions to resolve the allegations of the subject violations.
- 11. In light of the prompt initiation of settlement discussions, CGLP's cooperation and the progress towards closure, SERC Compliance Enforcement Staff did not issue formal Notice of Alleged Violation and Proposed Penalty or Sanction detailing the Alleged Violations of FAC-008-1 and FAC-009-1.

# **III. PARTIES' SEPARATE REPRESENTATIONS**

### Statement of SERC and Summary of Findings

- 12. CGLP was audited as a Generator Owner and Generator Operator during the week of April 15-17, 2008. SERC Staff conducted a compliance assessment resulting in the following facts and conclusions:
  - i. In regards to FAC-008-1 R1, CGLP presented as evidence of its Facility Ratings Methodology for the period from June 18, 2007 to November 13, 2007 a Draft Reference Book document attached to an email dated June 11, 2007 referred to as FAC-008-1 Reference Book document ("Original Draft Reference Book"). To determine compliance with the standard, the Audit Team and Enforcement Staff reviewed the Original Draft Reference Book.

The Original Draft Reference Book's purpose is to serve as a guideline for identifying risks associated with assets and fails to define Facility Ratings as required by the standard. The Original Draft Reference Book did not contain any statements of facility ratings methodologies.

Furthermore, the scope of the equipment in the Original Draft Reference Book does not include the elements set forth in R1: generators, generator capabilities, transmission conductors, transformers, relay protective devices, terminal equipment, or series and shunt compensation devices. CGLP's revised Facility Ratings Methodology Document, dated November 13, 2007, was reviewed by the SERC audit team and SERC Compliance Enforcement Staff and was determined to contain the required content pursuant to FAC-008-1 R1.

SERC Compliance Enforcement Staff concluded that CGLP, as a Generator Owner, did not present sufficient evidence of the existence of a documented methodology for use in developing facility ratings for its facilities in accordance with FAC-008 R1 prior to its Facility Ratings Methodology Document dated November 13, 2007. Therefore, SERC finds that CGLP was in violation of NERC Reliability Standard FAC-008-1 R1 for the period from June 18, 2007 (when the standard became enforceable) until November 13, 2007.

- ii. In regards to FAC-009-1 R1, CGLP presented evidence of its Facility Ratings in the form of a spreadsheet dated December 12, 2007 ("FAC-009–R1–Red Hill Facilities Rating Methodology.pdf"). The SERC audit team and Compliance Enforcement Staff reviewed the generating facility equipment rating inventory included for the generator and associated equipment and concluded that the document was sufficient evidence of compliance with FAC-009-1 R1 as of December 12, 2007. However, CGLP could not present evidence of established Facility Ratings consistent with the documented Facility Ratings Methodology prior to December 12, 2007. Therefore, SERC finds that CGLP was in violation of NERC Reliability Standard FAC-009-1 from June 18, 2007 (when the standard became enforceable) to December 12, 2007.
- iii. In regards to CIP-001 R4, CGLP was unable to produce evidence confirming that contact had been established with local FBI officials prior to September 30, 2007. However, because CGLP's sabotage reporting procedure in effect prior to June 18, 2007 had evidence of a working FBI number and based on the revised guidance on CIP-001-1 R4 issued by NERC on June 3, 2008, SERC finds that the Alleged Violation of CIP-001-1 R4 should be dismissed, as reflected in this Agreement.
- 13. SERC agrees that this Agreement is in the best interest of the parties and in the best interest of Bulk Power System reliability.

#### Statement of CGLP

14. CGLP neither admits nor denies that the facts set forth and agreed to by the parties for purposes of this Agreement constitute violations of FAC-008-1 R1 and FAC-009-1 R1. CGLP believes its operation and maintenance of the facilities, and its compliance program contribute to the reliability of the bulk electricity system and CGLP in no way compromised the safety and reliability of the bulk electric system.

15. CGLP has entered into this settlement agreement to avoid lengthy proceedings and expedite the settlement of alleged violations. Although CGLP does not admit to, nor does it deny, the alleged violations of FAC-008-1 R1 and FAC-009-1 R1, CGLP has agreed to enter into this Agreement with SERC to avoid extended litigation with respect to the matters described or referred to herein, to avoid uncertainty, and to effectuate a complete and final resolution of the issues set forth herein. CGLP agrees that this Agreement is in the best interest of the parties and in the best interest of maintaining a reliable electric infrastructure.

# **IV. MITIGATING ACTIONS, REMEDIES AND SANCTIONS**

- 16. For purposes of settling any and all disputes arising from SERC Compliance Enforcement Staff's assessment into the matters discovered during the Compliance Audit of CGLP, SERC and CGLP agree that on and after the effective date of this Agreement, CGLP shall take the following action:
  - i. CGLP shall pay a monetary penalty of **\$10,000.00** to SERC, via wire transfer to a SERC account that will be outlined in an invoice sent to CGLP within twenty days after the Agreement is either approved by the Commission or is rendered effective by operation of law. Payment of this invoice shall be made within twenty days after the receipt of the invoice, and SERC shall notify NERC if the payment is not received.
- 17. SERC Compliance Enforcement Staff determined an aggregate proposed penalty of \$10,000.00 for the violations of FAC-008-1 R1 and FAC-009-1 R1. SERC Compliance Enforcement Staff concluded that CGLP's insufficiently documented Facility Ratings Methodology and undocumented Facility Ratings for its generating facilities represented a low actual and foreseen risk to Bulk-Power System reliability. Thus, SERC Compliance Enforcement Staff determined that, in this instance, the single, aggregate penalty amount of \$10,000.00 bears a reasonable relation to the seriousness and duration of the violations and takes into consideration CGLP's voluntary efforts to remedy the violations in a timely manner. Furthermore, based on CGLP's cooperation, commitment to compliance, and agreement to expeditiously reconcile this issue via settlement, SERC Compliance Enforcement Staff assessed the total penalty to be \$10,000.00.
- 18. Additionally, because CGLP's parent, SEGNA owns and operates other generating facilities across SERC and other NERC Regions, the sharing of its experiences and lessons learned can add value in promoting a culture of compliance among similar entities. To that end, CGLP, through SEGNA, will provide panelists or speakers for at least one Regional Entity compliance

workshop or conference, upon approval by the Regional Entity, to present elements of their NERC Compliance Program that include the following items:

- i. Description of the Corporate Compliance Team and functions throughout several NERC Regions;
- ii. Company Site Administrative Procedures used to promote compliance throughout the company;
- iii. Internal Audit Process used for due diligence of new acquisitions and for annual review of compliance for current assets; and
- iv. Review of Corporate Compliance internal database portal.

CGLP or SEGNA's participation or presentation in such workshop or conference shall not include any action or comment disputing the findings of SERC herein and shall not be used as a forum to challenge the content or applicability of any Reliability Standard.

- 19. Failure to make a timely penalty payment or to comply with any of the terms and conditions agreed to herein, or any other conditions of this Agreement, shall be deemed to be either the same alleged violations that initiated this Settlement and/or additional violation(s) and may subject CGLP to new or additional enforcement, penalty or sanction actions in accordance with the NERC Rules of Procedure.
- 20. If CGLP does not make the monetary penalty payment above at the times agreed by the parties, interest payable to SERC will begin to accrue pursuant to the Commission's regulations at 18 C.F.R. § 35.19(a)(2)(iii) from the date that payment is due, in addition to the penalty specified above.

# V. ADDITIONAL TERMS

- 21. The signatories to the Agreement agree that they enter into the Agreement voluntarily and that, other than the recitations set forth herein, no tender, offer or promise of any kind by any member, employee, officer, director, agent or representative of SERC or CGLP has been made to induce the signatories or any other party to enter into the Agreement.
- 22. SERC shall report the terms of all settlements of compliance matters to NERC. NERC will review the settlement for the purpose of evaluating its consistency with other settlements entered into for similar violations or under other, similar circumstances. Based on this review, NERC will either approve the settlement or reject the settlement and notify SERC and CGLP of changes to the settlement that would result in approval. If NERC rejects the

settlement, NERC will provide specific written reasons for such rejection and SERC will attempt to negotiate a revised settlement agreement with CGLP including any changes to the settlement specified by NERC. If a settlement cannot be reached, the enforcement process shall continue to conclusion. If NERC approves the settlement, NERC will (i) report the approved settlement to the Commission for the Commission's review and approval by order or operation of law and (ii) publicly post the alleged violation and the terms provided for in the settlement.

- 23. The Agreement will be submitted to the Commission and will be subject to Commission review pursuant to section 39.7 of the Commission's regulations
- 24. This Agreement shall become effective upon NERC and the Commission's approval of the Agreement.
- 25. CGLP agrees that this Agreement, when approved by NERC and the Commission, shall represent a final settlement of all matters set forth herein and CGLP waives its right to further hearings and appeal, unless and only to the extent that CGLP contends that any NERC or Commission action on the Agreement contains one or more material modifications to the Agreement. SERC reserves all rights to initiate enforcement, penalty or sanction actions against CGLP in accordance with the NERC Rules of Procedure in the event that CGLP fails to comply with the mitigation plan and compliance program agreed to in this Agreement. In the event CGLP fails to comply with any of the stipulations, remedies, sanctions or additional terms, as set forth in this Agreement, SERC will initiate enforcement, penalty, or sanction actions against CGLP to the maximum extent allowed by the NERC Rules of Procedure, up to the maximum statutorily allowed penalty. CGLP shall retain all rights to defend against such enforcement actions, also according to the NERC Rules of Procedure.
- 26. Each of the undersigned warrants that he or she is an authorized representative of the entity designated, is authorized to bind such entity and accepts the Agreement on the entity's behalf.
- 27. The undersigned representative of each party affirms that he or she has read the Agreement, that all of the matters set forth in the Agreement are true and correct to the best of his or her knowledge, information and belief, and that he or she understands that the Agreement is entered into by such party in express reliance on those representations, provided, however, that such affirmation by each party's representative shall not apply to the other party's statements of position set forth in Section III of this Agreement.
- 28. The Agreement may be signed in counterparts.

29. This Agreement is executed in duplicate, each of which so executed shall be deemed to be an original.

Remainder of page intentionally blank. Signatures to be affixed to the following page. Agreed to and accepted:

C

mille Gerry W. Cauley

29/2008 81

Date

President and CEO SERC RELIABILITY CORPORATION

8/28/08

Herman Schopman Date President CHOCTAW GENERATION LIMITED PARTNERSHIP



Attachment b

**Notice of Filing** 

#### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

**Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership** 

Docket No. NP09-\_\_\_-000

### NOTICE OF FILING (DATE)

Take notice that on January 7, 2009, the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC), filed a Notice of Penalty regarding Choctaw Generation Limited Partnership in the SERC Reliability Corporation region.

Any person desiring to intervene or to protest this filing must file in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211, 385.214). Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a notice of intervention or motion to intervene, as appropriate. Such notices, motions, or protests must be filed on or before the comment date. On or before the comment date, it is not necessary to serve motions to intervene or protests on persons other than the Applicant.

The Commission encourages electronic submission of protests and interventions in lieu of paper using the "eFiling" link at http://www.ferc.gov. Persons unable to file electronically should submit an original and 14 copies of the protest or intervention to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426.

This filing is accessible on-line at http://www.ferc.gov, using the "eLibrary" link and is available for review in the Commission's Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. There is an "eSubscription" link on the web site that enables subscribers to receive email notification when a document is added to a subscribed docket(s). For assistance with any FERC Online service, please email FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, or call (866) 208-3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502-8659.

Comment Date: [BLANK]

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary