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AES CORPORATION
Form U-57
December 21, 2001

File No. _____

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C.

FORM U-57

NOTIFICATION OF FOREIGN UTILITY COMPANY STATUS

Filed under section 33(a) of the
Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, as amended

Sonel SA
(name of foreign utility company)

by

THE AES CORPORATION
1001 N. 19th Street
Suite 2000
Arlington, Virginia 22209
(name of filing company, if filed on behalf of a foreign utility company)

The Commission is hereby requested to mail copies of all correspondence relating to this Notification to:

Erik Luckau
The AES Corporation
1001 N. 19th Street
Suite 2000
Arlington, Virginia 22209

Andrew B. Young
Hugh E. Hilliard
Dewey Ballantine LLP
1775 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

ITEM 1

Foreign utility company status is claimed by Sonel SA ("Sonel"), a public limited company (societe anonyme) organized and existing under the laws of the Republic of Cameroon with its business address at Direction Generale, BP 4077, Avenue Charles de Gaulle, Douala, Republic of Cameroon.

AES Cameroon Holdings SA ("AES Cameroon") owns a 56% interest in Sonel, an integrated electric utility company in Cameroon, which has approximately 800 megawatts of installed generating capacity. The Government of Cameroon owns the remaining 44% interest in Sonel.

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AES Cameroon is wholly owned by AES Europe Sarl, which is wholly owned by AES Global Power Holdings BV. AES Global Power Holdings BV is wholly owned by Global Power Holdings, which is a wholly owned, indirect subsidiary of The AES Corporation ("AES").

AES, a Delaware corporation, is a public utility holding company exempt from registration under section 3(a)(5) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 (the "Act").

ITEM 2

Sonel has two domestic associate public utility companies, Central Illinois Light Company ("CILCO") and Indianapolis Power and Light Company ("IPL"). CILCO is wholly owned by CILCORP, Inc., which, in turn, is a wholly owned subsidiary of AES. IPL is wholly owned by IPALCO Enterprises Inc., which, in turn, is a wholly owned subsidiary of AES.

Neither CILCO nor IPL has made any investment in, nor has any contractual relationship with, Sonel, nor are any such investments or contractual relationships contemplated.

EXHIBIT A

By letter dated March 10, 1999, the Illinois Commerce Commission certified to the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") with respect to CILCO that (1) it has the authority and resources to protect Illinois consumers in accordance with applicable Illinois statutes, and (2) it intends to exercise that authority, as required under section 33(a)(2) of the Act in connection with AES' acquisition of foreign utility companies. AES hereby incorporates this letter, filed June 10, 1999, in file number 070-09465, by reference.

By letter dated September 28, 2000, the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission certified to the SEC with respect to IPL that (1) it has the authority and resources to protect ratepayers subject to its jurisdiction, and (2) it intends to exercise that authority as required under section 33(a)(2) of the Act in connection with AES' acquisition of foreign utility companies. AES hereby incorporates this letter, filed October 27, 2000, in file number 070-09779, by reference.

The undersigned company has duly caused this statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

By: /s/ Erik Luckau

Erik Luckau
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The AES Corporation
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(703) 558-4879

Dated: December 21, 2001