# FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION Washington, D. C. 20426

April 1, 2025

#### OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

Docket Nos. P-2743-000; P-3107-000; P-10551-000; P-11617-000; P-2724-000; P-2849-000; P-2866-000; P-10522-000; P-2854-000; P-3842-000; P-3843-000; P-5828-000; P-2409-000; P-9840-000; P-11197-000; P-2694-000; P-11143-000; P-2416-000; P-2841-000

### Re: Notice of License Expiration and Relicensing Process Initiation

To the licensees addressed:

Our records indicate that 19 hydropower projects with Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) licenses will begin the relicensing process between October 1, 2026, and April 1, 2027 (see Attachment). According to our records, you are the licensee contact for at least one of these projects. This letter provides advance notice of your project's license expiration and explains the steps you must take to initiate the relicensing process.

Between 5 and 5.5 years before your existing license expires, you will need to notify the Commission whether or not you intend to file an application for a new license. Concurrent with the filing of a Notice of Intent (NOI) to relicense the project, you must file a Pre-Application Document (PAD) with the Commission and distribute the PAD to appropriate federal, state, and interstate resource agencies, Indian tribes, local governments, and members of the public likely to be interested in the project's relicensing. The PAD must include: (1) a process plan and schedule; (2) a description of the project's location, facilities, and operation; (3) a description of the existing environment at the project and its resource impacts; (4) a preliminary list of issues and proposed studies; and (5) a list of contacts. The specific requirements of the PAD can be found at 18 C.F.R. § 5.6 of the Commission's regulations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Please refer to Section 15(b)(1) of the Federal Power Act and 18 C.F.R. § 5.5 of the Commission's regulations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> To aid in your preparation of a distribution list, a list of potential stakeholders can be viewed at: <a href="https://www.ferc.gov/hydropower/initial-consultation-contact-list">https://www.ferc.gov/hydropower/initial-consultation-contact-list</a>.

Pursuant to 18 C.F.R. § 16.23, an existing licensee that fails to file an NOI at least 5 years before the existing license expires shall be deemed to have filed a notice indicating that it **does not intend** to file an application to relicense its project. Additionally, pursuant to 18 C.F.R. § 16.24, an existing licensee that informs the Commission that it does not intend to file an application, **may not file** an application to relicense its project, either individually or in conjunction with an entity or entities that are not currently licensees of the project. Therefore, if you intend to file an application to relicense your project, **please allow sufficient time to prepare <u>both</u> your NOI and PAD in accordance with the regulations**.

Although the Integrated Licensing Process (ILP) is the default process for preparing a relicense application, you have the option of requesting either the Alternative or Traditional Licensing Process (ALP or TLP, respectively).<sup>3</sup> You are encouraged to discuss process options with Commission licensing staff. To determine which branch will be handling your project, please refer to the attachment to this letter. The branch contacts are listed below.<sup>4</sup>

### New England Branch

Emily Carter

Email: <a href="mailto:emily.carter@ferc.gov">emily.carter@ferc.gov</a> Telephone: (202) 502-6512

### Great Lakes Branch Nicholas Tackett

Email: nicholas.tackett@ferc.gov

Telephone: (202) 502-6783

### Mid-Atlantic Branch

John Smith

Email: john.smith@ferc.gov Telephone: (202) 502-8972

## South Branch Stephen Bowler

Email: <u>stephen.bowler@ferc.gov</u> Telephone: (202) 502-6861

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> A table comparing the three licensing processes is available at: <a href="https://www.ferc.gov/industries-data/hydropower/licensing/licensing-processes-matrix-comparing-three-licensing-processes">https://www.ferc.gov/industries-data/hydropower/licensing-processes-matrix-comparing-three-licensing-processes</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> An updated list of the branch contacts is also available and maintained at: <a href="https://www.ferc.gov/licensing">https://www.ferc.gov/licensing</a>.

### Midwest Branch

Janet Hutzel

Email: janet.hutzel@ferc.gov Telephone: (202) 502-8675

### West Branch Ryan Hansen

Email: <a href="mailto:ryan.hansen@ferc.gov">ryan.hansen@ferc.gov</a>
Telephone: (202) 502-8074

## Northwest Branch

David Turner

Email: <u>david.turner@ferc.gov</u> Telephone: (202) 502-6091

Sincerely,

Nicholas Jayjack Director Division of Hydropower Licensing

Attachment: List of Projects

## Attachment

List of projects that will begin the relicensing process between October 1, 2026, and April 1, 2027:

No.	Project No.	Project Name	Branch
1	10551	High Dam	Great Lakes
2	11617	Varick-High Dam #21 Transmission Line	Great Lakes
3	10522	Whittelsey Dam	Great Lakes
4	9840	Appomattox River	Mid-Atlantic
5	2724	City of Hamilton	Midwest
6	2866	Lockport	Midwest
7	3107	Newfound	New England
8	11143	Glen Falls	New England
9	2743	Terror Lake	Northwest
10	2849	Main Canal Headworks	Northwest
11	3842	Eltopia Branch Canal	Northwest
12	3843	Potholes East Canal	Northwest
13	2854	Sidney A. Murray (Old River)	South
14	2694	Queens Creek	South
15	2416	Ware Shoals	South
16	5828	Monticello Powerhouse Transmission Line	West
17	2409	North Fork Stanislaus River	West
18	11197	Colliersville & Spicer Meadow Trans. Line	West
19	2841	Lake Mendocino	West