Otter Tail Power Company  
Project No. 10853-023

Notice of Application Accepted For Filing and Soliciting Comments, Motions to Intervene, and Protests

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection:

a. Type of Application: Non-Capacity Amendment of License

b. Project No.: 10853-023

c. Date Filed: September 3, 2020

d. Applicant: Otter Tail Power Company

e. Name of Project: Otter Tail River Hydroelectric Project

f. Location: The project is located on the Otter Tail River in Otter Tail County, Minnesota.

g. Filed Pursuant to: Federal Power Act 16 USC 791a - 825r

h. Applicant Contact: Mr. Darin Solberg, Plant Superintendent, Otter Tail Power Company, 1012 Water Plant Road, Fergus Falls, MN 56537; telephone (218) 739-8157 and email DSolberg@otpco.com

i. FERC Contact: Linda Stewart, (202) 502-8184, linda.stewart@ferc.gov

j. Deadline for filing comments, motions to intervene, and protests is 30 days from the issuance date of this notice by the Commission.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file comments, motions to intervene, and protests using the Commission’s eFiling system at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ecomment.asp. You must include your name and contact information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please contact FERC Online.
k. Description of Request: Otter Tail Power Company (licensee) proposes to change the transmission line route at the Hoot Lake Development. As currently licensed, a 200-foot-long, 2.4-kilovolt (kV) transmission line connects the Hoot Lake powerhouse to the licensee’s adjacent fossil-fueled generating plant. In anticipation of retiring the fossil-fueled generating plant, the licensee proposes to establish a new transmission line route for the power generated at the Hoot Lake powerhouse. Under the amendment proposal, the licensee would construct a new 13.8/2.4-kV generator step-up transformer adjacent to the powerhouse and a new approximately 150-foot-long, 13.8-kV underground transmission line that would extend from the new transformer to an existing power pole. During the construction of the proposed underground transmission line, the licensee would also modify the routing of the local power supply and the fiberoptic communication lines at the project. The licensee notes that the proposed activity would occur on previously disturbed land, which the licensee owns.

l. In addition to publishing the full text of this document in the Federal Register, the Commission provides all interested persons an opportunity to view and/or print the contents of this document via the internet through the Commission’s Home Page (http://www.ferc.gov) using the “eLibrary” link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. At this time, the Commission has suspended access to the Commission’s Public Reference Room, due to the proclamation declaring a National Emergency concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), issued by the President on March 13, 2020. For assistance, contact FERC at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or call toll-free, (866) 208-3676 or TTY, (202) 502-8659. Agencies may obtain copies of the application directly from the applicant.
m. Individuals desiring to be included on the Commission's mailing list should so indicate by writing to the Secretary of the Commission.

n. Comments, Protests, or Motions to Intervene: Anyone may submit comments, a protest, or a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.210, .211, and .214. In determining the appropriate action to take, the Commission will consider all protests or other comments filed, but only those who file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules may become a party to the proceeding. Any comments, protests, or motions to intervene must be received on or before the specified deadline date for the particular application.

o. Filing and Service of Responsive Documents: Any filing must (1) bear in all capital letters the title “COMMENTS”, “PROTEST”, or “MOTION TO INTERVENE” as applicable; (2) set forth in the heading the name of the applicant and the project number of the application to which the filing responds; (3) furnish the name, address, and telephone number of the person commenting, protesting, or intervening; and (4) otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 385.2001 through 385.2005. All comments, motions to intervene, or protests must set forth their evidentiary basis. Any filing made by an intervenor must be accompanied by proof of service on all persons listed in the service list prepared by the Commission in this proceeding, in accordance with 18 CFR 385.2010.

DATED: October 1, 2020.

Kimberly D. Bose,  
Secretary.

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