



DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2544-052]

Hydro Technology, Inc.; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment

On December 27, 2021, Hydro Technology, Inc filed an application for a subsequent license to continue operating the existing 1,200-kilowatt Meyers Falls Hydroelectric Project No. 2544 (Meyers Falls Project or project). The project is located on the Colville River in Stevens County, Washington. The project does not occupy federal land.

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, on March 28, 2023, Commission staff issued a notice that the project was ready for environmental analysis (REA notice). Based on the information in the record, including comments filed on the REA notice, staff does not anticipate that licensing the project would constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. On June 7, 2023, the Commission issued a notice indicating that staff intended to prepare a draft and final Environmental Assessment (EA). However, upon further review, staff intends to prepare a single EA on the application to relicense the Meyers Falls Project.

The EA will be issued and circulated for review by all interested parties. All comments filed on the EA will be analyzed by staff and considered in the Commission's final licensing decision.

The Commission's Office of Public Participation (OPP) supports meaningful public engagement and participation in Commission proceedings. OPP can help members of the public, including landowners, environmental justice communities, Tribal members and others, access publicly available information and navigate Commission processes. For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, the public is encouraged to contact OPP at (202) 502-6595 or OPP@ferc.gov.

By this notice, Commission staff is updating the procedural schedule for completing the EA. The revised schedule is shown below. Further revisions to the schedule may be made as appropriate.

MILESTONE

TARGET DATE

Commission issues EA
Comments on EA

May 2024¹
June 2024

Any questions regarding this notice may be directed to Maryam Zavareh at (202) 502-8474 or maryam.zavareh@ferc.gov.

Dated: January 17, 2024.

Debbie-Anne A. Reese,

Acting Secretary.

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¹ The Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) regulations under 40 CFR 1501.10(b)(1) (2022) require that EAs be completed within 1 year of the federal action agency's decision to prepare an EA. *See* National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*, as amended by section 107(g)(1)(B)(iii) of the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023, Pub. L. No. 118-5, 4336a, 137 Stat. 42.