



DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 15393-000]

**Notice of Preliminary Permit Application Accepted for Filing and Soliciting
Comments, Motions to Intervene, and Competing Applications; Low Head Hydro M
18 LLC**

On January 28, 2025, Low Head Hydro M 18, LLC. filed an application for a preliminary permit, pursuant to section 4(f) of the Federal Power Act, proposing to study the feasibility of a hydropower project proposed to be located at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (Corps) Mississippi River Lock and Dam 18 in Des Moines County, IA, and Henderson County, IL. The sole purpose of a preliminary permit, if issued, is to grant the permit holder priority to file a license application during the permit term. A preliminary permit does not authorize the permit holder to perform any land-disturbing activities or otherwise enter upon lands or waters owned by others without the owners' express permission.

The proposed Mississippi River Lock and Dam 18 Hydroelectric Project would consist of the following: (1) a proposed 300-foot by 200-foot masonry and steel powerhouse located in alignment with the existing Corps' dam, containing four proposed Kaplan bulb or Kaplan pit turbines with a total capacity of 25.43 megawatts; (2) a proposed intake channel of unlined earthen excavation approximately 250 feet long and 300 feet wide, located upstream of the turbine bays and including a 175-foot-long guide wall along the western side of the channel; (3) a proposed 850-foot-long and 300-foot-wide tailrace area of unlined earthen excavation including a 850-foot-long guide wall along the western side of the channel; (4) a proposed 75-foot by 75-foot masonry control building located on the Iowa shoreline containing switchgear, controls, communications, and ancillary equipment; (5) a proposed 50-foot by 75-foot project substation located adjacent to the control building containing a three-phase step-up transformer with a rating between 15 to 25 megawatt-ampere; (6) a 1,600-foot-long and 40-foot-wide pedestrian bridge improved and extended to provide access to the powerhouse along with a proposed public park and parking area adjacent to the control building; and (7) a proposed approx. 2,200-foot-long, 12.5-kilovolt (kv) underground transmission line to the project substation and a proposed approx. 3,600-foot-long, 69-kv transmission line from the substation to the existing 69-kv Des Moines Drainage District Pump substation. The proposed project would have an estimated annual generation of 126,800 megawatt-hours.

Applicant Contact: Allen W. Skelly, Low Head Hydro M 18, LLC., 127 Longwood Blvd., Mount Orab, Ohio 45154; phone: (937) 802-8866.

FERC Contact: Shivani Khetani; phone: (212) 273-5917, or by email at shivani.khetani@ferc.gov.

Deadline for filing comments, motions to intervene, competing applications (without notices of intent), or notices of intent to file competing applications: 60 days from the issuance of this notice. Competing applications and notices of intent must meet the requirements of 18 CFR 4.36.

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, 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.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file comments, motions to intervene, notices of intent, and competing applications using the Commission's eFiling system at <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/eFiling.aspx>. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/QuickComment.aspx>. You must include your name and contact information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, (866) 208-3676 (toll free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY). In lieu of electronic filing, you may submit a paper copy. Submissions sent via the U.S. Postal Service must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. Submissions sent via any other carrier must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852. The first page of any filing should include docket number P-15393-000.

More information about this project, including a copy of the application, can be viewed or printed on the "eLibrary" link of the Commission's website at <https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/search>. Enter the docket number (P-15352) in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

Dated: February 7, 2025.

Debbie-Anne A. Reese,
Secretary.

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