

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3657

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 15, 2025

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural
Resources

AN ACT

To amend the Federal Power Act to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to annually submit to Congress a report on the status of ongoing hydropower relicensing applications.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Hydropower Licensing
3 Transparency Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. ANNUAL LICENSING STATUS REPORT.**

5 The Federal Power Act is amended by inserting after
6 section 36 (16 U.S.C. 823g) the following:

7 **“SEC. 37. ANNUAL LICENSING STATUS REPORT.**

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after
9 the date of enactment of this section, and annually there-
10 after, the Commission shall submit to Congress a report
11 on the status of—

12 “(1) the licensing process for each new license,
13 and for each subsequent license for which sections
14 14 and 15 have been waived, for which the existing
15 licensee has notified the Commission under section
16 15(b)(1) at least 3 years prior to submission of the
17 report that such existing licensee intends to file an
18 application for such new license or subsequent li-
19 cense, but such new license or subsequent license
20 has not yet been issued under section 15; and

21 “(2) the licensing process for each original li-
22 cense under section 4(e) for which a citizen, associa-
23 tion, corporation, State, Indian Tribe, or municipi-
24 pality has notified the Commission, pursuant to ap-
25 plicable regulations, at least 3 years prior to submis-
26 sion of the report that such citizen, association, cor-

1 poration, State, Indian Tribe, or municipality in-
2 tends to file an application for such original license,
3 but such original license has not yet been issued
4 under section 4(e).

5 “(b) INCLUSIONS.—Each report submitted under
6 subsection (a) shall include, with respect to the licensing
7 process for each new license and subsequent license de-
8 scribed in such subsection and the licensing process for
9 each original license described in such subsection—

10 “(1) the date the notice of intent described in
11 such subsection was provided to the Commission;

12 “(2) any docket number assigned with respect
13 to such licensing process;

14 “(3) whether any application for such new li-
15 cense, such subsequent license, or such original li-
16 cense has been filed;

17 “(4) information regarding the status of any
18 such application, including the date the Commission
19 anticipates it will issue such original license, such
20 subsequent license, or such new license;

21 “(5) the date of any upcoming proceeding or
22 other meeting related to such original license, such
23 subsequent license, or such new license; and

24 “(6) a description of any ongoing or completed
25 actions required of the existing licensee, citizen, as-

1 society, corporation, State, Indian Tribe, municipi-
2 pality, the Commission, the fish and wildlife agencies
3 referred to in section 15(b), and any other agencies.

4 “(c) DISAGGREGATION OF INFORMATION BY LICENSE
5 TYPE.—The information included in each report sub-
6 mitted under subsection (a) shall be disaggregated by
7 whether the information relates to a new license, or a sub-
8 sequent license, issued under section 15 or an original li-
9 cense issued under section 4(e).”.

Passed the House of Representatives July 14, 2025.

Attest:

KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,

Clerk.