

construction or operation of its project, it must first notify the appropriate Federal and state fish and wildlife agencies and inform them in writing of the changes it intends to implement. If these agencies determine that the changes would not cause the project to violate the terms and conditions imposed by the agencies, and if the changes would not materially alter the design, location, method of construction or operation of the project, the exemption holder may implement the changes. If any of these agencies determines that the changes would cause the project to violate the terms and conditions imposed by that agency, or if the changes would materially alter the design, location, method of construction or the operation of the project works, the exemption holder may not implement the changes without first acquiring authorization from the Commission to amend its exemption or acquiring a license for the project works that authorizes the project, as changed.

(c) An application to amend an exemption may be filed only by the holder of an exemption. An application to amend an exemption will be governed by the Commission's regulations governing applications for exemption. The Commission will not accept applications in competition with an application to amend an exemption, unless the Director of the Office of Energy Projects determines that it is in the public interest to do so.

[Order 413, 50 FR 11688, Mar. 25, 1985, as amended by Order 699, 72 FR 45324, Aug. 14, 2007]

#### § 4.105 Action on exemption applications.

(a) *Exemption from provisions other than licensing.* An application for exemption of a small hydroelectric power project from provisions of Part I of the Act other than the licensing requirement will be processed and considered as part of the related application for license or amendment of license.

(b)(1) *Consultation.* The Commission will circulate a notice of application for exemption from licensing to interested agencies and Indian tribes at the time the applicant is notified that the application is accepted for filing.

(2) *Non-standard terms and conditions.* In approving any application for exemption from licensing, the Commission may prescribe terms or conditions in addition to those set forth in § 4.106 in order to:

(i) Protect the quality or quantity of the related water supply;

(ii) Otherwise protect life, health, or property;

(iii) Avoid or mitigate adverse environmental impact; or

(iv) Better conserve, develop, or utilize in the public interest the water resources of the region.

(Energy Security Act of 1980, Pub. L. 96-294, 94 Stat. 611; Federal Power Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 792-828c); Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2601-2645); and the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101-7352); E.O. 12009, 3 CFR 142 (1978))

[Order 106, 45 FR 76123, Nov. 18, 1980, as amended by Order 202, 47 FR 4246, Jan. 29, 1982; Order 413, 50 FR 11688, Mar. 25, 1985; Order 533, 56 FR 23154, May 20, 1991]

#### § 4.106 Standard terms and conditions of case-specific exemption from licensing.

Any case-specific exemption from licensing granted for a small hydroelectric power project is subject to the following standard terms and conditions:

(a) *Article 1.* The Commission reserves the right to conduct investigations under sections 4(g), 306, 307, and 311 of the Federal Power Act with respect to any acts, complaints, facts, conditions, practices, or other matters related to the construction, operation, or maintenance of the exempt project. If any term or condition of the exemption is violated, the Commission may revoke the exemption, issue a suitable order under section 4(g) of the Federal Power Act, or take appropriate action for enforcement, forfeiture, or penalties under Part III of the Federal Power Act.

(b) *Article 2.* The construction, operation, and maintenance of the exempt project must comply with any terms and conditions that the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and any state fish and wildlife agencies have determined are appropriate to prevent loss of, or damage to, fish or wildlife

resources or otherwise to carry out the purposes of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, as specified in exhibit E of the application for exemption from licensing or in the comments submitted in response to the notice of exemption application.

(c) *Article 3.* The Commission may revoke this exemption if actual construction of any proposed generating facilities has not begun within two years or has not been completed within four years from the date on which this exemption was granted. If an exemption is revoked under this article, the Commission will not accept from the prior exemption holder a subsequent application for exemption from licensing for the same project within two years of the revocation.

(d) *Article 4.* This exemption is subject to the navigation servitude of the United States if the project is located on navigable waters of the United States.

(e) *Article 5.* This exemption does not confer any right to use or occupy any Federal lands that may be necessary for the development or operation of the project. Any right to use or occupy any Federal lands for those purposes must be obtained from the administering Federal land agencies. The Commission may accept a license application submitted by any qualified license applicant and revoke this exemption, if any necessary right to use or occupy Federal lands for those purposes has not been obtained within one year from the date on which this exemption was granted.

(f) *Article 6.* In order to best develop, conserve, and utilize in the public interest the water resources of the region, the Commission may require that the exempt facilities be modified in structure or operation or may revoke this exemption.

(g) *Article 7.* The Commission may revoke this exemption if, in the application process, material discrepancies, inaccuracies, or falsehoods were made by or on behalf of the applicant.

(h) *Article 8.* Any exempted small hydroelectric power project that utilizes a dam that is more than 33 feet in height above streambed, as defined in 18 CFR 12.31(c) of this chapter, impounds more than 2,000 acre-feet of

water, or has a significant or high hazard potential, as defined in 33 CFR part 222, is subject to the following provisions of 18 CFR part 12, as it may be amended:

- (1) Section 12.4(b)(1) (i) and (ii), (b)(2) (i) and (iii), (b)(iv), and (b)(v);
- (2) Section 12.4(c);
- (3) Section 12.5;
- (4) Subpart C; and
- (5) Subpart D.

For the purposes of applying these provisions of 18 CFR part 12, the exempted project is deemed to be a licensed project development and the owner of the exempted project is deemed to be a licensee.

(i) Before transferring any property interests in the exempt project, the exemption holder must inform the transferee of the terms and conditions of the exemption. Within 30 days of transferring the property interests, the exemption holder must inform the Commission of the identity and address of the transferee.

[Order 106, 45 FR 76123, Nov. 18, 1980; 45 FR 77420, Nov. 24, 1980, as amended by Order 202, 47 FR 4246, Jan. 29, 1982; Order 413, 50 FR 11688, Mar. 25, 1985; Order 482, 52 FR 39630, Oct. 23, 1987; Order 413-A, 56 FR 31331, July 10, 1991]

#### §4.107 Contents of application for exemption from licensing.

(a) *General requirements.* An application for exemption from licensing submitted under this subpart must contain the introductory statement, the exhibits described in this section, and, if the project structures would use or occupy any lands other than Federal lands, an appendix containing documentary evidence showing that applicant has the real property interests required under §4.31(c)(2)(ii). The applicant must identify in its application all Indian tribes that may be affected by the project.

(b) *Introductory statement.* The application must include an introductory statement that conforms to the following format: