DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project Nos. P–10254–023; P–10253–027]

Pelzer Hydro Company, Inc.
Consolidated Hydro Southeast, Inc.;
Notice of Intent To File License Application, Filing of Pre-Application Document, and Approving Use of the Traditional Licensing Process

a. Type of Filing: Notice of Intent to File License Application and Request to Use the Traditional Licensing Process.
c. Date Filed: November 11, 2012.
d. Submitted by: Pelzer Hydro Company, Inc. and Consolidated Hydro Southeast, Inc., both fully owned subsidiaries of Enel Green Power North America, Inc.
e. Name of Projects: Upper Pelzer Hydroelectric Project (P–10254) and Lower Pelzer Hydroelectric Project (P–10253).
f. Location: On the Saluda River in Anderson and Greenville counties near the town of Pelzer (P–10254), and the town of Williamson (P–10253), South Carolina. No federal lands are occupied by the project works or located within the project boundary of either project.
g. Filed Pursuant to: 18 CFR 5.3 of the Commission’s regulations.
h. Potential Applicant Contact: Beth E. Harris, P.E., Southeast Regional Manager, Aquenergy Systems, Inc., 11 Anderson St., Piedmont, SC 29674; email—Beth.Harris@Enel.com.
i. FERC Contact: Sean Murphy at (202) 502–6145 or via email at sean.murphy@ferc.gov.
j. Pelzer Hydro Company, Inc. and Consolidated Hydro Southeast, Inc., filed their request to use the Traditional Licensing Process/Alternative Licensing Procedures on November 11, 2012. Pelzer Hydro Company, Inc. and Consolidated Hydro Southeast, Inc. provided public notice of its request on February 13, 2013. In a letter dated April 5, 2013, the Director of the Division of Hydropower Licensing approved Pelzer Hydro Company, Inc. and Consolidated Hydro Southeast, Inc.’s request to use the Traditional Licensing Process.
k. With this notice, we are initiating informal consultation with: (a) U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or NOAA Fisheries under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and the joint agency regulations therunder at 50 CFR, Part 402; and (b) the South Carolina State Historic Preservation Officer, as required by section 106, National Historical Preservation Act, and the implementing regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation at 36 CFR 800.2.
l. With this notice, we are designating Pelzer Hydro Company, Inc. and Consolidated Hydro Southeast, Inc., as the Commission’s non-federal representative for carrying out informal consultation, pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.
m. Pelzer Hydro Company, Inc. and Consolidated Hydro Southeast, Inc., filed a Pre-Application Document (PAD; including a proposed process plan and schedule) with the Commission, pursuant to 18 CFR 5.6 of the Commission’s regulations.

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Seneca Lake Storage Facility

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) that will discuss the environmental impacts of the Arlington Storage Company, LLC (Arlington Storage) Seneca Lake Storage Facility Gallery 2 Expansion Project (Project). The expansion would be accomplished through the conversion of two existing interconnected bedded salt caverns (collectively known as “Gallery 2”), previously used for liquid propane gas (LPG) storage, to natural gas storage. The Project is located in Schuyler County, New York on the west side of Seneca Lake in the Town of Reading (Figure 1). This EA will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether the project is in the public convenience and necessity.

This notice announces the opening of the scoping process the Commission will use to gather input from the public and interested agencies on the Project. Your input will help the Commission staff determine what issues need to be evaluated in the EA. Please note that the project scoping period will close on May 3, 2013. Further details on how to submit written comments are provided in the Public Participation section of this notice.

This notice is being sent to the Commission’s current environmental mailing list for this project as described under the Environmental Mailing List Section of this notice. State and local government representatives are asked to notify their constituents of this proposed project and encourage them to comment on their areas of concern.

The Project would be constructed on land owned by Arlington Storage or its affiliate U.S. Salt Corporation, within an area used for salt mining and/or natural gas activities. Project work areas have been previously disturbed through historical solution mining operations for salt production and LPG storage. Development of the caverns at Gallery 2 began in 1958 by the International Salt Company. The gallery caverns were used for brine production until 1964.