DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Commission Staff Attendance


Planning Management Committee Meeting
March 15, 2017, 9 a.m.–3 p.m. (MST)

Planning Management Committee Meeting
April 19, 2017, 9 a.m.–3 p.m. (MST)

The March 15, 2017 Planning Management Committee Meeting will be held at:
Energy Strategies, 215 State St. #200, Salt Lake City, UT 84111

The April 19, 2017 Planning Management Committee Meeting will be held at:
Xcel Energy, 1800 Larimer St., Denver, CO 80202

The above-referenced meetings will be available via web conference and teleconference.

The above-referenced meetings are open to stakeholders.

Further information may be found at http://www.westconnect.com/.

The discussions at the meetings described above may address matters at issue in the following proceeding:
ER13–75, Public Service Company of New Mexico; El Paso Electric Company

For more information contact Nicole Cramer, Office of Energy Market Regulation, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission at (202) 502–6775 or nicole.cramer@ferc.gov.


Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,
Deputy Secretary.

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used by the Commission to implement the statutory provisions of Section 10(f) of the Federal Power Act (FPA). The FPA authorizes the Commission to determine headwater benefits received by downstream hydropower project owners. Headwater benefits are the additional energy production possible at a downstream hydropower project resulting from the regulation of river flows by an upstream storage reservoir. When the Commission completes a study of a river basin, it determines headwater benefits charges that will be apportioned among the various downstream beneficiaries. A headwater benefits charge and the cost incurred by the Commission to complete an evaluation are paid by downstream hydropower project owners. In essence, the owners of non-federal hydropower projects that directly benefit from a headwater improvement must pay an equitable portion of the annual charges for interest, maintenance, and depreciation of the headwater project to the U.S. Treasury. The regulations provide for apportionment of these costs between the headwater project and downstream projects based on downstream energy gains and propose equitable apportionment methodology that can be applied to all river basins in which headwater improvements are built. The Commission requires owners of non-federal hydropower projects to file data for determining annual charges as outlined in 18 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 11.

**Type of Respondents:** There are two types of entities that respond, Federal and Non-Federal hydropower project owners. The Federal entities that typically respond are the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation. The Non-Federal entities may consist of any Municipal or Non-Municipal hydropower project owner.

**Estimate of Annual Burden:** The Commission estimates the total Public Reporting Burden for this information collection as:

The estimates for cost per response are derived using the 2017 FERC average salary plus benefits of $158,754/ year (or $76.50/hour). Commission staff finds that the work done for this information collection is typically done by wage categories similar to those at FERC.

**FERC-521—Payments for Benefits From Headwater Improvements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of respondents</th>
<th>Annual number of responses per respondent</th>
<th>Total number of responses</th>
<th>Average burden &amp; cost per response</th>
<th>Total annual burden hours &amp; total annual cost</th>
<th>Cost per respondent ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal and Non-Federal hydropower project owners.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>40 hrs.; $3,060</td>
<td>120 hrs.; $9,180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total cost</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The total estimated annual cost burden to each respondent is $3,060 [40 hours * $76.50/hour = $3,060].

Comments: Comments are invited on:
1. Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information will have practical utility;
2. The accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden and cost of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
3. Ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection;
4. Ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.


Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,
Deputy Secretary.

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2 Burden is defined as the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide information to or for a Federal agency. For further explanation of what is included in the information collection burden, refer to 5 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 11.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2302–085]

Brookfield White Pine Hydro LLC; Notice of Application Accepted for Filing, Soliciting Comments, Motions To Intervene, and Protests

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection:

a. **Type of Proceeding:** Amendment of License.

b. **Project No.:** 2302–085.

c. **Date Filed:** February 24, 2017.

d. **Licensee:** Brookfield White Pine Hydro LLC.

e. **Name of Project:** Lewiston Falls Project.

f. **Location:** The project is located on the Androscoggin River in the town of Lewiston, Androscoggin County, Maine.