

*Estimate of Annual Burden:*² The Commission estimates the annual public reporting burden and cost³ (rounded) for the information collection as follows:

FERC requirement	Number of respondents	Annual number of responses per respondent	Total number of responses	Average burden & cost per response	Total annual burden hours & cost	Annual cost per respondent (\$)
	(1)	(2)	(1) * (2) = (3)	(4)	(3) * (4) = (5)	(5) ÷ (1)
FERC-915	2,510	1	2,510	1 hr.; \$36	2,510 hrs.; \$90,360	\$36
Total			2,510		2,510 hrs.; \$90,360	

In addition, there are records storage costs. For all respondents, we estimate a total of 65,000 cu. ft. of records in off-site storage. Based on an approximate storage cost of \$0.24 per cubic foot, we estimate total annual storage cost to be \$15,600.00 (or \$6.22 annually per respondent). The total annual cost for all respondents (burden cost plus off-site storage) is \$100,940.00 (or \$85,340 + \$15,600); the average total annual cost per respondent is \$40.22 (\$6.22 + \$34.00).⁴

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; and (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.

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 CFR 1320.3.

³ The estimated hourly cost (for wages plus benefits) provided in this section are based on the figures posted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) for the Utilities section available at (https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/naics2_22.htm)—April 2025. The hourly estimates for salary plus benefits are: File Clerk (Occupation code: 43-4071), \$35.94 an hour, rounded to an hourly cost to \$36.

⁴ Given that the Commission has found (1) that Sellers use standard computer-based methods to store the retained information automatically on electronic media and (2) that storage space needed costs pennies per Gigabyte, estimating burden and storage assuming use of traditional paper records provides an extreme boundary on the estimated costs.

Dated: March 5, 2026.

Carlos D. Clay,

Deputy Secretary.

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BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2607-016]

Spencer Mountain Hydropower, LLC; Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) regulations, 18 CFR part 380, the Office of Energy Projects has reviewed the application for a subsequent license to continue to operate and maintain the Spencer Mountain Hydroelectric Project No. 2607 (project). The 640-kilowatt project is located on the South Fork Catawba, near the town of Gastonia, in Gaston County, North Carolina. Commission staff has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the project.¹

The EA contains staff's analysis of the potential environmental effects of the project and concludes that issuing a subsequent license for the project, with appropriate environmental protective measures, would not constitute a major federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

The Commission provides all interested persons with an opportunity to view and/or print the EA via the internet through the Commission's Home Page (<http://www.ferc.gov/>), using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number, excluding the last three digits

¹ For tracking purposes under the National Environmental Policy Act, the unique identification number for documents relating to this environmental review is EAXX-019-20-000-1742805952.

in the docket number field, to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, or at (866) 208-3676 (toll-free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY).

You may also register online at <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/ferconline.aspx> to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

Any comments should be filed on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on April 6, 2026.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file comments using the Commission's eFiling system at <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/ferconline.aspx>. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 10,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support. 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-2607-016.

For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, contact the Office of Public Participation at (202) 502-6595, or at OPP@ferc.gov.

For further information, contact David Gandy at (202) 502-8560, or by email at david.gandy@ferc.gov.

(Authority: 18 CFR 2.1)

Dated: March 5, 2026.

Carlos D. Clay,

Deputy Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 9028-012]

Banister Hydro, Inc.; Notice of Application Ready for Environmental Analysis and Soliciting Comments, Recommendations, Terms and Conditions, and Prescriptions

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

a. *Type of Application:* New Major License.

b. *Project No.:* 9028-012.

c. *Date filed:* July 26, 2024.

d. *Applicant:* Banister Hydro, Inc. (Banister Hydro).

e. *Name of Project:* Halifax Hydroelectric Project (Halifax Project or project).

f. *Location:* On the Banister River, near the Town of Halifax in Halifax County, Virginia.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act 16 U.S.C. 791(a)-825(r).

h. *Applicant Contact:* Sherri Loon, Coordinator of Operations—USA, Banister Hydro, Inc c/o KEI (USA) Power Management Inc., 423 Brunswick Ave., Gardiner, ME 04345; (207) 203-3026; sherri.loon@kruger.com or Lewis Loon, General Manager, Operations and Maintenance—USA, Banister Hydro, Inc. c/o KEI (USA) Power Management Inc., 423 Brunswick Ave., Gardiner, ME 04345; (207) 203-3027; lewis.loon@kruger.com.

i. *FERC Contact:* Chris Millard at (202) 502-8256, or christopher.millard@ferc.gov.

j. *Deadline for filing comments, recommendations, terms and conditions, and fishway prescriptions:* on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on May 4, 2026; reply comments are due on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time June 18, 2026.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file comments, recommendations, terms and conditions, and prescriptions using the Commission's eFiling system at <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/FEROnline.aspx>. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 10,000 characters, without prior

registration, using the eComment system at <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/QuickComment.aspx>. 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. All filings must clearly identify the project name and docket number on the first page: Halifax Hydroelectric Project (P-9028-012).

The Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure require all intervenors filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person on the official service list for the project. Further, if an intervenor files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, they must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency.

k. This application has been accepted and is ready for environmental analysis at this time.

l. The Halifax Hydroelectric Project consists of the following existing facilities: (1) a 682-foot-long and 36-foot-high dam, with a 301-foot-long concrete spillway (consisting of a 24-foot-long fixed weir, twelve 3-foot-wide piers, eleven 20-foot-wide gated bays, and a 21-foot-long fixed weir), a 73-foot-8-inch-long integral powerhouse and intake structure, and a 307-foot-8-inch-long non-overflow structure (consisting of a 57-foot-6-inch-long concrete gravity wall, 203-foot-2-inch-long sheet pile cells with earthfill, and a 47-foot-long earthfill section); (2) an approximately 374-acre impoundment with a gross storage capacity of 3,510 acre-feet at a normal water surface elevation of 351.3 feet mean sea level (MSL);¹ (3) two 455-kilowatt (kW) turbine-generator units and a 875-kW turbine-generator unit for a total installed capacity of 1,785 kW; (4) a 486-foot-long, 4.16-kilovolt (kV) generator lead connecting to a 4.16/13.2-kV transformer, and a 26-foot-long, 13.2-kV transmission line connecting to the

local distribution system; and (5) appurtenant facilities.

The Halifax Project operates in a run-of-river mode with a continuous minimum flow of 5 cubic feet per second (cfs), or inflow, whichever is less. There is minimal to no available usable storage behind the dam and if river flow is less than 135 cfs, all water is spilled over the dam. The project is typically operated remotely in automatic control mode. Banister Hydro is not proposing any new project facilities or changes to the operation of the project.

From 2019 to 2023, average annual generation at the Halifax Project was 2,403 megawatt-hours.

m. A copy of the application can be viewed on the Commission's website at (<http://www.ferc.gov>), using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number, excluding the last three digits in the docket number field, to access the document (P-9028). For assistance, contact FERC Online Support (see item j above).

All filings must (1) bear in all capital letters the title "COMMENTS," "REPLY COMMENTS," "RECOMMENDATIONS," "TERMS AND CONDITIONS," or "PRESCRIPTIONS;" (2) set forth in the heading the name of the applicant and the project number of the application to which the filing responds; and (3) otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 385.2001 through 385.2005. All comments, recommendations, terms and conditions or prescriptions must set forth their evidentiary basis and otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 4.34(b). Agencies may obtain copies of the application directly from the applicant. Each filing must be accompanied by proof of service on all persons listed on the service list prepared by the Commission in this proceeding in accordance with 18 CFR 4.34(b) and 385.2010.

For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, contact the Office of Public Participation at (202) 502-6595, or OPP@ferc.gov.

You may also register online at <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/FEROnline.aspx> to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

n. The license applicant must file the following on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time May 4, 2026: (1) a copy of the water quality certification; (2) a copy of the request for certification, including proof of the date on which the certifying

¹ In a revised Exhibit A filed May 22, 2025, Banister Hydro states that elevation data expressed as MSL are equal to that of the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 at the Halifax Project.