

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. ER19–314–000]

Bridgewater Power Company, L.P.; Supplemental Notice That Initial Market-Based Rate Filing Includes Request for Blanket Section 204 Authorization

This is a supplemental notice in the above-referenced proceeding of Bridgewater Power Company, L.P.’s application for market-based rate authority, with an accompanying rate tariff, noting that such application includes a request for blanket authorization, under 18 CFR part 34, of future issuances of securities and assumptions of liability.

Any person desiring to intervene or to protest should file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214). Anyone filing a motion to intervene or protest must serve a copy of that document on the Applicant.

Notice is hereby given that the deadline for filing protests with regard to the applicant’s request for blanket authorization, under 18 CFR part 34, of future issuances of securities and assumptions of liability, is December 3, 2018.

The Commission encourages electronic submission of protests and interventions in lieu of paper, using the FERC Online links at <http://www.ferc.gov>. To facilitate electronic service, persons with internet access who will eFile a document and/or be listed as a contact for an intervenor must create and validate an eRegistration account using the eRegistration link. Select the eFiling link to log on and submit the intervention or protests.

Persons unable to file electronically should submit an original and 5 copies of the intervention or protest to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426.

The filings in the above-referenced proceeding are accessible in the Commission’s eLibrary system by clicking on the appropriate link in the

above list. They are also available for electronic review in the Commission’s Public Reference Room in Washington, DC. There is an eSubscription link on the website that enables subscribers to receive email notification when a document is added to a subscribed docket(s). For assistance with any FERC Online service, please email FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, or call (866) 208–3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502–8659.

Dated: November 13, 2018.

Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,
Deputy Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. RM19–6–000; AD19–7–000; AD19–8–000]

Hydroelectric Licensing Regulations Under America’s Water Infrastructure Act of 2018; Notice Establishing Schedule Pursuant to America’s Water Infrastructure Act of 2018

On October 23, 2018, the President signed America’s Water Infrastructure Act of 2018 (Act) into law. In addition to amending part 1 of the Federal Power Act as it relates to certain aspects of preliminary permits, qualifying conduit hydropower facilities, and hydropower licenses, the Act directs the Federal Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) to:

(1) Issue a rule not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Act, establishing an expedited process for issuing and amending licenses for qualifying facilities at existing nonpowered dams that will seek to ensure a final decision by the Commission on an application for a license no later than two years after receipt of a completed application;

(2) With the Secretary of the Army, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Secretary of Agriculture, jointly develop a list of existing nonpowered Federal dams that the Commission and the Secretaries agree have the greatest potential for non-Federal hydropower development, and make the list available to the public and provide the list to certain Committees of the House

of Representatives and the Senate not later than 12 months after the date of enactment of the Act;

(3) Issue a rule not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Act, establishing an expedited process for issuing and amending licenses for closed-loop pumped storage projects that will seek to ensure a final decision by the Commission on an application for a license by no later than two years after receipt of a completed application; and

(4) Hold a workshop not later than six months after the date of enactment of the Act to explore potential opportunities for development of closed-loop pumped storage projects at abandoned mine sites, and issue guidance no later than one year after the date of enactment of the Act to assist applicants for licenses or preliminary permits for closed-loop pumped storage projects at abandoned mine sites.

In establishing the expedited processes for issuing and amending licenses for qualifying facilities at existing nonpowered dams and closed-loop pumped storage projects, sections 3003 and 3004 of the Act require the Commission to convene an interagency task force (ITF), with appropriate federal and state agencies and Indian tribes represented, to coordinate the regulatory processes associated with the authorizations required to construct and operate these projects. By concurrent notice, the Commission has invited federal and state agencies and Indian tribes to request participation on the ITF by filing a statement of interest with the Commission by November 29, 2018.

The Commission has established three dockets in order to implement the requirements of the Act: RM19–6–000 (Licensing Regulations under America’s Water Infrastructure Act of 2018); AD19–7–000 (Nonpowered Dams List); and AD19–8–000 (Closed-loop Pumped Storage Projects at Abandoned Mines Guidance).

Because the Act requires the Commission to issue a rule establishing the expedited licensing processes not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Act, the Commission has established a schedule with abbreviated deadlines. The schedule, which is subject to change, is included below.

November 29, 2018	Deadline for federal and state agencies and Indian tribes to file a statement requesting participation on the ITF.
December 12, 2018	Commission staff will hold coordination session for the ITF to discuss proposals for the expedited licensing processes.
January/February 2019	Commission staff will issue a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NOPR) for the expedited licensing processes.