

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments on the Draft SA or requests for information related to the SA should be sent to Ms. Jennifer Nelson, NEPA Document Manager, National Nuclear Security Administration Savannah River Field Office, P.O. Box A, Aiken, SC 29802; or sent by email to [NEPA-SRS@srs.gov](mailto:NEPA-SRS@srs.gov). Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, please be advised that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available. If you wish for NNSA to withhold your name and/or other personally identifiable information, please state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. You may also submit comments anonymously.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information about this Notice, please contact Mr. James R. Sanderson, Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585-0119; phone: 202-586-1402; email to: [NEPA-SRS@srs.gov](mailto:NEPA-SRS@srs.gov). This Notice and the Draft SA are available on the internet at <https://www.energy.gov/nnsa/nnsa-nepa-reading-room>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** National security policies require DOE, through NNSA, to maintain the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile, as well as the nation's core competencies in nuclear weapons. NNSA has the mission to maintain and enhance the safety, security, and effectiveness of the nuclear weapons stockpile. Plutonium pits are critical components of every nuclear weapon, with nearly all current stockpile pits having been produced from 1978–1989. Today, the United States' capability to produce plutonium pits is limited.

To produce pits with enhanced safety features to meet NNSA and Department of Defense (DoD) requirements, mitigate against the risk of plutonium aging, and respond to changes in deterrent requirements driven by growing threats from peer competitors, the DoD requires NNSA to produce no fewer than 80 plutonium pits per year by 2030, and to sustain the capacity for future (Life Extension Programs and follow-on) programs. NNSA's pit production mission was emphasized as a national security imperative by the 2018 Nuclear Posture Review, issued in February 2018 by the Office of the Secretary of Defense and subsequent congressional statements of the policy of the United States. The 2018 Nuclear Posture Review announced that the United States will pursue initiatives to ensure

the necessary capability, capacity, and responsiveness of the nuclear weapons infrastructure and the needed skill of the workforce, including providing the enduring capability and capacity to produce no fewer than 80 pits per year by 2030. The 2018 Nuclear Posture Review concludes that the United States must have sufficient research, design, development, and production capacity to support the sustainment of its nuclear forces.

To that end, DoD Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment Ellen M. Lord and Under Secretary for Nuclear Security, and Administrator of the NNSA, Lisa E. Gordon-Hagerty issued a Joint Statement on May 10, 2018, identifying their recommended alternative to meet the pit production requirement based on the completion of an Analysis of Alternatives, an Engineering Assessment and a Workforce Analysis. To achieve the nation's requirement of producing no fewer than 80 pits per year by 2030, NNSA is proposing to repurpose the Mixed-Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility (MFFF) at the Savannah River Site (SRS) in South Carolina to produce plutonium pits while also maximizing pit production activities at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). This two-prong approach—with no fewer than 50 pits per year produced at SRS and no fewer than 30 pits per year at LANL—is proposed as the best way to manage the cost, schedule, and risk of such a vital undertaking. This approach improves the resiliency, flexibility, and redundancy of our Nuclear Security Enterprise by reducing reliance on a single production site.

On June 10, 2019, DOE announced the overall NEPA strategy related to fulfilling national requirements for pit production (84 FR 26849). DOE announced that it would prepare at least three documents including this SA, a site-specific EIS for the proposal to produce pits at SRS (also announced in that notice), and site-specific documentation for the proposal to authorize expanding pit production beyond 20 pits per year at LANL.

In 2008, NNSA prepared the Complex Transformation SPEIS, which evaluated, among other things, alternatives for producing 10–200 plutonium pits per year at different sites including LANL and SRS. In the Complex Transformation SPEIS Records of Decision, NNSA did not make any new decisions related to pit production capacity and did not foresee an imminent need to produce more than 20 pits per year to meet national security requirements.

NNSA now foresees an imminent need to provide the enduring capability and capacity to produce plutonium pits at a rate of no fewer than 80 pits per year by 2030 for the nuclear weapons stockpile as identified in the 2018 Nuclear Posture Review. NNSA has prepared the SA to determine whether, prior to proceeding with the action to produce plutonium pits at a rate of no fewer than 80 pits per year by 2030, the existing Complex Transformation SPEIS should be supplemented, a new environmental impact statement prepared, or no further NEPA analysis is required. Although pertinent regulations do not require public comment on an SA, NNSA has decided, in its discretion, that public comment in this instance would be helpful and has issued the Draft SA for public review and comment.

Signed in Washington, DC, this 21st day of June 2019, for the United States Department of Energy.

**Lisa E. Gordon-Hagerty,**  
*Under Secretary for Nuclear Security,*  
*National Nuclear Security Administration.*  
[FR Doc. 2019-13842 Filed 6-27-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6450-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 3273-024]

#### **Chittenden Falls Hydropower, Inc.; Notice of Application Tendered for Filing With the Commission and Soliciting Additional Study Requests and Establishing Procedural Schedule for Relicensing and a Deadline for Submission of Final Amendments**

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

a. *Type of Application:* Subsequent Minor License.

b. *Project No.:* 3273-024.

c. *Date Filed:* May 31, 2019.

d. *Applicant:* Chittenden Falls Hydropower, Inc.

e. *Name of Project:* Chittenden Falls Hydropower Project.

f. *Location:* On Kinderhook Creek, near the Town of Stockport, Columbia County, New York. The project does not occupy federal land.

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

h. *Applicant Contact:* Mark Boumansour, Chief Operating Officer, Gravity Renewables, Inc., 1401 Walnut Street, Suite 420, Boulder, CO 80302; (303) 440-3378; email—

mark@gravityrenewables.com and/or Celeste N. Fay, Regulatory Manager, Gravity Renewables, Inc., 5 Dartmouth Drive, Suite 104, Auburn, NH 03032; (413) 262-9466; email—celeste@gravityrenewables.com.

i. *FERC Contact*: Monir Chowdhury at (202) 502-6736; or email at monir.chowdhury@ferc.gov.

j. *Cooperating agencies*: Federal, state, local, and tribal agencies with jurisdiction and/or special expertise with respect to environmental issues that wish to cooperate in the preparation of the environmental document should follow the instructions for filing such requests described in item l below. Cooperating agencies should note the Commission's policy that agencies that cooperate in the preparation of the environmental document cannot also intervene. See, 94 FERC ¶ 61,076 (2001).

k. Pursuant to section 4.32(b)(7) of 18 CFR of the Commission's regulations, if any resource agency, Indian Tribe, or person believes that an additional scientific study should be conducted in order to form an adequate factual basis for a complete analysis of the application on its merit, the resource agency, Indian Tribe, or person must file a request for a study with the Commission not later than 60 days from the date of filing of the application, and serve a copy of the request on the applicant.

l. *Deadline for filing additional study requests and requests for cooperating agency status*: July 30, 2019.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file additional study requests and requests for cooperating agency status using the Commission's eFiling system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov), (866) 208-3676 (toll free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY). In lieu of electronic filing, please send a paper copy to: Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426. The first page of any filing should include docket number P-3273-024.

m. This application is not ready for environmental analysis at this time.

n. The Chittenden Falls Project consists of the following existing facilities: (1) An approximately 4-foot-high, 320-foot-long overflow concrete gravity dam, topped with 2-foot-high wooden flashboards, and having a dam crest elevation of 59.6 feet National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 (NGVD29); (2) a reservoir with a surface area of about 18 acres and a storage capacity of 63 acre-feet at a normal pool

elevation of 61.6 feet NGVD29; (3) an 8-foot-wide, 22-foot-long intake structure on the east side of the dam connecting to an 8-foot-wide, 118-foot-long concrete and wooden power canal; (4) a 7.5-foot-diameter, 45-foot-long steel penstock that conveys water from the power canal to a powerhouse on the east side of the dam containing two turbine-generator units with a total rated capacity of 453 kilowatts (kW); (5) an 8-foot-wide, 10-foot-long intake structure on the west side of the dam connecting to a 6-foot-diameter, 62-foot-long steel penstock; (6) a powerhouse on the west side of the dam containing a single turbine-generator unit with a rated capacity of 300 kW; (7) two 40-foot-long, 480-volt generator leads connecting the east powerhouse to a transformer yard and a 400-foot-long, 2,300-volt generator lead connecting the west powerhouse to the transformer yard; and (8) appurtenant facilities.

The Chittenden Falls Project is operated in a run-of-river mode with an estimated average annual generation of 2,300 megawatt-hours between 2012 and 2018.

o. A copy of the application is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may 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. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support. A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in item h above.

You may also register online at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp> to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

p. *Procedural schedule and final amendments*: The application will be processed according to the following preliminary schedule. Revisions to the schedule will be made as appropriate.

Issue Deficiency Letter (if necessary)—July 2019  
Request Additional Information—July 2019  
Issue Acceptance Letter—October 2019  
Issue Scoping Document 1 for comments—November 2019  
Request Additional Information (if necessary)—January 2020  
Issue Scoping Document 2—February 2020  
Issue notice of ready for environmental analysis—February 2020  
Commission issues EA—August 2020  
Comments on EA—September 2020

Final amendments to the application must be filed with the Commission no later than 30 days from the issuance date of the notice of ready for environmental analysis.

Dated: June 13, 2019.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2019-13825 Filed 6-27-19; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. ER19-2230-000]

#### **Polaris Wind Energy LLC; 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 Polaris Wind Energy LLC'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 July 15, 2019.

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.