

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

[Docket No. CP24–80–000]

Mississippi Hub, LLC; Notice of Schedule for the Preparation of an Environmental Assessment for the MS Hub Capacity Expansion Project

On March 5, 2024, Mississippi Hub, LLC (MS Hub) filed an application in Docket No. CP24–80–000 requesting a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity pursuant to section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act to construct and operate certain facilities related to natural gas storage and compression. The proposed project is known as the MS Hub Capacity Expansion Project (Project) and would add up to 0.7 billion cubic feet (Bcf) per day of injection capacity and up to 1.0 Bcf per day of delivery capacity to MS Hub's existing MS Hub Storage Facility infrastructure, as well as perform related modifications within Simpson, Covington, and Jefferson Davis Counties, Mississippi.

On March 18, 2024, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) issued its Notice of Application for the Project. Among other things, that notice alerted agencies issuing federal authorizations of the requirement to complete all necessary reviews and to reach a final decision on a request for a federal authorization within 90 days of the date of issuance of the Commission staff's environmental document for the Project.

This notice identifies Commission staff's intention to prepare an environmental assessment (EA) for the Project and the planned schedule for the completion of the environmental review.¹

Schedule for Environmental Review

Issuance of EA August 16, 2024
90-day Federal Authorization Decision Deadline² November 14, 2024

If a schedule change becomes necessary, additional notice will be provided so that the relevant agencies are kept informed of the Project's progress.

¹ 40 CFR 1501.10 (2020).

² The Commission's deadline applies to the decisions of other federal agencies, and state agencies acting under federally delegated authority, that are responsible for federal authorizations, permits, and other approvals necessary for proposed projects under the Natural Gas Act. Per 18 CFR 157.22(a), the Commission's deadline for other agency's decisions applies unless a schedule is otherwise established by federal law.

Project Description

Within Simpson County, MS Hub would construct: (a) three new gas storage caverns and expand the capacity of two existing gas storage caverns, thereby increasing the certificated working gas capacity at its MS Hub Storage Facility by approximately 33.9 Bcf; (b) approximately 14,000 horsepower (hp) of electric motor-driven compression and 16,500 hp of gas-fired compression and ancillary equipment at its existing Gas Handling Facility; (c) additional solution mining equipment at its existing Leaching Facility; (d) a filter separator and skid at the existing Southern Natural Gas ("SONAT") Meter Station site; and (e) four raw water wells and three saltwater disposal wells. Within Covington County, MS Hub would construct: (a) meter skids, flow control skids, and filter separators on the existing Transcontinental Pipeline ("Transco") and Southeast Supply Header ("SESH") Meter Station sites; and (b) one booster compressor station ("MS Hub Booster Station"), including gas-fired compressor units totaling 40,458 hp, approximately 2 miles northwest of the existing Transco Meter Station. Within Jefferson Davis County, MS Hub would construct two saltwater disposal wells.

Background

On April 10, 2024, the Commission issued a *Notice of Scoping Period Requesting Comments on Environmental Issues for the Proposed MS Hub Capacity Expansion Project* (Notice of Scoping). The Notice of Scoping was sent to affected landowners; federal, state, and local government agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Native American tribes; other interested parties; and local libraries and newspapers. In response to the Notice of Scoping, the Commission received comments from Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks; Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality; Southern Natural Gas Company, L.L.C.; Mississippi Department of Archives and History; and Mississippi Hub, LLC. The primary issues raised by the commenters are the need to perform a Mississippi Natural Heritage Program review, and corrections to the Project description within the Notice of Scoping. All substantive comments will be addressed in the EA.

Additional Information

In order to receive notification of the issuance of the EA and to keep track of formal issuances and submittals in

specific dockets, the Commission offers a free service called eSubscription. This service provides automatic notification of filings made to subscribed dockets, document summaries, and direct links to the documents. Go to <https://www.ferc.gov/ferc-online/overview> to register for eSubscription.

The Commission's Office of Public Participation (OPP) supports meaningful public engagement and participation in Commission proceedings. OPP can help members of the public, including landowners, environmental justice communities, Tribal members and others, access publicly available information and navigate Commission processes. For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, the public is encouraged to contact OPP at (202)502–6595 or OPP@ferc.gov.

Additional information about the Project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs at (866) 208–FERC or on the FERC website (www.ferc.gov). Using the "eLibrary" link, select "General Search" from the eLibrary menu, enter the selected date range and "Docket Number" excluding the last three digits (*i.e.*, CP24–80), and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to eLibrary, the helpline can be reached at (866) 208–3676, TTY (202) 502–8659, or at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov. The eLibrary link on the FERC website also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rule makings.

Dated: May 17, 2024.

Debbie-Anne A. Reese,
Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–11377 Filed 5–22–24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

[Project No. 2467–020]

Merced Irrigation District; Notice of Waiver Period for Water Quality Certification Application

On April 15, 2024, Merced Irrigation District submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) a copy of its application for a Clean Water Act section 401(a)(1) water quality certification filed with the California State Water Resources Control Board (California Water Board), in conjunction with the above captioned project.

Pursuant to 40 CFR 121.6 and section 4.34(b)(5) of the Commission's regulations,¹ we hereby notify the California Water Board of the following:

Date of Receipt of the Certification Request: April 15, 2024.

Reasonable Period of Time to Act on the Certification Request: One year (April 15, 2025).

If the California Water Board fails or refuses to act on the water quality certification request on or before the above date, then the agency certifying authority is deemed waived pursuant to section 401(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1341(a)(1).

Dated: May 17, 2024.

Debbie-Anne A. Reese,
Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024-11373 Filed 5-22-24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 15230-002]

Pike Island Hydropower Corporation; Notice of Application Tendered for Filing With the Commission and Soliciting Additional Study Requests and Establishing Procedural Schedule for Licensing 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:* Original Major License.

b. *Project No.:* 15230-002.

c. *Date Filed:* May 14, 2024.

d. *Submitted By:* Pike Island Hydropower Corporation.

e. *Name of Project:* Pike Island Hydroelectric Project (Pike Island Project).

f. *Location:* The Pike Island Project would be located at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (Corps) Pike Island Locks and Dam on the Ohio River in Belmont County, Ohio. The project would occupy 2 acres of Federal land administered by the Corps.

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

h. *Applicant Contact:* Joel Herm, P.O. Box 224, Rhinebeck, NY 12572, (917) 244-3607, joel@currenthydro.com or Norm Bishop, P.O. Box 224, Rhinebeck, NY 12572, (303) 475-0608.

i. *FERC Contact:* Jay Summers at (202) 502-8764; or email at jay.summers@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 13, 2024.¹

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, (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, Acting 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, Acting 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: Pike Island Hydroelectric Project (P-15230-002).

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

¹ The Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure provide that if a filing deadline falls on a Saturday, Sunday, holiday, or other day when the Commission is closed for business, the filing deadline does not end until the close of business on the next business day. 18 CFR 385.2007(a)(2). Because the 60-day filing deadline falls on a Saturday (*i.e.*, July 13, 2024), the filing deadline is extended until the close of business on Monday, July 15, 2024.

n. The Pike Island Project would use the Corps' existing Pike Island Locks and Dam and would consist of the following new facilities: (1) a 101-foot-wide, 193-foot-long reinforced concrete powerhouse; (2) a 90-foot-wide by 110-foot-long intake section with trash racks; (3) two Kaplan pit turbine-generators with a combined capacity of 19.99 megawatts; (4) a 95-foot-wide, 150-foot-long tailrace channel; (5) a 13.8-kilovolt (kV), 550-foot-long underground utilidor crossing under River Road; (5) a 2,223 foot-long, 69-kV, three phase overhead transmission line connecting the powerhouse substation to the 69-kV Glenn Run-Tiltonville interconnection point in Ohio; and (7) appurtenant facilities.

o. Copies of the application 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 (P-2535). For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, or call (866) 208-3676 (toll-free) or (202) 502-8659 (TTY).

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. The Commission's Office of Public Participation (OPP) supports meaningful public engagement and participation in Commission proceedings. OPP can help members of the public, including landowners, environmental justice communities, Tribal members and others, access publicly available information and navigate Commission processes. For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, the public is encouraged to contact OPP at (202) 502-6595, or OPP@ferc.gov.

q. *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.

Milestone	Target date
Issue Deficiency Letter (if necessary).	August 2024.
Request Additional Information (if necessary).	August 2024.
Issue Scoping Document 1 for comments.	November 2024
Request Additional Information (if necessary).	January 2025
Issue Scoping Document 2 (if necessary).	February 2025

¹ 18 CFR 4.34(b)(5).