

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20426
July 10, 2019

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

Project No. 10489-016 – Wisconsin
River Falls Hydroelectric Project
City of River Falls Municipal Utilities

VIA FERC Service

Subject: Revised Process Plan and Schedule for the River Falls Hydroelectric Project

To All Interested Parties:

On February 07, 2019, Commission staff issued a process plan and schedule under the Integrated Licensing Process (ILP) for the City of River Falls Municipal Utilities' (City of River Falls) River Falls Hydroelectric Project No. 10489 (River Falls Project). The process plan and schedule set pre-filing milestones and deadlines for, among other things, filing study reports, requesting modifications to the approved study plan, filing a preliminary licensing proposal (or draft license application), and filing the final license application.

On June 11, 2019, the City of River Falls filed its revised study plan (RSP), which included eight proposed studies and a proposal to develop a decommissioning plan for the Powell Falls development. In its RSP, the City of River Falls requests that the Commission modify the project process plan and schedule to allow for the filing of the Initial Study Report (ISR) on January 31, 2020, instead of July 10, 2020, in order to complete as many of the required studies as possible prior to the filing of the preliminary licensing proposal in April 2021.

Because the ILP requires the City of River Falls to file an ISR in July 2020 and an Updated Study Report in July 2021, the City of River Falls would be unable to complete two seasons of studies, if needed, before its final license application is due on August 31, 2021. Accelerating the due date of the ISR would allow stakeholders time to review the final study reports prior to the filing of the preliminary licensing proposal. Also, accelerating the due date would allow the City of River Falls to incorporate all study results, and provide information on the environmental effects of the project, in the final license application.

To establish a schedule for stakeholders to provide comments and request modifications to studies required by the Commission-approved study plan, we are issuing the attached revised process plan and schedule for the River Falls Project.

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If you have any questions, please contact Shana Wiseman at (202) 502-8736 or shana.wiseman@ferc.gov.

Sincerely,

Vince Yearick
Director
Division of Hydropower Licensing

Attachment: Revised Process Plan and Schedule

REVISED PROCESS PLAN AND SCHEDULE

The process plan and schedule do not include all milestones that will be needed to process the license application. Shaded milestones are unnecessary if there are no study disputes. If a due date falls on a weekend or holiday, the due date is the following business day. Early filings or issuances will not result in changes to these deadlines.

Responsible Party	Pre-Filing Milestone	Date	FERC Regulation
FERC	Director's Study Plan Determination	7/11/19	5.13(c)
Mandatory Conditioning Agencies	Any Study Disputes Due	7/31/19	5.14(a)
Dispute Panel	Third Dispute Panel Member Selected	8/15/19	5.14(d)
Dispute Panel	Dispute Resolution Panel Convenes	8/20/19	5.14(d)(3)
City of River Falls	Applicant Comments on Study Disputes Due	8/25/19	5.14(j)
Dispute Panel	Dispute Resolution Panel Technical Conference	8/30/19	5.14(j)
Dispute Panel	Dispute Resolution Panel Findings Issued	9/19/19	5.14(k)
FERC	Director's Study Dispute Determination	10/9/19	5.14(l)
City of River Falls	First Study Season	2019-2020	5.15(a)
City of River Falls	Initial Study Report	1/31/20	5.15(c)(1)
All stakeholders	Initial Study Report Meeting	2/15/20	5.15(c)(2)
City of River Falls	Initial Study Report Meeting Summary	3/01/20	5.15(c)(3)
All stakeholders	Any Disputes/Requests to Amend Study Plan Due	3/31/20	5.15(c)(4)
All stakeholders	Responses to Disputes/Amendment Requests Due	4/30/20	5.15(c)(5)
FERC	Director's Determination on Disputes/Amendments	5/30/20	5.15(c)(6)
City of River Falls	Second Study Season	2020-2021	5.15(a)
City of River Falls	Updated Study Report due	1/30/21	5.15(f)

Responsible Party	Pre-Filing Milestone	Date	FERC Regulation
All stakeholders	Updated Study Report Meeting	2/14/21	5.15(f)
City of River Falls	Updated Study Report Meeting Summary	3/1/21	5.15(f)
All stakeholders	Any Disputes/Requests to Amend Study Plan Due	3/31/21	5.15(f)
All stakeholders	Responses to Disputes/Amendment Requests Due	4/30/21	5.15(f)
FERC	Director's Determination on Disputes/Amendments	5/30/21	5.15(f)
City of River Falls	File Preliminary Licensing Proposal	4/3/21	5.16(a)
All stakeholders	Preliminary Licensing Proposal Comments Due	7/02/21	5.16(e)
City of River Falls	File Final License Application	08/31/21	5.17
City of River Falls	Issue Public Notice of License Application Filing	9/14/21	5.17(d)(2)

Document Content(s)

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