

future, such as innovations in advanced manufacturing, and supply chains, among others;

- Fostering sustainable and equitable economic growth in underinvested regions of the U.S.;

- Creating long-term high paying jobs in existing and new industries;

- Facilitating engagement and partnership with local and regional communities adjacent to DOE Laboratories and Sites; and

- Training and educating both the current and future diverse, equitable, and inclusive workforce.

Innovation ecosystems anchored around DOE National Laboratories and Sites will directly support DOE's missions, including advancing new and emerging clean energy technologies, combatting the effects of climate change, developing technologies to support our nation's security, cleaning up of legacy nuclear waste, and developing a technically skilled workforce.

Purpose

DOE is seeking input from all stakeholders about opportunities for place-based innovation activities that leverage research institutions—particularly the National Laboratories and Sites—to catalyze innovation ecosystems, contribute to DOE's mission in energy, environment, and national security and ensure our nation's vibrant economic future. The information received in response to this RFI will inform, and be considered by, the DOE in program planning and development. This is solely a request for information and not a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), prize, or other solicitation.

Request for Responses

The objective of this RFI is to identify both opportunities and challenges for developing place-based innovation ecosystems anchored by DOE National Laboratories and Sites. DOE is interested in hearing about potential new activities, as well as ongoing activities that would benefit from additional support. Information related, but not limited, to the following questions is requested:

Part A—Regional Characteristics

- What makes your region competitive or unique for innovation?
- What are your region's top three areas of technical expertise or attributes that are relevant to DOE's missions?
- What untapped potential exists in your region?
- What are the top three barriers to maximizing/growing your region's innovation ecosystem?

- What key areas of investment could be leveraged to realize untapped opportunities in your region?

Part B—Place-Based Innovation Activity

B.1: Existing Activities: Describe the Existing Place-Based Innovation Activity in Your Region

- How does the activity connect to the immediate region or other specific location?
- How does your activity engage with local/regional partners (e.g., Federal laboratories, industry, academia, financing/investment, community organizations, local and tribal governments, etc.)?
- Are there any DOE National Laboratories or Sites currently involved? If so, how?
- How does the activity contribute to one or more of the aforementioned key elements of an innovation ecosystem?
- How does the activity foster belonging, accessibility, justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion?
- What are the challenges for existing innovation activities in your region?
- How was this innovation activity initiated/funded?

B.2: Potential Activities: Describe Potential New or Expanded Place-Based Innovation Activities in Your Region

- How would the new or expanded activity connect to the immediate region or other specific location?
- How would your new or expanded activity engage with local/regional partners (e.g., Federal laboratories, industry, academia, funding/investment, community organizations, local and tribal governments, etc.)?
- How would the new or expanded activity contribute to one or more of the aforementioned key elements of an innovation ecosystem?
- How would the new or expanded activity foster belonging, accessibility, justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion?
- What are the potential benefits of the new or expanded activity for your region?
- What are the potential challenges for new innovation activities in your region?
- What level of support would be required to facilitate the new or expanded activity?
- What are potential sources of support for this expanded or new activity?

Confidential Business Information. Pursuant to 10 CFR 1004.11, any person submitting information that he or she believes to be confidential and exempt by law from public disclosure should

submit via email two well-marked copies: one copy of the document marked “confidential” including all the information believed to be confidential, and one copy of the document marked “non-confidential” with the information believed to be confidential deleted. DOE will make its own determination about the confidential status of the information and treat it according to its determination.

Signing Authority

This document of the Department of Energy was signed on April 3, 2023, by Dr. Geraldine L. Richmond, Under Secretary for Science and Innovation, pursuant to delegated authority from the Secretary of Energy. The document with the original signature and date is maintained by DOE. For administrative purposes only, and in compliance with requirements of the Office of the Federal Register, the undersigned DOE Federal Register Liaison Officer has been authorized to sign and submit the document in electronic format for publication, as an official document of the Department of Energy. This administrative process in no way alters the legal effect of this document upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

Signed in Washington, DC, on April 4, 2023.

Treena V. Garrett,

Federal Register Liaison Officer, U.S. Department of Energy.

[FR Doc. 2023-07371 Filed 4-6-23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Agency Information Collection Extension

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE) invites public comment on a proposed collection of information that DOE is developing for submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before May 8, 2023. If you anticipate that you will be submitting comments but find it difficult to do so within the period of time allowed by this notice, please advise the OMB Desk Officer of your intention to make a submission as soon as possible. The Desk Officer may be telephoned at (202) 881-8585.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed

information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Baldev Dhillon, EHSS-74, (301)-903-0990, Baldev.Dhillon@hq.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the extended collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

This information collection request contains:

- (1) *OMB No.*: 1910-0300;
- (2) *Information Collection Request Titled*: Environment, Safety and Health;
- (3) *Type of Review*: Renewal;
- (4) *Purpose*: The collections are used by DOE to exercise management oversight and control over its

contractors in the ways in which the DOE contractors provide goods and services for DOE organizations and activities in accordance with the terms of their contract(s); the applicable statutory, regulatory and mission support requirements of the Department.;

(5) *Annual Estimated Number of Respondents*: 775.

(6) *Annual Estimated Number of Total Responses*: 73,040.

(7) *Annual Estimated Number of Burden Hours*: 33,771.

(8) *Annual Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden*: \$2,966,783.

Statutory Authority: Section 641 of the Department of Energy Organization Act, codified at 42 U.S.C. 7251, and the following additional authorities:

Computerized Accident/Incident Reporting System (CAIRS): DOE Order 231.1B (November 28, 2012).

Occurrence Reporting and Processing System (ORPS): DOE Order 232.2A (October 4, 2019).

Radiation Exposure Monitoring System (REMS): 10 CFR part 835; DOE Order 231.1B (November 28, 2012).

Annual Fire Protection Summary Application: DOE Order 231.1B (November 28, 2012).

Safety Basis Information System: 10 CFR part 830; DOE Order 231.1B (November 28, 2012).

DOE OPEX Share Lessons Learned System: DOE Order 210.2A (April 8, 2011).

Signing Authority

This document of the Department of Energy was signed on April 3, 2023, by Todd N. Lapointe, Director, Office of Environment, Health, Safety and Security, pursuant to delegated authority from the Secretary of Energy. That document with the original signature and date is maintained by DOE. For administrative purposes only, and in compliance with requirements of the Office of the Federal Register, the undersigned DOE **Federal Register Liaison Officer** has been authorized to sign and submit the document in electronic format for publication, as an official document of the Department of Energy. This administrative process in no way alters the legal effect of this document upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

Signed in Washington, DC on April 4, 2023.

Treana V. Garrett,

Federal Register Liaison Officer, U.S. Department of Energy.

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BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 14634-006]

New England Hydropower Company, LLC; Notice of Intent to File License Application, Filing of Pre-Application Document, and Approving Use of the Traditional Licensing Process

a. *Type of Filing*: Notice of Intent to File License Application and Request to Use the Traditional Licensing Process.

b. *Project No.*: 14634-006.

c. *Date Filed*: January 17, 2023.

d. *Submitted By*: New England Hydropower Company, LLC (NEHC).

e. *Name of Project*: Ashton Dam Hydroelectric Project (project).

f. *Location*: On the Blackstone River in Providence County, Rhode Island. No federal lands are occupied by the project works or located within the project boundary.

g. *Filed Pursuant To*: 18 CFR 5.3 and 5.5 of the Commission’s regulations.

h. *Potential Applicant Contact*: Ms. Carol Wasserman, New England Hydropower Company, LLC, 100 Cummings Center, Suite 451C, Beverly, MA 01915; Phone at (339) 293-3157, or email at carol@nehypower.com.

i. *FERC Contact*: Arash Barsari at (202) 502-6207; or email at Arash.JalaliBarsari@ferc.gov.

j. NEHC filed its request to use the Traditional Licensing Process on January 17, 2023, and provided public notice of its request on January 19, 2023 and January 26, 2023. In a letter dated March 2, 2023, the Director of the Division of Hydropower Licensing approved NEHC’s request to use the Traditional Licensing Process.

k. With this notice, we are initiating informal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and NOAA Fisheries under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and the joint agency regulations thereunder at 50 CFR part 402; and NOAA Fisheries under section 305(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and implementing regulations at 50 CFR 600.920. We are also initiating consultation with the Rhode Island State Historic Preservation Officer, as required by section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and the implementing regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation at 36 CFR 800.2.

l. With this notice, we are designating NEHC as the Commission’s non-federal representative for carrying out informal consultation pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and consultation pursuant to section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

m. On January 17, 2023, NEHC filed a Pre-Application Document (PAD; including a proposed process plan and schedule) with the Commission, pursuant to 18 CFR 5.6 of the Commission’s regulations.

n. A copy of the PAD may be viewed and/or printed on the Commission’s website (<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 at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, (866) 208-3676 (toll free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY). At this time, the Commission has suspended access to the Commission’s Public Reference Room due to the proclamation declaring a National Emergency concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), issued by the President on March 13, 2020.

o. The applicant states its unequivocal intent to submit an application for an original license for Project No. 14634.