

will not be subsidized by existing customers and that there will not be adverse economic impacts to existing customers, competing pipelines or their

customers, nor to landowners and to surrounding communities.
Type of Respondents: Jurisdictional natural gas companies.

*Estimate of Annual Burden:*² The Commission estimates the annual public reporting burden for the information collection as:

FERC-537 (GAS PIPELINE CERTIFICATES: CONSTRUCTION, ACQUISITION, AND ABANDONMENT)³

	Number of respondents	Annual number of responses per respondent	Total number of responses	Average burden & cost per response ⁴	Total annual burden hours & total annual cost	Cost per respondent (\$)
	(1)	(2)	(1) * (2) = (3)	(4)	(3) * (4) = (5)	(5) ÷ (1) ⁵
18 CFR 157.5-.11 (Interstate Certificate and Abandonment Applications).	31	1.39	43 (rounded)	500 hrs.; \$50,000	21,500 hrs.; \$2,150,000	\$69,355
18 CFR 157.53 (Pipeline Purging/Testing Exemptions).	1	1	1	50 hrs.; \$5,000	50 hrs.; \$5,000	5,000
18 CFR 157.201-.209; 157.211; 157.214-.218 (Blanket Certificates Prior to Notice Filings).	30	2.125	63.75	200 hrs.; \$20,000	12,750 hrs.; \$1,275,000	42,500
18 CFR 157.201-.209; 157.211; 157.214-.218 (Blanket Certificates—Annual Reports).	176	1	176	50 hrs.; \$5,000	8,800hrs.; \$880,000	5,000
18 CFR 284.11 (NGPA Section 311 Construction—Annual Reports).	75	1	75	50 hrs.; \$5,000	3,750 hrs.; \$375,000	5,000
18 CFR 284.8 ⁶ (Request for Waiver of Capacity Release Regulations).	31	1.39	43 (rounded)	10 hrs.; \$1,000	430 hrs.; \$43,000	1,390
18 CFR 284.13(e) and 284.126(a) (Interstate and Intrastate Bypass Notice).	2	1	2	30 hrs.; \$3,000	60 hrs.; \$6,000	3,000
18 CFR 284.221 (Blanket Certificates).	1	1	1	100 hrs.; \$10,000	100 hrs.; \$10,000	10,000
18 CFR 284.224 (Hinshaw Blanket Certificates).	2	1	2	75 hrs.; \$7,500	150 hrs.; \$15,000	7,500
18 CFR 157.5-.11; 157.13-.20 (Non-facility Certificate or Abandonment Applications).	11	1.36	15	75 hrs.; \$7,500	1,125 hrs.; \$112,500	10,227
Project based Labor wages.	22	1	22	15 hrs. \$1,500	330 hrs. \$33,000	1,500
Total			444 (rounded)		49,045 hrs.; \$4,539,000	

Comments: Comments are invited on: (1) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden and cost of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use

of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Dated: June 27, 2024.
Debbie-Anne A. Reese,
Acting Secretary.
 [FR Doc. 2024-14672 Filed 7-2-24; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 10522-024]

Malones Next Gen, LLC; Notice of Proposed Termination of License by Implied Surrender and Soliciting Comments, Motions To Intervene, and Protests

Take notice that the following hydroelectric proceeding has been initiated by the Commission and is available for public inspection:

² Burden is defined as the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide information to or for a Federal agency. Refer to 5 CFR 1320.3 for additional information.

³ Changes to estimated number of respondents were based on average number of respondents over the past three years.

⁴ The estimates for cost per response are derived using the following formula: Average Burden Hours per Response * \$100.00/hour = Average cost/response. The figure is the 2024 FERC average hourly cost (for wages and benefits) of 100.00 (and an average annual salary of \$207,786/year). Commission staff is using the FERC average salary because we consider any reporting requirements completed in response to the FERC-537 to be

compensated at rates similar to the work of FERC employees.

⁵ Each of the figures in this column are rounded to the nearest dollar.

⁶ A Certificate Abandonment Application would require waiver of the Commission’s capacity release regulations in 18 CFR 284.8; therefore this activity is associated with Interstate Certificate and Abandonment Applications.

a. *Type of Proceeding*: Proposed Termination of License by Implied Surrender.

b. *Project No*: 10522–024.

c. *Date Initiated*: April 11, 2024.

d. *Applicant*: Malones Next Gen, LLC.

e. *Name of Projects*: Whittelsey Dam.

f. *Location*: The project is located on the Salmon River, Franklin County, New York. The project does not occupy federal lands.

g. *Filed Pursuant to*: 18 CFR 6.4.

h. *Applicant Contact*: Tim Carter, 52 Factory Street, PO Box 466, Malone, NY, 12953, (518) 483–2220.

i. *FERC Contact*: Rebecca Martin, (202) 502–6012, Rebecca.martin@ferc.gov.

j. *Resource Agency Comments*: Federal, state, local and Tribal agencies are invited to file comments on the described proceeding. If an agency does not file comments within the time specified for filing comments, it will be presumed to have no comments.

k. *Deadline for filing comments, motions to intervene, and protests*: August 12, 2024.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file comments, motions to intervene, and protests using the Commission's eFiling system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ecomment.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. The first page of any filing should include the docket number P–10522–024. Comments emailed to Commission staff are not considered part of the Commission record.

The Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure require all intervenors filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person whose name appears on the official service list for the project. Further, if an intervenor files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a

particular resource agency, they must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency.

l. *Description of Project Facilities*: (1) a 19-foot-high, 12-foot-wide concrete gravity dam owned by the Village of Malone; (2) an impoundment with a surface area of 1.9 acres at elevation 668.4 mean sea level and a storage capacity of 25 acre-feet; (3) a 645-foot-long, 7-foot-diameter penstock; (4) a powerhouse containing a generating unit with a rated capacity of 420 kW; (5) a concrete tailrace; (6) a 60-foot-long transmission line; and (7) appurtenant facilities. The project has not operated since 2008.

m. *Description of Proceeding*: The licensee has not complied with Standard Article 16 of the license which was issued on December 24, 1991 (57 FERC 62,236). Article 16 states that if the licensee abandons or discontinues good faith operation of the project or refuses or neglects to comply with the terms of the license and the lawful orders of the Commission, the Commission will deem it to be the intent of the licensee to surrender the license.

In addition, Article 5 of the project license requires the licensee to acquire title in fee or the right to use in perpetuity all lands, other than lands of the United States, necessary or appropriate for the construction, maintenance, and operation of the project. During the license period, the licensee must retain the possession of all project property covered by the license, including the project area, the project works, and all franchises, easements, water rights, and rights or occupancy and use. On November 21, 2017, the licensee forfeited the rights to the powerhouse and all of the property associated with the Whittelsey Dam Project in a tax sale.

Commission staff issued a letter, on February 12, 2021, requesting a plan and schedule to resume project operation or surrender of the license. On May 3, 2021, the licensee stated the project would return to operation by September 1, 2021. On May 11, 2022, staff issued a second request for documentation that the project had returned to operation. On June 1, 2022, staff issued a third letter requesting documentation of compliance with Article 5. Another letter was sent on July 19, 2022. On August 29, 2022, the licensee stated the project was in the process of being sold. On June 29, 2023, a final letter was sent requesting a transfer application or that the Commission would terminate the license through implied surrender. On

April 23, 2024, the licensee agreed to implied surrender of the license.

n. Location of the license for the project may be viewed on the Commission's website at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number (P–10522) excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. 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, call 1–866–208–3676 or email FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, for TTY, call (202) 502–8659.

o. Individuals desiring to be included on the Commission's mailing list should so indicate by writing to the Secretary of the Commission.

p. *Comments, Protests, or Motions to Intervene*: Anyone may submit comments, a protest, or a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.210, .211, .214, respectively. In determining the appropriate action to take, the Commission will consider all protests or other comments filed, but only those who file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules may become a party to the proceeding. Any comments, protests, or motions to intervene must be received on or before the specified comment date for the particular application.

q. *Filing and Service of Documents*: Any filing must (1) bear in all capital letters the title "COMMENTS", "PROTEST", or "MOTION TO INTERVENE" as applicable; (2) set forth in the heading the name of the applicant and the project number of the application to which the filing responds; (3) furnish the name, address, and telephone number of the person commenting, protesting or intervening; and (4) otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 385.2001 through 385.2005. All comments, motions to intervene, or protests must set forth their evidentiary basis. Any filing made by an intervenor must be accompanied by proof of service on all persons listed in the service list prepared by the Commission in this proceeding, in accordance with 18 CFR 385.2010.

r. 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.

Dated: June 26, 2024.

Debbie-Anne A. Reese,
Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. AD24-9-000]

Innovations and Efficiencies in Generator Interconnection; Supplemental Notice of Staff-Led Workshop

As first announced in the Notice of Staff-Led Workshop issued in this proceeding on May 13, 2024, pursuant to 18 CFR 2.1(a), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) will convene a staff-led workshop in the above-referenced proceeding at Commission headquarters, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426 on Tuesday, September 10, 2024 and Wednesday, September 11, 2024 from approximately 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern time. This supplemental notice provides additional detail as to the planned content of the workshop and the self-nomination process for interested panelists.

The conference will be held in-person. The tentative topics and panels for the workshop appear below. A detailed agenda with the final list of topics and panels, selected speakers, presentation dates, and times for the selected speakers will be published on the Commission's website¹ and in eLibrary at a later date.

This conference will bring together experts from diverse backgrounds including project developers, transmission owners and providers, government, research centers, and academia. The conference will bring these experts together for the purposes of identifying and discussing potential innovations and efficiencies related to generator interconnection.

Broadly, such topics fall into the following categories, which may be subject to change:

The Day 1 Innovations Panels will discuss enhancements to current

generator interconnection processes that may build upon the reforms in Order No. 2023.²

(Inn.1) Innovations Panel 1, integrated transmission planning and generator interconnection, will explore the extent to which transmission planning and generator interconnection processes may be further integrated beyond the reforms adopted in Order No. 1920.³ This panel will explore ideas to more efficiently and proactively plan for and interconnect new generation with increased cost certainty.

(Inn.2) Innovations Panel 2, further changes, will examine the viability and utility of different approaches to organizing, processing, and studying generator interconnection requests, such as an ERIS-focused (or "connect and manage") process, the use of competitive mechanisms (e.g., an auction process to allocate scarce capacity or to resolve competition for the same point of interconnection), or other potential approaches.

(Inn.3) Innovations Panel 3, prioritizing generator interconnection requests, will examine whether proposed generating facilities may be prioritized in the interconnection queue beyond the use of first-ready, first-served cluster window deadlines and readiness milestones as adopted by Order No. 2023 without undue discrimination.

The Day 2 Efficiencies Panels will discuss incremental changes to current generator interconnection processes that may build upon the reforms in Order No. 2023.

(Eff.1) Efficiencies Panel 1, the generator interconnection process, will evaluate the potential for increased efficiency throughout the generator interconnection process (excluding topics covered in Efficiencies Panels 2 and 3), such as, for example, providing additional pre-application data to interconnection customers or establishing fast-tracking processes for interconnection requests at points of interconnection with fewer system constraints.

(Eff.2) Efficiencies Panel 2, automation, will assess opportunities for greater efficiency in the processing and study of interconnection requests by automating different steps in the process and using advanced computing

² *Improvements to Generator Interconnection Procs. & Agreements*, Order No. 2023, 184 FERC ¶ 61,054, *order on reh'g*, 185 FERC ¶ 61,063 (2023), *order on reh'g*, Order No. 2023-A, 186 FERC ¶ 61,199 (2024).

³ *Building for the Future Through Electric Regional Transmission Planning and Cost Allocation*, Order No. 1920, 187 FERC ¶ 61,068 (2024).

technologies such as artificial intelligence to shorten the timeline from interconnection request to interconnection agreement.⁴

(Eff.3) Efficiencies Panel 3, post-generator interconnection agreement construction phase, will discuss opportunities for greater efficiency, transparency, and accountability in the design, construction, and operation of interconnection facilities and network upgrades.

Individuals interested in participating as panelists should submit a self-nomination email no later than 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on July 12, 2024, to Panelist_InterconnectionWorkshop@ferc.gov. The self-nominations should have "Panelist Self-Nomination" in the subject line and include the panelist's name, contact information, organizational affiliation, one-paragraph biography, the panel the self-nominated panelist proposes to speak on, and a description of what they would like to discuss. Speakers are encouraged to build on existing developments in generator interconnection. Presentations that center on pending contested proceedings or pending requests for variations submitted in compliance with Order No. 2023 are discouraged.

The workshop will be open to the public to attend virtually or in person and there is no fee for attendance. A supplemental notice will be issued with further details regarding the workshop agenda, as well as any changes in timing or logistics. Information will also be posted on the Calendar of Events on the Commission's website, www.ferc.gov, prior to the event. To stay apprised of issuances in this docket, there is an "eSubscription" link on the Commission's 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.

The workshop will be transcribed and webcast. Transcripts will be available for a fee from Ace Reporting (202-347-3700). A link to the webcast of this event will be available in the Commission Calendar of Events at www.ferc.gov. The Commission provides technical support for the free webcasts. Please call 202-502-8680 or email customer@ferc.gov if you have any questions.

⁴ Artificial intelligence (AI) is a broad term for a spectrum of tools ranging from data validation on the simple side, to machine learning and statistical modeling in the middle, to deep learning and generative AI on the complex side of the spectrum.

¹ <https://www.ferc.gov/news-events/events/innovations-and-efficiencies-generator-interconnection-workshop-docket-no-ad24-9>.