

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, 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-6959-004. 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:* The project works include a 5-foot-high, concrete diversion structure; a 1,900-foot-long, 24-inch diameter above-ground penstock connected to a 1,000 foot, 18-inch-diameter buried penstock; a powerhouse containing one generating units with a total installed capacity of 750 kilowatts, and appurtenant facilities. The project has historically operated as run-of-river but has not operated since 2008 when it lost its power purchase agreement.

m. *Description of Proceeding:* The licensee has not complied with Standard Article 16 of the license which was issued on May 12, 1983 (23 FERC 62,205). 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.

Commission staff issued a letter, on September 26, 2019, requesting a plan and schedule to resume project operation or surrender of the license. On February 26, 2019, we granted an extension of time until August 2, 2019. On October 15, 2020, a second extension of time was requested, which was granted on October 20, 2020, and the filing date was extended to July 15, 2021. On March 15, 2023, Commission

staff issued another letter requesting a plan and schedule to restore the project to operation or an application to surrender the exemption by April 14, 2023. On April 13, 2023, an additional extension of time was requested to allow for sale of the project. Commission staff issued the extension of time on May 4, 2023, granting until August 2, 2023, to a transfer agreement. To date, no additional filings have been made. On August 13, 2024, Commission staff issued a letter notifying the exemptee that it would be initiating implied surrender proceedings.

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-6959) 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](mailto: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](mailto:OPP@ferc.gov).

Dated: September 24, 2024.

**Debbie-Anne A. Reese,**

*Acting Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2024-22427 Filed 9-30-24; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP23-528-001]

#### Midwestern Gas Transmission Company; Notice of Request for Extension of Time

Take notice that on September 17, 2024, Midwestern Gas Transmission Company (Midwestern) requested that the Commission grant an extension of time, until February 14, 2025, to complete construction and place into service the MGT Southbound Project (Project) located in Edgar and Vermillion Counties, Illinois, and Ohio County, Kentucky. On August 18, 2023, the Commission issued a Notice of Request Under Blanket Authorization, which established a 60-day comment period, ending on October 17, 2023, to file protests. No protests were filed during the comment period, and accordingly the project self-implemented on October 18, 2023, and by Rule should have been completed within one year.

Midwestern states it is waiting on the delivery of required materials, which has been twice postponed by the manufacturer and currently is not scheduled to arrive until September 30, 2024. Midwestern avers this delivery delay does not afford Midwestern sufficient time to complete construction of the project and place it into service. Based on the current scheduled delivery date, Midwestern anticipates being able to place the project in service by

October 25, 2024. However, to provide a reasonable cushion in the event of continued delays, Midwestern is requesting a 4-month extension of time.

This notice establishes a 15-calendar day intervention and comment period deadline. Any person wishing to comment on Midwestern's request for an extension of time may do so. No reply comments or answers will be considered. If you wish to obtain legal status by becoming a party to the proceedings for this request, you should, on or before the comment date stated below, file a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214 or 385.211) and the Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (NGA) (18 CFR 157.10).

As a matter of practice, the Commission itself generally acts on requests for extensions of time to complete construction for NGA facilities when such requests are contested before order issuance. For those extension requests that are contested,<sup>1</sup> the Commission will aim to issue an order acting on the request within 45 days.<sup>2</sup> The Commission will address all arguments relating to whether the applicant has demonstrated there is good cause to grant the extension.<sup>3</sup> The Commission will not consider arguments that re-litigate the issuance of the certificate order, including whether the Commission properly found the project to be in the public convenience and necessity and whether the Commission's environmental analysis for the certificate complied with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).<sup>4</sup> At the time a pipeline requests an extension of time, orders on certificates of public convenience and necessity are final and the Commission will not re-litigate their issuance.<sup>5</sup> The Director of the Office of Energy Projects, or his or her designee, will act on all of those extension requests that are uncontested.

In addition to publishing the full text of this document in the **Federal Register**, the Commission provides all interested persons an opportunity to view and/or print the contents of this

document via the internet through the Commission's Home Page (<http://www.ferc.gov>). From the Commission's Home Page on the internet, this information is available on eLibrary. The full text of this document is available on eLibrary in PDF and Microsoft Word format for viewing, printing, and/or downloading. To access this document in eLibrary, type the docket number excluding the last three digits of this document in the docket number field.

User assistance is available for eLibrary and the Commission's website during normal business hours from FERC Online Support at (202) 502-6652 (toll free at 1-866-208-3676) or email at [ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov](mailto:ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov), or the Public Reference Room at (202) 502-8371, TTY (202) 502-8659. Email the Public Reference Room at [public.referenceroom@ferc.gov](mailto:public.referenceroom@ferc.gov).

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings of comments in lieu of paper using the "eFile" link at <http://www.ferc.gov>. In lieu of electronic filing, you may submit a paper copy which must reference the Project docket number.

*To file via USPS:*

Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Acting Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426.

*To file via any other courier:*

Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Acting Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

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](mailto:OPP@ferc.gov).

Comment Date: 5 p.m. eastern time on October 9, 2024.

Dated: September 24, 2024.

**Debbie-Anne A. Reese,**

*Acting Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2601-077]

#### Northbrook Hydro Carolina II, LLC; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment

On November 16, 2023, as supplemented on March 11, 2024, and April 30, 2024, Northbrook Hydro Carolina II, LLC filed an application to surrender the project license for the Bryson Hydroelectric Project No. 2601. The project is located on the Oconaluftee River in Swain County, North Carolina. The project does not occupy any Federal lands.

The project is located on the Oconaluftee River downstream of the Great Smoky Mountain National Park and the lands of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (Qualla Boundary). The project boundary abuts the Qualla Boundary for 1.5 miles. The proposed mode of surrender would include disconnection from the utility interconnection point and the removal of the generators and turbines. The licensee would offer the generators, control equipment, and wiring for sale following decommissioning, or would properly dispose of the equipment. The proposal includes leaving the dam and associated structures intact and operational. The licensee intends to later deed ownership of the project to Mainspring Conservation Land Trust for potential future removal of the dam after the surrender is final.

This notice identifies Commission staff's intention to prepare an environmental assessment (EA) for the project.<sup>1</sup> The planned schedule for the completion of the EA is January 31, 2025. Revisions to the schedule may be made as appropriate. The EA will be issued and made available for review by all interested parties and a 30-day public comment period. All comments filed on the EA will be reviewed by staff and considered in the Commission's final decision on the proceeding.

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 to access publicly available information and navigate Commission

<sup>1</sup> In accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality's regulations, the unique identification number for documents relating to this environmental review is EAXX-019-20-000-1726749058. 40 CFR 1501.5(c)(4) (2024).

<sup>1</sup> Contested proceedings are those where an intervenor disputes any material issue of the filing. 18 CFR 385.2201(c)(1).

<sup>2</sup> *Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC*, 170 FERC ¶ 61,144, at P 40 (2020).

<sup>3</sup> *Id.* at P 40.

<sup>4</sup> Similarly, the Commission will not re-litigate the issuance of an NGA section 3 authorization, including whether a proposed project is not inconsistent with the public interest and whether the Commission's environmental analysis for the permit order complied with NEPA.

<sup>5</sup> *Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC*, 170 FERC ¶ 61,144, at P 40 (2020).