

Management, U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, DC 20585; Telephone: (771) 217-0877 or Email: [doe.ccus.permitting.task.force@hq.doe.gov](mailto:doe.ccus.permitting.task.force@hq.doe.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

In April 2024, Department of Energy (DOE) and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) chartered and appointed members for the two new CCUS Permitting Task Forces as required by the USE IT Act and in accordance with FACA. The purpose of each Task Force is the same, but the scope is to differ by geographical area—one Task Force will focus on Federal lands and the Outer Continental Shelf, and the other will focus on non-Federal lands.

*Purpose of the Committee:* The purpose of the Task Forces is to identify permitting and other challenges and successes that permitting authorities and project developers and operators face in permitting projects in an efficient, orderly, and responsible manner; and improve the performance of the permitting process and regional coordination for the purpose of promoting the efficient, orderly, and responsible development of carbon capture, utilization, and sequestration projects and carbon dioxide pipelines.

To accomplish these objectives, the USE IT Act requires each Task Force to undertake the following activities with respect to its geographic scope: (1) inventory existing or potential Federal and State approaches to facilitate reviews associated with the deployment of carbon capture, utilization, and sequestration projects and carbon dioxide pipelines, including best practices that avoid duplicative reviews to the extent permitted by law, engage stakeholders early in the permitting process, and make the permitting process efficient, orderly, and responsible; (2) develop common models for State-level carbon dioxide pipeline regulation and oversight guidelines that can be shared with States in the geographical area covered by the Task Force; (3) provide technical assistance to States in the geographical area covered by the Task Force in implementing regulatory requirements and any models developed under (b) above; (4) inventory current or emerging activities that transform captured carbon dioxide into a product of commercial value, or as an input to products of commercial value; (5) identify any priority carbon dioxide pipelines needed to enable efficient, orderly, and responsible development of carbon capture, utilization, and sequestration projects at increased scale; (6) identify

gaps in the current Federal and State regulatory framework and in existing data for the deployment of carbon capture, utilization, and sequestration projects and carbon dioxide pipelines; (7) identify Federal and State financing mechanisms available to project developers; and (8) develop recommendations for relevant Federal agencies on how to develop and research technologies that can capture carbon dioxide and would be able to be deployed within the region covered by the Task Force, including any projects that have received technical or financial assistance for research under paragraph (6) of section 103(g) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7403(g)).

In carrying out these activities to support the efficient, effective, and responsible permitting of CCUS projects, the Task Forces shall also consider and develop recommendations to address community concerns regarding the climate benefits and environmental justice implications, including public health and safety, of CCUS. In the development of these recommendations, the Task Forces shall consider and identify recommended mechanisms to ensure just treatment and meaningful involvement of impacted communities.

#### Tentative Agenda

- Opening remarks
- Ethics briefing
- Presentations relevant to the USE IT Act duties
- Public comment period

To view the final agenda when available, or for additional information about the Task Forces and the meeting, see the CCUS Permitting Task Forces website at: <https://www.energy.gov/fecm/use-it-act-carbon-dioxide-capture-utilization-and-sequestration-ccus-permitting-task-forces>.

*Public Participation:* The two-day meeting is open to the public via webcast using Zoom. The website will be updated with instructions and links to register for the meeting. All attendees are required to register in advance. If you would like to file a written statement with either Task Force, you may do so either before or after the meeting. If you would like to make oral statements regarding any of the items on the agenda, please send an email request to Christina Waldron at [doe.ccus.permitting.task.force@hq.doe.gov](mailto:doe.ccus.permitting.task.force@hq.doe.gov). You must make your request for an oral statement by Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 11:59 a.m. ET. Reasonable provision will be made to include the scheduled oral statements on the agenda. Time allotted per speaker will depend on the number who wish to

speak but is not expected to exceed three minutes. The Chairpersons of the Task Forces will conduct the meeting to facilitate the orderly conduct of business.

*Minutes:* The minutes of this meeting will be available for public review within 45 days at the website of the CCUS Permitting Task Forces at: <https://www.energy.gov/fecm/use-it-act-carbon-dioxide-capture-utilization-and-sequestration-ccus-permitting-task-forces>. They can also be obtained by contacting Ms. Christina Waldron using the contact information above.

*Signing Authority:* This document of the Department of Energy was signed on April 24, 2024, by Alyssa Petit, Alternate Deputy Committee Management Officer, 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 25, 2024.

**Treena 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. 2445-028]

#### Green Mountain Power Corporation of Availability of Environmental Assessment

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) regulations, 18 CFR part 380, the Office of Energy Projects has reviewed the application for a subsequent license to continue to operate and maintain the Center Rutland Hydroelectric Project No. 2445 (project). The project is located on Otter Creek in Rutland County, Vermont. Commission staff has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the project.

The EA contains staff's analysis of the potential environmental impacts of the project and concludes that licensing the project, with appropriate environmental protective measures, would not constitute a major federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

The Commission provides all interested persons with an opportunity to view and/or print the EA via the internet through the Commission's Home Page (<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](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov), or toll-free at (866) 208-3676, or for TTY, (202) 502-8659.

You may also register online at <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/ferconline.aspx> to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

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).

Any comments should be filed within 45 days from the date of this notice.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file comments using the Commission's eFiling system at <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/ferconline.aspx>. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/QuickComment.aspx>. You must include your name and contact information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support. 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 docket number P-2445-028.

If you have process questions, contact Steve Kartalia at (202) 502-6131 or by email at [stephen.kartalia@ferc.gov](mailto:stephen.kartalia@ferc.gov).

Dated: April 24, 2024.

**Debbie-Anne A. Reese,**

*Acting Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2024-09285 Filed 4-29-24; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2466-037]

#### Appalachian Power Company; Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) regulations, 18 CFR part 380, the Office of Energy Projects has reviewed the application for a new license to continue to operate and maintain the Niagara Hydroelectric Project No. 2466 (project). The project is located on the Roanoke River in Roanoke County, Virginia. Commission staff has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the project.

The EA contains the staff's analysis of the potential environmental impacts of the project and concludes that licensing the project, with appropriate environmental protective measures, would not constitute a major federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

The Commission provides all interested persons with an opportunity to view and/or print the EA via the internet through the Commission's Home Page (<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](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov), or at (866) 208-3676 (toll-free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY).

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at <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/ferconline.aspx>. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/QuickComment.aspx>. You must include your name and contact information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support. 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 docket number P-2466-037.

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).

For further information, contact Laurie Bauer at 202-502-6519 or [Laurie.Bauer@ferc.gov](mailto:Laurie.Bauer@ferc.gov).

Dated: April 23, 2024.

**Debbie-Anne A. Reese,**

*Acting Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RM98-1-000]

#### Records Governing Off-the-Record Communications; Public Notice

This constitutes notice, in accordance with 18 CFR 385.2201(b), of the receipt of prohibited and exempt off-the-record communications.

Order No. 607 (64 FR 51222, September 22, 1999) requires Commission decisional employees, who make or receive a prohibited or exempt off-the-record communication relevant to the merits of a contested proceeding,