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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: October 12, 2023.

**Debbie-Anne A. Reese,**  
Deputy Secretary.

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BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 15324-000]

#### Scott D. Sanicki; Notice of Application Tendered for Filing With the Commission and Soliciting Additional Study Requests

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection.

a. *Type of Application:* Exemption from Licensing.

b. *Project No.:* 15324-000.

c. *Date Filed:* October 2, 2023.

d. *Applicant:* Scott D. Sanicki.

e. *Name of Project:* Quiet Woods Water Wheel Project.

f. *Location:* On the Pocotopaug Creek, near the town of East Hampton, Middlesex County, Connecticut.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978, 16 U.S.C. 2705, 2708, *amended by* the Hydropower Regulatory Efficiency Act of 2013, Public Law 113-23, 127 Stat. 493 (2013).

h. *Applicant Contact:* Scott D. Sanicki, 102 Quiet Woods Road, East Hampton, CT; [ssanicki@comcast.net](mailto:ssanicki@comcast.net).

i. *FERC Contact:* John Baummer at (202) 502-6837; or email at [john.baummer@ferc.gov](mailto:john.baummer@ferc.gov).

j. *Cooperating agencies:* Federal, state, local, and tribal agencies with jurisdiction and/or special expertise with respect to environmental issues that wish to cooperate in the preparation of the environmental document should follow the instructions for filing such requests described in item l below. Cooperating agencies should note the Commission's policy that agencies that cooperate in the preparation of the environmental document cannot also intervene. *See* 94 FERC ¶ 61,076 (2001).

k. Pursuant to section 4.32(b)(7) of 18 CFR of the Commission's regulations, if any resource agency, Indian Tribe, or person believes that an additional scientific study should be conducted in order to form an adequate factual basis for a complete analysis of the application on its merit, the resource agency, Indian Tribe, or person must file a request for a study with the Commission not later than 60 days from the date of filing of the application, and serve a copy of the request on the applicant.

l. *Deadline for filing additional study requests and requests for cooperating agency status:* December 1, 2023.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file additional study requests and requests for cooperating agency status using the Commission's eFiling system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>. For assistance, please 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: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. Submissions sent via any other carrier must be addressed to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852. All filings must clearly identify the project name and docket number on the first page: Quiet Woods Water Wheel Project (P-15324-000).

m. This application is not ready for environmental analysis at this time.

n. The proposed project would consist of: (1) a new 6-foot-diameter undershot poncelet water wheel and 3-kilowatt generator cantilevered to a 6-foot-wide,

6-foot-long, 3-foot-deep concrete support pad on the creek bank; (2) a new 350-foot-long underground transmission line connecting to a dwelling structure; and (3) appurtenant facilities. The project is estimated to generate an average of 8,800 kilowatt-hours annually.

The proposed project does not include a dam or impoundment. The applicant proposes to manually operate the project in a run-of-river mode.

o. Copies of the application may be viewed on the Commission's website at <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 (P-15324). For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or call tollfree, (866) 208-3676 or (202) 502-8659 (TTY).

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, contact FERC Online Support.

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p. With this notice, we are initiating consultation with the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), as required by section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, 36 CFR 800.4.

q. Procedural schedule and final amendments: The application will be processed according to the following preliminary schedule. Revisions to the schedule will be made as appropriate (e.g., if there are no deficiencies or a need for additional information, the schedule would be shortened).

|                                                     |               |
|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Issue Deficiency Letter (if necessary) .....        | January 2024. |
| Request Additional Information .....                | January 2024. |
| Issue Acceptance Letter .....                       | April 2024.   |
| Issue Scoping Document 1 for comments .....         | May 2024.     |
| Request Additional Information (if necessary) ..... | July 2024.    |

|                                                        |              |
|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Issue Scoping Document 2 .....                         | August 2024. |
| Issue Notice of Ready for Environmental Analysis ..... | August 2024. |

Dated: October 13, 2023.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2023-23105 Filed 10-18-23; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2514-029]

#### **Appalachian Power Company; Notice of Application Accepted for Filing, Soliciting Motions To Intervene and Protests, Ready for Environmental Analysis, and Soliciting Comments, Recommendations, Preliminary Terms and Conditions, and Preliminary Fishway Prescriptions**

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection.

a. *Type of Application:* New Major License.

b. *Project No.:* 2514-029.

c. *Date filed:* February 28, 2022.

Supplemented on February 28, 2023.

d. *Applicant:* Appalachian Power Company (Appalachian).

e. *Name of Project:* Byllesby-Buck Hydroelectric Project (Byllesby-Buck Project or project).

f. *Location:* On the New River in Carroll County, Virginia.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act 16 U.S.C. 791(a)-825(r).

h. *Applicant Contact:* Ms. Elizabeth Parcell, Process Supervisor, American Electric Power Service Corporation, 40 Franklin Road SW, Roanoke, Virginia 24011, (540) 985-2441, [ebparcell@aep.com](mailto:ebparcell@aep.com).

i. *FERC Contact:* Jody Callihan at (202) 502-8278 or email at [jody.callihan@ferc.gov](mailto:jody.callihan@ferc.gov).

j. *Deadline for filing motions to intervene and protests, comments, recommendations, preliminary terms and conditions, and preliminary fishway prescriptions:* 60 days from the issuance date of this notice; reply comments are due 105 days from the issuance date of this notice.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file motions to intervene, protests, comments, recommendations, preliminary terms and conditions, and preliminary fishway prescriptions 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>. You must include your name and contact information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please 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: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426. Submissions sent via any other carrier must be addressed to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852. All filings must clearly identify the project name and docket number on the first page: Byllesby-Buck Hydroelectric Project (P-2514-029).

The Commission's Rules of Practice require all intervenors filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person 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.

k. This application has been accepted for filing and is now ready for environmental analysis.

The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) issued a final rule on April 20, 2022, revising the regulations under 40 CFR parts 1502, 1507, and 1508 that federal agencies use to implement the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (see National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Regulations Revisions, 87 FR 23453-70). The final rule became effective on May 20, 2022. Commission staff intends to conduct its NEPA review in accordance with CEQ's new regulations.

1. The Byllesby-Buck Project consists of two developments (Byllesby and Buck) that have a combined total installed capacity of 26.1 megawatts (MW). The Byllesby Development is located 3 river miles upstream of the Buck Development. The project had an average annual generation of 92,820 megawatt-hours (MWh) between 2016 and 2020.

The Byllesby Development consists of: (1) a 64-foot-high, 528-foot-long concrete dam, sluice gate, and main spillway section topped with four sections of 9-foot-high flashboards, five sections of 9-foot-high inflatable Obermeyer crest gates, and six bays of 10-foot-high Tainter gates; (2) an auxiliary spillway including six sections of 9-foot-high flashboards; (3) a 239-acre impoundment with a gross storage capacity of 2,000 acre-feet; (4) a powerhouse containing four turbine-generator units with a total installed capacity of 18.0 megawatts (MW); (5) a control house and switchyard; and (6) appurtenant facilities.

The Buck Development consists of: (1) a 42-foot-high, 353-foot-long concrete dam and sluice gate; (2) a 1,005-foot-long, 19-foot-high spillway section topped with twenty sections of 9-foot-high flashboards, four sections of 9-foot-high inflatable crest gates, and six bays of 10-foot-high Tainter gates; (3) a 66-acre impoundment with a gross storage capacity of 661 acre-feet; (4) a powerhouse containing three turbine-generator units with a total installed capacity of 8.1 MW; (5) two 2-mile-long overhead 13.2-kilovolt transmission lines extending from the Buck powerhouse to the Byllesby control house; and (6) appurtenant facilities.

The Byllesby-Buck Project is currently operated in a run-of-river (ROR) mode, with the Byllesby impoundment maintained between elevations of 2,078.2 feet and 2,079.2 feet National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 (NGVD 29) and the Buck impoundment maintained between elevations of 2,002.4 feet and 2,003.4 feet NGVD 29. A minimum flow of 360 cubic feet per second (cfs), or project inflow if less, is provided downstream of each powerhouse. There is a bypassed reach at each development (590 feet long at Byllesby and 4,100 feet long at Buck), but there is currently no dedicated minimum flow for either of the bypassed reaches, which receive leakage flow of approximately 11 cfs (Byllesby) and 17 cfs (Buck). Article 406 of the current license specifies the down-ramping rates and procedures currently required at the Buck Development to minimize stranding of adult walleye (in the bypassed reach) following large spill events that occur during the spawning season (late winter through spring).

Appalachian proposes to continue operating the project in a ROR mode and providing a 360-cfs minimum flow