

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission****Combined Notice of Filings**

Take notice that the Commission has received the following Natural Gas Pipeline Rate and Refund Report filings:

Filings in Existing Proceedings

Docket Numbers: PR24–9–001.

Applicants: Lee 8 Storage Partnership.

Description: Amendment Filing: Settlement Proposal (PR24–9–) to be effective 11/14/2023.

Filed Date: 1/12/24.

Accession Number: 20240112–5030.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 2/2/24.

§ 284.123(g) Protest: 5 p.m. ET 2/2/24.

Any person desiring to protest in any the above proceedings must file in accordance with Rule 211 of the Commission's Regulations (18 CFR 385.211) on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on the specified comment date.

The filings are accessible in the Commission's eLibrary system (<https://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/search/fercgensearch.asp>) by querying the docket number.

eFiling is encouraged. More detailed information relating to filing requirements, interventions, protests, service, and qualifying facilities filings can be found at: <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling/filing-req.pdf>. For other information, call (866) 208–3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502–8659.

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: January 12, 2024.

Debbie-Anne A. Reese,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–01040 Filed 1–18–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

[Project No. 1869–066]

NorthWestern Energy; Notice of Application Tendered for Filing With the Commission and Establishing Procedural Schedule for Licensing and Deadline for Submission of Final Amendments

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.:* 1869–066.

c. *Date Filed:* December 29, 2023.

d. *Applicant:* NorthWestern Energy.

e. *Name of Project:* Thompsons Falls Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location:* On the Clark Fork River in Sanders County in the city of Thompson Falls, Montana. The project includes 103.80 acres of federal lands administered by the U.S. Forest Service.

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

h. *Applicant Contact:* Mary Gail Sullivan, Director, Environmental & Lands Permitting & Compliance, NorthWestern Energy 11 East Park Street, Butte, Montana 59701; phone: (406) 497–3382 or (406) 490–1838.

i. *FERC Contact:* Michael Tust at (202) 502–6522 or email at michael.tust@ferc.gov.

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

k. *Project Description:* The project consists of multiple dams that form the project reservoir and two powerhouses. The following existing facilities occur at the project: (1) a 1,016-foot-long, 54-foot-high, concrete gravity dam (*i.e.*, main channel dam) with a 913-foot-long overflow section with 8-foot-high fixed wheel panels atop 8-foot-high stoplogs and four radial gates; (2) an upstream fish passage facility on the main channel dam; (3) a 449-foot-long, 45-foot-high concrete gravity dam (*i.e.*, dry channel dam) located downstream of the main channel dam with a 289-foot-long overflow section with 8-foot-high fixed wheel panels atop 4-foot-high stoplogs; (4) a 1,226-acre reservoir impounded by the two dams; (5) a 300-foot-long, 78-foot-wide excavated channel leading to a 200-foot long, 78-foot-wide reinforced concrete intake structure; and (6) three 39-foot-high, 18-foot-wide, and 75-foot-long rectangular conduits extending from the intake to a 200-foot-long, 78-foot-wide concrete powerhouse containing a Kaplan-type

turbine-generator unit with an installed capacity of 52.61 megawatts (MW); (7) a 450-foot-long, 80-foot-wide forebay channel leading to a 258-foot-long, 40-foot-high second intake structure (adjacent to the other intake structure); (8) six steel, 14-foot-diameter main turbine penstocks and two 6-foot-8-inch-diameter exciter turbine penstocks extend from the second intake to a 292-foot-long, 97-foot-wide second powerhouse containing six Francis-type turbine-generating units, with three rated at 7.0 MW, two rated at 6.38 MW, and one rated at 6.0 MW; (9) a 1,000-foot-long, 100-foot-wide tailrace channel leading from the outlet of the first powerhouse; (10) a 800-foot-long, 130-foot-wide tailrace channel leading from the outlet of the second powerhouse; (11) three generator step-up transformers; (12) a 300-foot-long, 115-kilovolt generator lead line extending from the first powerhouse to the second powerhouse and two 50-foot-long, 6.6-kilovolt generator lead lines connecting to a breaker within the second powerhouse serving as the interconnection point for both powerhouses; (13) a 1,000-foot long access road; and (14) appurtenant facilities. NorthWestern Energy maintains the following recreation facilities under the current license: Island Park, Wild Goose Landing Park, and the South Shore Dispersed Recreation Area.

NorthWestern Energy is currently authorized to operate as a peaking facility while maintaining the reservoir elevation within a four-foot operating band (*i.e.*, between 2396.5 feet and 2392.5 feet elevation). However, NorthWestern Energy typically maintains the reservoir within 1.5 feet from the full operating level (*i.e.*, between 2396.5 feet and 2395.0 feet) while also maintaining a minimum discharge flow of 6,000 cubic feet per second or inflow, if less, in the Clark Fork River downstream of the project. NorthWestern proposes to maintain the reservoir within 2.5 feet from the full operating level (*i.e.*, between 2396.5 feet and 2394.0 feet) while continuing to maintain the 6,000-cfs minimum flow discharge downstream of the project and would continue to operate its upstream fish passage facility from mid-March to mid-October each year. The project has an average annual generation of 504,300 megawatt-hours.

NorthWestern Energy also proposes to revise the project boundary to more accurately follow the reservoir shoreline at the project's highest operating elevation and to enclose only those lands necessary for operation and maintenance. The boundary changes