

Intervener status upon showing good cause by stating that they have a clear and direct interest in this proceeding which would not be adequately represented by any other parties. You do not need Intervener status to have your environmental comments considered.

Environmental Mailing List

This notice is being sent to individuals, organizations, and government entities interested in and/or potentially affected by the proposed project. It is also being sent to all identified potential right-of-way grantors and residents adjacent to the proposed facilities. By this notice we are also asking governmental agencies, to express their interest in becoming cooperating agencies for the preparation of the EA.

Additional Information

Additional information about the project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at 1-866-208-FERC or on the FERC Internet Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>) using the FERRIS link. Click on the FERRIS link, enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the Docket Number field. Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance with FERRIS, the FERRIS helpline can be reached at 1-866-208-3676, TTY (202) 502-8659, or at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov. The FERRIS link on the FERC Internet Web site also provides access to the texts of the application and supplemental filings by National Fuel, and formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Application Tendered for Filing With the Commission, Soliciting Additional Study Requests, and Establishing Procedural Schedule for Licensing

March 12, 2003.

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

a. *Type of Application*: Original Minor License.

b. *Project No.*: P-12449-000.

c. *Date filed*: February 28, 2003.

d. *Applicant*: Neshkoro Power Associates, LLC

e. *Name of Project*: Big Falls Milldam Hydroelectric Project

f. *Location*: On the Little Wolf River (north branch), near the Village of Big Falls, in Waupaca County, Wisconsin. The project does not affect any Federal lands.

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

h. *Applicant Contact*: Mr. Charles Alsberg, North American Hydro, Inc., P.O. Box 167, Neshkoro, Wisconsin 54960, 920-293-4628 ext. 11.

i. *FERC Contact*: Tim Konnert, Timothy.Konnert@ferc.gov (202) 502-6359

j. *Cooperating Agencies*: We are asking Federal, state, and local agencies and Indian tribes with jurisdiction and/or special expertise with respect to environmental issues to cooperate with us in the preparation of the environmental document. Agencies who would like to request cooperating status should follow the instructions for filing comments described in item k below.

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 factual basis for 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 after the application filing and serve a copy of the request on the applicant.

l. Deadline for filing additional study requests and requests for cooperating agency status: April 28, 2003.

All documents (original and eight copies) should be filed with: Magalie R. Salas, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426.

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.

Additional study requests and requests for cooperating agency status may be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>) under the "e-Filing" link. After logging into the e-Filing system, select "Comment on Filing" from the Filing Type Selection screen and continue with the filing process.

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

n. *Project Description*: The existing Big Falls Milldam Hydroelectric Project consists of the following facilities: (1) a 256-foot-long by 18-foot-high dam, topped with a 76-foot-long fixed crest ogee with 6-inch flashboards and one 16-foot-wide Taintor gate; (2) a 23.27-acre reservoir (Big Falls Flowage) with a negligible gross storage capacity at a normal elevation of 901.65 feet Mean Sea Level; (3) a 7-foot-diameter by 175-foot-long penstock leading to; (4) a powerhouse containing one, vertical-shaft Francis turbine-generator with an installed generating capacity of 350 kilowatts (kW), producing a total of 1,513,514 kilowatt-hours (kWh) annually; and (5) appurtenant facilities.

o. A copy of the application is on file with the Commission and is available for public inspection. This filing may also be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "FERRIS" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll free at (866) 208-3676 or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659. A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in item h above.

p. With this notice, we are initiating consultation with the WISCONSIN STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER (SHPO), as required by § 106, National Historic Preservation Act, and the regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, 36 CFR 800.4.

q. *Procedural schedule*: The application will be processed according to the following Hydro Licensing Schedule. Revisions to the schedule will be made as appropriate. The Commission staff proposes to issue one environmental assessment rather than issue a draft and final EA. Comments, terms and conditions, recommendations, prescriptions, and reply comments, if any, will be addressed in an EA issued in the spring of 2004.

Issue Acceptance or Deficiency Letter—May 2003

Issue Scoping Document—June 2003
Notice that application is ready for environmental analysis—September 2003

Notice of the availability of the EA—January 2004