

consideration to all comments received, whether filed in written form or provided verbally. The Commission encourages electronic filing of comments and has expert staff available to assist you at (202) 502-8258 or [FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov). Please carefully follow these instructions so that your comments are properly recorded.

(1) You can file your comments electronically using the eComment feature on the Commission's website ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)) under the link to Documents and Filings. This is an easy

method for submitting brief, text-only comments on a project.

(2) You can file your comments electronically by using the eFiling feature on the Commission's website ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)) under the link to Documents and Filings. With eFiling, you can provide comments in a variety of formats by attaching them as a file with your submission. New eFiling users must first create an account by clicking on "eRegister." If you are filing a comment on a particular project, please select "Comment on a Filing" as the filing type.

(3) You can file a paper copy of your comments by mailing them to the following address. Be sure to reference the project docket number (CP17-458-000) with your submission: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426.

(4) In lieu of sending written or electronic comments, the Commission invites you to attend one of the public comment sessions its staff will conduct in the project area to receive comments on the draft EIS, scheduled as follows:

Date and time	Location
March 12, 2018, 4:00-8:00 pm .....	Donald W. Reynolds Community Center, 1515 W. Main Street, Durant, OK 74701, (580) 924-3486.
March 13, 2018, 4:00-8:00 pm .....	Ardmore Convention Center, 2401 N. Rockford Road, Ardmore, OK 73401, (580) 226-2862.
March 14, 2018, 4:00-8:00 pm .....	Elmore City Community Center, 104 S. Main Street, Elmore City, OK 73433, (580) 788-2345.
March 15, 2018, 4:00-8:00 pm .....	Redlands Community College, 1300 S. Country Club Road, El Reno, OK 73036, (405) 262-2552.

There will not be a formal presentation by Commission staff at any of the public comment sessions, although a format outline handout will be made available. Each comment sessions is scheduled from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (central time zone). If you wish to speak, the Commission staff will hand out numbers in the order of your arrival; distribution of numbers will be discontinued at 7:00 p.m. However, if no additional numbers have been handed out and all individuals who wish to provide comments have had an opportunity to do so, staff may conclude the session at 7:00 p.m.

The primary goal of the public comment sessions is to have you identify the specific environmental issues and concerns with the draft EIS. Individual verbal comments will be recorded on a one-on-one basis with a Court Reporter (with FERC staff or representative present) and become part of the public record for this proceeding. If a significant number of people are interested in providing verbal comments in the one-on-one settings, a time limit of 5 minutes may be implemented for each commentator. Transcripts of all comments from the sessions will be placed into the docket for the project, which are accessible for public viewing on the FERC's website (at [www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)) through our eLibrary system. This format is designed to receive the maximum amount of verbal comments, in a convenient way during the timeframe allotted.

Commission staff will be available at each venue of the public sessions to

answer questions about our environmental review process. It is important to note that written comments mailed to the Commission and those submitted electronically are reviewed by staff with the same scrutiny and consideration as the verbal comments given at the public sessions.

Any person seeking to become a party to the proceeding must file a motion to intervene pursuant to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures (Title 18 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 385.214).<sup>1</sup> Only intervenors have the right to seek rehearing of the Commission's decision. The Commission grants affected landowners and others with environmental concerns intervenor status upon showing good cause by stating that they have a clear and direct interest in this proceeding that no other party can adequately represent. Simply filing environmental comments will not give you intervenor status, but you do not need intervenor status to have your comments considered.

**Questions**

Additional information about the project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at (866) 208-FERC, or on the FERC website ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)) using the eLibrary link. Click on the eLibrary link, click on "General Search," and enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the Docket Number field (*i.e.*, CP17-458). Be sure you have selected

<sup>1</sup> See the previous discussion on the methods for filing comments.

an appropriate date range. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at [FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll free at (866) 208-3676; for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659. The eLibrary link also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

In addition, the Commission offers a free service called eSubscription that allows you to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets. This can reduce the amount of time you spend researching proceedings by automatically providing you with notification of these filings, document summaries, and direct links to the documents. Go to [www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp](http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp).

Dated: February 9, 2018.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2018-03203 Filed 2-15-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

**Notice of Commission Staff Attendance**

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) hereby gives notice that members of the Commission's staff may attend the following meetings related to the transmission planning activities of

Tucson Electric Power Company, UNS Electric, Inc., Public Service Company of New Mexico, Arizona Public Service Company, El Paso Electric Company, Black Hills Power, Inc., Black Hills Colorado Electric Utility Company, LP, Cheyenne Light, Fuel, & Power Company, NV Energy, Inc.; and Xcel Energy Services, Inc. on behalf of Public Service Company of Colorado:

WestConnect Stakeholder Meeting  
February 14, 2018, 12:30 p.m.–4 p.m. (MST)

Planning Management Committee Meeting  
April 11, 2018, 9 a.m.–3 p.m. (MST)

The February 14, 2018 WestConnect Stakeholder Meeting will be held at: Pera Club, 1 E Continental Dr., Tempe, AZ 85281.

The April 11, 2018 Planning Management Committee Meeting will be held at: TSGT Offices, 1100 W 116th Ave., Westminster, CO 80234.

The above-referenced meetings will be available via web conference and teleconference.

The above-referenced meetings are open to stakeholders.

Further information may be found at <http://www.westconnect.com/>.

The discussions at the meetings described above may address matters at issue in the following proceeding: ER13–75, *Public Service Company of New Mexico; El Paso Electric Company*.

For more information contact Nicole Cramer, Office of Energy Market Regulation, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission at (202) 502–6775 or [nicole.cramer@ferc.gov](mailto:nicole.cramer@ferc.gov).

Dated: February 9, 2018.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2018–03205 Filed 2–15–18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717–01–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2727–092]

#### **Black Bear Hydro Partners, LLC; Notice of Application Accepted for Filing, Soliciting Motions To Intervene and Protests, Ready for Environmental Analysis, and Soliciting Comments, Recommendations, Terms and Conditions, and Prescriptions**

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

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

b. *Project No.:* 2727–092.

c. *Date filed:* December 30, 2015.

d. *Applicant:* Black Bear Hydro Partners, LLC (Black Bear Hydro).

e. *Name of Project:* Ellsworth Hydroelectric Project (Ellsworth Project).

f. *Location:* On the Union River in Hancock County, Maine. There are no federal or tribal lands within the project boundary.

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

h. *Applicant Contact:* Ms. Kelly Maloney, Manager of Licensing and Compliance, Brookfield Renewable Energy Group, 150 Main Street, Lewiston, ME 04240; Telephone: (207) 755–5606.

i. *FERC Contact:* Dr. Nicholas Palso, (202) 502–8854 or [nicholas.palso@ferc.gov](mailto:nicholas.palso@ferc.gov).

j. Deadline for filing motions to intervene and protests, comments, recommendations, terms and conditions, and 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 and protests, comments, recommendations, terms and conditions, and 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, please send a paper copy to: Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426. The first page of any filing should include docket number P–2727–092.

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.

l. The existing Ellsworth Project consists of two developments (Graham

Lake and Ellsworth) with a total installed capacity of 8.9 megawatts (MW). The project's average annual generation is 30,511 megawatt-hours. The power generated by the project is sold to the regional power pool administered by ISO New England, Inc.

#### **Graham Lake Development**

The existing Graham Lake Development consists of: (1) A 630-foot-long, 58-foot-high dam that includes: (i) An 80-foot-long, 58-foot-high concrete spillway section with three 20-foot-wide, 22.5-foot-high spillway gates and one 8-foot-wide sluice gate used for downstream fish passage; and (ii) a 550-foot-long, 45-foot-high earthen embankment section with a concrete and sheet pile core wall; (2) an approximately 10,000-acre impoundment (Graham Lake) with a useable storage volume of 133,150 acre-feet at a normal maximum elevation of 104.2 National Geodetic Vertical Datum 1929 (NGVD); (3) a 720-foot-long, 58-foot-high concrete gravity flood control structure and a 65-foot-diameter, 55-foot-high stone-filled sheet pile retaining structure; (4) a 71-foot-long, 36.5-foot-high concrete wing wall; and (5) appurtenant facilities.

#### **Ellsworth Development**

The existing Ellsworth Development consists of: (1) A 377-foot-long, 60-foot-high dam that includes: (i) A 102-foot-long, 60-foot-high concrete bulkhead section; and (ii) a 275-foot-long, 57-foot-high concrete overflow spillway with 1.7-foot-high flashboards; (2) an 85-foot-long, 71-foot-high concrete non-over flow wall at the west end of the bulkhead section; (3) a 26-foot-high abutment at the east end of the spillway; (4) a 90-acre impoundment (Lake Leonard) with a gross storage volume of 2,456 acre-feet at a normal maximum elevation of 66.7 feet NGVD; (5) generating facility No. 1 that includes: (i) a 15-foot-wide, 10-foot-high headgate with a 15-foot-wide, 12.5-foot-high trashrack; (ii) a 10-foot-diameter, 74-foot-long penstock; and (iii) a 26-foot-long, 28-foot-wide concrete and masonry powerhouse that is integral to the concrete non-overflow dam section and contains a single 2.5–MW turbine-generator unit; (6) generating facility No. 2 that includes: (i) an 88.4-foot-wide, 32-foot-high intake structure with two, 8-foot-wide, 15-foot-high headgates with 8-foot-wide, 14-foot-high trashracks, and one 12-foot-wide, 15-foot-high headgate with a 12-foot-wide, 14-foot-high trashrack; (ii) an 8-foot-diameter, 164-foot-long penstock, an 8-foot-diameter, 195-foot-long penstock, and a 12-foot-diameter, 225-foot-long penstock; and