

***VIA ELECTRONIC FILING***

December 29, 2015

Hon. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, NE  
Washington, D.C. 20426

**SUBJECT: Hawks Nest Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2512-069)  
Glen Ferris Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 14439-000)  
Filing of Final License Applications**

Dear Secretary Bose:

Hawks Nest Hydro, LLC (“Hawks Nest Hydro” or “Applicant”), a subsidiary of Brookfield Renewable Energy Group, owns, operates, and maintains the Hawks Nest Hydroelectric Project (Hawks Nest) (FERC Project No. 2512) and the Glen Ferris Hydroelectric Project (Glen Ferris) (FERC Project No. 14439) (collectively, the “Projects”) located in Fayette County, West Virginia. Hawks Nest is located along the New River and has a total installed capacity of 102 megawatts (“MW”). Glen Ferris is located along the Kanawha River and has a total installed capacity of 6.159 MW. Hawks Nest Hydro is pursuing new licenses from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“Commission” or “FERC”) for the continued operation and maintenance of the Projects. Presently the Hawks Nest development and the downstream Glen Ferris development are licensed by FERC as a single project (“Hawks Nest-Glen Ferris Hydroelectric Project,” FERC Project No. 2512). The current operating license was issued by FERC on December 11, 1987, and expires on December 31, 2017. Hawks Nest Hydro is applying for separate licenses for the Hawks Nest and Glen Ferris Projects.

Pursuant to 18 CFR § 5.17, Hawks Nest Hydro is hereby filing the Final License Applications (FLA) for the above-referenced Projects with the Commission. Hawks Nest Hydro is filing separate FLAs, one each for the Hawks Nest and Glen Ferris Projects (with each having a joint Exhibit E that is common to both Projects). In conjunction with the electronic filing of the FLAs, Hawks Nest Hydro is providing the Commission with the two enclosed courtesy copies of the FLAs, as well as compact disks that contain the associated Exhibit G drawings and data, which will follow in separate transmittals to the Commission.

Concurrent with this filing, Hawks Nest Hydro is making public portions of the FLAs available to resource agencies, Indian tribes, local governments, non-governmental organizations, and members of the public. Electronic copies of the applications are available on the Projects’ public relicensing website at [www.hawksnestandglenferris.com](http://www.hawksnestandglenferris.com) or via FERC’s online e-Library at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/elibrary.asp>, by searching FERC Project Nos. P-2512 (subdocket 069) and P-14439. The FLAs can also be reviewed during normal business hours at the Fayetteville Public Library located at 200 West Maple Avenue in Fayetteville, West Virginia 25840. In addition, paper copies of the applications can be reproduced at a cost of \$0.10/page, plus postage, both prepaid, by contacting the undersigned at 33 West First St. South, Fulton,

New York 13069 or at (315) 598-6130. In support of the relicensing process, Hawks Nest Hydro will publish public notice of the filing of the FLAs twice in the Charleston, West Virginia, *Charleston Gazette-Mail*.

## **APPLICATION ROAD MAP**

Each FLA consists of five volumes. The following provides a summary of the documents associated with each FLA.

### **VOLUME I OF V (PUBLIC)**

Volume I contains public information and exhibits as follows:

- Table of Contents
- Executive Summary
- Initial Statement
- Additional Information Required by 18 CFR § 5.18
- Exhibit A – Project Description
- Exhibit B – Project Operation and Resource Utilization
- Exhibit C – Construction History and Proposed Construction Schedule
- Exhibit D – Cost and Financing

### **VOLUME II OF V (PUBLIC)**

Volume II contains public information and includes Exhibit E, the Environmental Exhibit. As described above, Hawks Nest Hydro has prepared a joint Exhibit E that is identical for and common to each Projects' FLA. However, there are sections of Exhibit E and the related Exhibit E appendices that only are only relevant to either the Hawks Nest or the Glen Ferris. Exhibit E is further split into three parts as follows:

- Part 1 – Exhibit E
  - Table of Contents
  - General Description of the River Basins
  - Cumulative Effects – Geographic and Temporal Scope
  - Applicable Laws
  - Project Facilities and Operations
  - Environmental Analysis – Affected Environment and Environmental Effects (by Resource Area)
  - Economic Analysis
  - Consistency with Comprehensive Plans
  - Literature Cited
- Part 2 – Exhibit E Appendices, including Consultation Summary
- Part 3 – Final Study Reports (Public)<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The Cultural Resources Study reports were filed with the Commission on June 9, 2015 and with the Draft License Applications on August 3, 2015. Because the reports contain information regarding the specific location and nature of historic and archaeological resources which is not to be disclosed to the public, Hawks Nest Hydro requested that the Commission afford the Cultural Resources Study reports privileged treatment pursuant to 18 C.F.R § 388.112(b).

- Water Quality Study
- Fish Entrainment Study
- Aquatic Species Composition and Abundance Survey
- Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Aquatic Species Study
- Bypass Reach Aquatic Habitat Use and Instream Flow Study
- Wetland and Riparian Habitat Survey
- Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Terrestrial Species Study
- Recreation Flow Assessment
- Recreation Use and Needs Assessment

### **VOLUME III OF V (PUBLIC)**

Volume III contains public information and includes:

- Exhibit F – List of General Design Drawings, including the list of design drawings filed as Critical Energy Infrastructure Information (CEII) in accordance with 18 CFR § 388.112.
- Exhibit G – Project Maps
- Exhibit H – Ability to Operate

### **VOLUME IV OF V (PRIVILEGED)**

Volume IV contains privileged information not intended for public disclosure and includes:

- Executive Summary
- Summary Archaeological and Historic Resources Tables and Figures
- Historic Properties Management Plan

### **VOLUME V OF V (CEII)**

Volume V contains CEII materials not intended for public disclosure, and includes:

- Exhibit F – General Design Drawings and Supporting Design Report
- Exhibit H – Single-Line Diagrams of the Transmission System

### **APPLICANT'S PROPOSAL**

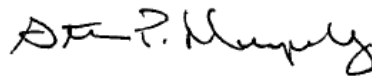
In the course of the relicensing process, Hawks Nest Hydro has worked with the Projects' stakeholders including state and federal resource agencies, Indian tribes, non-governmental organizations, and the public to identify resources to be evaluated, develop study plans, and conduct resource-specific studies. Hawks Nest Hydro has applied the results of studies and consultation with stakeholders toward the development of the FLAs, including a substantial number of proposed protection, mitigation, and enhancement (PM&E) measures.

The FLAs do not propose the development of any new hydroelectric facilities or increased generation capacity but provide for many PM&E measures related to aquatic habitat, resident fish species, terrestrial resources, historic properties, and recreation associated with the Projects. In particular, the FLAs include measures for increases in bypass flows, fish compensation payments, the protection of endangered species, continued funding of recreation facilities, funding for recreation enhancements, the development of a flow notification package for

whitewater boaters and other river users, recreational flow releases in the Hawks Nest bypass reach, and management measures for historic and archaeological resources. Hawks Nest Hydro believes that the proposed PM&E measures as described in the FLAs adequately take into consideration the important power and non-power values of the Projects.

Should you have any additional questions regarding this submittal, please contact the undersigned at (315) 598-6130 or [Steven.Murphy@brookfieldrenewable.com](mailto:Steven.Murphy@brookfieldrenewable.com).

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. P. Murphy". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

Steven Murphy  
Manager, Licensing

Enclosures

cc: Distribution List

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