

Dated: February 29, 2024.

Debbie-Anne A. Reese,
Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2466-000]

Appalachian Power Company; Notice of Authorization for Continued Project Operation

The license for the Niagara Hydroelectric Project No. 2466 was issued for a period ending February 29, 2024.

Section 15(a)(1) of the FPA, 16 U.S.C. 808(a)(1), requires the Commission, at the expiration of a license term, to issue from year-to-year an annual license to the then licensee(s) under the terms and conditions of the prior license until a new license is issued, or the project is otherwise disposed of as provided in section 15 or any other applicable section of the FPA. If the project's prior license waived the applicability of section 15 of the FPA, then, based on section 9(b) of the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. 558(c), and as set forth at 18 CFR 16.21(a), if the licensee of such project has filed an application for a subsequent license, the licensee may continue to operate the project in accordance with the terms and conditions of the license after the minor or minor part license expires, until the Commission acts on its application. If the licensee of such a project has not filed an application for a subsequent license, then it may be required, pursuant to 18 CFR 16.21(b), to continue project operations until the Commission issues someone else a license for the project or otherwise orders disposition of the project.

If the project is subject to section 15 of the FPA, notice is hereby given that an annual license for Project No. 2466 is issued to Appalachian Power Company for a period effective March 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025, or until the issuance of a new license for the project or other disposition under the FPA, whichever comes first.

If issuance of a new license (or other disposition) does not take place on or before February 28, 2025, notice is hereby given that, pursuant to 18 CFR 16.18(c), an annual license under section 15(a)(1) of the FPA is renewed automatically without further order or notice by the Commission, unless the Commission orders otherwise.

If the project is not subject to section 15 of the FPA, notice is hereby given that Appalachian Power Company is authorized to continue operation of the Niagara Hydroelectric Project under the terms and conditions of the prior license until the issuance of a subsequent license for the project or other disposition under the FPA, whichever comes first.

Dated: March 1, 2024.

Debbie-Anne A. Reese,
Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. AD10-12-015]

Increasing Market and Planning Efficiency Through Improved Software; Notice of Technical Conference: Increasing Real-Time and Day-Ahead Market and Planning Efficiency Through Improved Software

Take notice that Commission staff will convene a technical conference on July 9, 10, and 11, 2024 to discuss opportunities for increasing real-time and day-ahead market and planning efficiency through improved software. A detailed agenda with the list of presentation dates and times for the selected speakers will be published on the Commission's website¹ and in eLibrary after April 26, 2024.

This conference will bring together experts from diverse backgrounds including electric power system operators, software developers, government, research centers, and academia. The conference will bring these experts together for the purposes of stimulating discussion, sharing information, and identifying fruitful avenues for research on improving software for increased efficiency and reliability of the bulk power system.

This conference will build on discussions at prior conferences in this proceeding by focusing on topics identified as important to market efficiency in those conferences. Broadly, such topics fall into the following categories:

(1) Software for including climate change and extreme weather in short-term load forecasting and in long-term planning models, including novel methodologies for assessing capacity

¹ <https://www.ferc.gov/industries-data/electric/power-sales-and-markets/increasing-efficiency-through-improved-software>.

accreditation, energy adequacy, correlated outages, and weather-related derates and outages. Software advances to integrate probabilistic models into system planning models, whether scenario-based or stochastic, to better account for low-probability, high-impact events, such as extreme weather events.

(2) Software for improving the efficiency of the interconnection process, including improved interconnection studies, software for automating parts of the interconnection process, software for expediting power flow analyses related to interconnection, etc.

(3) Software for implementing advanced computing methods such as artificial intelligence (AI) or machine learning into existing or novel applications for improving real-time and day-ahead market and planning efficiency.

(4) Software related to grid-enhancing technologies, such as those described in Docket Nos. AD19-19² and AD19-15,³ including optimal transmission switching, dynamic transmission line ratings, power flow controls, and any software related to implementing the Commission's recent rulemaking regarding line ratings in Order No. 881.⁴

(5) Software for improving the performance of generating resources' ability and incentives to follow dispatch instructions and for eliminating unnecessary make-whole payments, including software for ensuring that product awards reflect prevailing transmission constraints and capabilities of resources to deliver awarded products.

(6) Software for better modeling and computation of resources with distinct operating characteristics such as storage resources, multi-stage/multi-configuration resources, hybrid resources, aggregations of Distributed Energy Resources (DERs) (including DER Management Systems, or DERMS), and others. Presentations on this topic should focus on alternative formulations and solution methods for market models.

(7) Other improvements in algorithms, model formulations, or hardware advancements that may allow for improvements to the bulk power system in market efficiency and enhanced reliability.

The conference will take place in a hybrid format, with presenters and attendees allowed to participate either

² *Grid-Enhancing Technologies*, Docket No. AD19-19-000.

³ *Managing Transmission Line Ratings*, Docket No. AD19-15-000.

⁴ *Managing Transmission Line Ratings*, Order No. 881, 177 FERC ¶ 61,179 (2021).