Southeastern Power Administration

Media Kit | 2023 Edition

SEPA’s mission is to market and deliver federal hydroelectric power, at the lowest possible cost, to public bodies and cooperatives in the southeastern United States.

Southeastern Power Administration, more commonly known by the acronym SEPA, is a Power Marketing Administration (PMA) established in 1950 by the Secretary of Interior to fulfill the functions assigned to the Secretary by the Flood Control Act of 1944. In 1977, SEPA began reporting to the Department of Energy (DOE) when created. SEPA is headquartered in rural Elberton, Georgia. SEPA has the authority to market hydroelectric power and energy in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia. The hydroelectric power marketed comes from reservoir projects operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps).

SEPA markets the power and energy generated by the Federal reservoir projects at the lowest possible cost to public bodies, municipalities and electric cooperatives. Unlike other PMAs, SEPA does not own transmission lines. Therefore, SEPA contracts with neighboring utilities to provide transmission services for the delivery of Federal Power.

SEPA has many responsibilities as a PMA, including negotiating, preparing, executing, and administering contracts for the sale of electric power. SEPA prepares wholesale rates and repayment studies to recover all expense and capital improvement costs to sustain the Federal Power Program. SEPA schedules hydropower generation to meet customer peak load schedules abiding by Corps water management parameters.
SEPA Leadership

SEPA will excel in an evolving energy market by maintaining a well-trained, flexible workforce in an open, rewarding, and safe environment.

Virgil G. Hobbs III
Administrator & Chief Executive

Mr. Hobbs has led SEPA since August 2, 2020. Prior to his current role, he served as Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Administrator for the Finance & Marketing Division. He holds an electrical engineering degree from The Citadel and is a U.S. Navy veteran. For nearly 20 years, he held managerial and technical positions with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers responsible for the Savannah District hydropower program and the Hartwell multipurpose water resource project.

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SEPA is constantly evaluating and improving the execution of the Federal Hydropower Program. This includes the management of our workforce, facilities and the operating systems supporting our functions. SEPA maintains awareness of associated mission execution expenses and constantly strives to manage these costs and their impact on power rates. SEPA continues efforts to foster a positive environment to balance the work/life requirements of SEPA’s most valued assets, our employees.
Facts & Data
FY 2022

Federal Reservoirs
The image above depicts the 22 hydroelectric projects managed by the US Army Corps of Engineers, located within SEPA’s marketing area, where nearly 3,400 megawatts of capacity and approximately 7.4 billion kilowatt hours of annual energy are generated.

Marketing Area
SEPA serves more than 12 million consumers across the 11 states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia.

Customers
Electric Cooperatives…………………….191
Public Bodies…………………………….280
Investor-Owned Utilities………………….1
Total……………………………………..472

Financial Data
Power & Other Operating Revenues…. $325M
Total Capital Investment………………… $3.0B
Investment Remaining…………………. $1.6B
Cumulative Investment Repaid……….. $1.3B
Cumulative Investment Interest Repaid… $2.6B