ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Public Hearing: Election Response to COVID–19 Administering Elections During the Coronavirus Crisis

AGENCY: U.S. Election Assistance Commission.

ACTION: Sunshine Act Notice; Notice of Public Hearing Agenda.

DATES: Wednesday, April 22, 2020 1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m. Eastern.

ADDRESSES: Virtual via Zoom. The hearing is open to the public and will be available through Zoom. Call-in information will be available at https://www.eac.gov and a recording will be available on the EAC website at a later date.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose: In accordance with the Government in the Sunshine Act (Sunshine Act), Public Law 94–409, as amended (5 U.S.C. 552b), the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) will conduct a virtual hearing to discuss issues facing state and local election officials regarding elections and the COVID–19 pandemic, including considerations regarding the expansion of voting by mail and absentee voting.

Agenda: The U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) will host a virtual hearing to discuss the administration of federal elections during the COVID–19 pandemic. During this hearing, EAC Commissioners will hear panelists present on major considerations for expanding vote by mail options for the remaining primaries and the general election and considerations for in-person voting. Panelists will include state and local election officials, and other representatives from the elections administration field. Other considerations such as accessibility for voters with disabilities and ensuring secure elections will also be discussed.

The full agenda will be posted in advance on the EAC website: https://www.eac.gov.

Status: This hearing will be open to the public.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kristen Muthig, Telephone: (202) 897–9285, Email: kmuthig@eac.gov.

Amanda Joiner, Associate Counsel, U.S. Election Assistance Commission.

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BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Application To Rescind Presidential Permit; Application for Presidential Permit; Champlain Hudson Power Express, Inc. and CHPE, LLC

AGENCY: Office of Electricity, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of application.

SUMMARY: Champlain Hudson Power Express, Inc. (CHPEI) and CHPE, LLC (together, the Applicants) have filed a joint application to voluntarily transfer ownership of the facilities owned by CHPEI and authorized for cross-border electric power transmission by Presidential Permit No. PP–362, to CHPE, LLC. The application requests that the Department of Energy (DOE) rescind the Presidential permit held by CHPEI and simultaneously issue a permit to CHPE. LLC covering the same international transmission facilities.

DATES: Comments, protests, or motions to intervene must be submitted on or before May 18, 2020.

ADDRESSES: Comments or motions to intervene should be addressed to Christopher Lawrence, Christopher.Lawrence@hq.doe.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christopher Lawrence (Program Office) at 202–586–5260 or by email to Christopher.Lawrence@hq.doe.gov; or Christopher Drake (Attorney-Adviser) at 202–586–2919 or by email to Christopher.Drake@hq.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The construction, operation, maintenance, and connection of facilities at the international border of the United States for the transmission of electric energy between the United States and a foreign country is prohibited in the absence of a Presidential permit issued pursuant to Executive Order (E.O.) 10485, as amended by E.O. 12372.

On April 6, 2020, the Applicants filed an application with the Office of...
Electricity of the Department of Energy (DOE), as required by regulations at 10 CFR 205.320 et seq., requesting DOE to amend or, in the alternative, rescind and reissue Presidential Permit No. PP–362 to enable the transfer of the permit from CHPEI to its affiliate CHPE, LLC.

On October 6, 2014, DOE issued Presidential Permit No. PP–362, authorizing CHPEI to construct, operate, and maintain the Champlain Hudson Power Express Project (Project). As described in PP–362, the Project is a 1,000 Megawatt (MW), high-voltage direct current (HVDC), underground and underwater merchant transmission system that will cross the United States-Canada international border underwater near the Town of Champlain, New York, extend approximately 336 miles south through New York State, and interconnect to facilities located in Queens County, New York owned by the Consolidated Edison Company of New York. The aquatic segments of the transmission line will primarily be submerged in Lake Champlain and the Hudson, Harlem, and East rivers. The terrestrial portions of the transmission line will primarily be buried in existing road and railroad rights-of-way (ROW).

Since the issuance of PP–362 in 2014, the upstream owners of CHPEI have created a new affiliated entity, CHPE, LLC, that will—subject to regulatory approvals—construct, operate, and maintain the Project. The Project’s upstream owners intend that the assets of CHPEI will be transferred to CHPE, LLC.

Procedural Matters: Any person may comment on this application by filing such comment at the address provided above. Any person seeking to become a party to this proceeding must file a motion to intervene before taking final action on a Presidential permit application.

This application may be reviewed or downloaded electronically at http://energy.gov/oe/services/electricity-policy-coordination-and-implementation/international-electricity-regulation-2. Upon reaching the home page, select “Pending Applications.”

Signed in Washington, DC, on April 10, 2020.

Christopher Lawrence, Management and Program Analyst, Transmission Permitting and Technical Assistance, Office of Electricity.

[FR Doc. 2020–07971 Filed 4–15–20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RD20–3–000]

Commission Information Collection Activities FERC–725N(1) Comment Request; Extension

AGENCY: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of information collection and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) is soliciting public comment on the proposed information collection FERC–725N(1) (Mandatory Reliability TPL

1 This temporary (placeholder) information collection number is being used for Docket No. RD20–3–000 because FERC–725N is currently pending review at OMB on an unrelated matter. Only one item per OMB Control No. can be pending review at OMB at the same time.

Standards; TPL–007–4, (Transmission System Planned Performance for Geomagnetic Disturbance Events)).


ADDRESSES: You may submit comments (identified by Docket No. RD20–3–000) by either of the following methods:
- Mail/Hand Delivery/Courier: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Secretary of the Commission, at Health and Human Services, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

Instructions: All submissions must be formatted and filed in accordance with submission guidelines at http://www.ferc.gov/help/submission-guide.asp. For user assistance, contact FERC Online Support by email at ferconline@ferc.gov, or by phone at: (866) 208–3676 (toll-free).

Docket: Users interested in receiving automatic notification of activity in this docket or in viewing/downloading comments and issuances in this docket may do so at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/docs-filing.asp.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ellen Brown may be reached by email at DataClearance@FERC.gov, telephone at (202) 502–8663.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:


OMB Control No.: 1902–TBD.

Type of Request: Approval of FERC–725N(1) which is a temporary placeholder for FERC–725N which is currently at OMB for an unrelated activity. There are no changes to the current reporting and recordkeeping requirements to FERC–725N.

Abstract: The proposed Reliability Standard TPL–007–4 requires owners and operators of the Bulk-Power System to conduct initial and on-going vulnerability assessments of the potential impact of defined geomagnetic disturbance events on Bulk-Power System equipment and the Bulk-Power System as a whole. Specifically, the Reliability Standard requires entities to develop corrective action plans for vulnerabilities identified through supplemental geomagnetic disturbance vulnerability assessments and requires entities to seek approval from the Electric Reliability Organization of any extensions of time for the completion of corrective action plans.

On August 8, 2005, Congress enacted into law the Electricity Modernization

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