

under the link to Documents and Filings. New eFiling users must first create an account by clicking on “eRegister.” You will be asked to select the type of filing you are making; first select “General” and then select “Intervention.” The eFiling feature includes a document-less intervention option; for more information, visit <https://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling/document-less-intervention.pdf>; or

(2) You can file a paper copy of your motion to intervene, along with three copies, by mailing the documents to the address below. Your motion to intervene must reference the Project docket number CP26–556–000.

To file via USPS: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426.

To file via any other courier: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

The Commission encourages electronic filing of motions to intervene (option 1 above) and has eFiling staff available to assist you at (202) 502–8258 or FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov.

Protests and motions to intervene must be served on the applicant either by mail at: Arthur Diestel, Director, Regulatory, P.O. Box 1642, Houston, Texas 77251–1642 or by email (with a link to the document) at Arthur.Diestel@enbridge.com. Any subsequent submissions by an intervenor must be served on the applicant and all other parties to the proceeding. Contact information for parties can be downloaded from the service list at the eService link on FERC Online. Service can be via email with a link to the document.

All timely, unopposed⁹ motions to intervene are automatically granted by operation of Rule 214(c)(1).¹⁰ Motions to intervene that are filed after the intervention deadline are untimely, and may be denied. Any late-filed motion to intervene must show good cause for being late and must explain why the time limitation should be waived and provide justification by reference to factors set forth in Rule 214(d) of the Commission’s Rules and Regulations.¹¹ A person obtaining party status will be placed on the service list maintained by the Secretary of the Commission and will receive copies (paper or electronic)

of all documents filed by the applicant and by all other parties.

Tracking the Proceeding

Throughout the proceeding, additional information about the project will be available from OPP at (202) 502–6595 or on the FERC website at www.ferc.gov using the “eLibrary” link as described above. The eLibrary link also provides access to the texts of all formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

In addition, the Commission offers a free service called eSubscription which 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. For more information and to register, go to www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp.

Intervention Deadline: 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on August 21, 2026

(Authority: 18 CFR 2.1)

Dated: July 31, 2026.

Debbie-Anne A. Reese,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–15883 Filed 8–4–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 9985–039]

Rivers Electric, LLC; Notice of Scoping Period Requesting Comments on Environmental Issues for the Proposed Mill Pond Hydroelectric Project

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

a. *Type of Application:* Subsequent Minor License.

b. *Project No.:* 9985–039.

c. *Date Filed:* March 31, 2025.

d. *Applicant:* Rivers Electric, LLC (Rivers Electric).

e. *Name of Project:* Mill Pond Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location:* On Catskill Creek in Greene County, New York.

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

h. *Applicant Contacts:* Allison Frechette, Regulatory Compliance Director, Relevate Power, 1795 Baseline Road, Grand Island, NY 14072, Email: Allison.Frechette@hydroval-am.com,

Phone: 800–371–9146; or Jessica Antonez, Regulatory Compliance Specialist, Relevate Power, 1795 Baseline Road, Grand Island, NY 14072, Email: Jessica.Antonez@hydroval-am.com, Phone: 800–371–9146.

i. *FERC Contact:* Andy Bernick at (202) 502–8660, or andrew.bernick@ferc.gov.

j. The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental document that will discuss the environmental effects of relicensing the Mill Pond Hydroelectric Project. The Commission will use this environmental document in its decision-making process to determine whether to issue a subsequent license for the project.

k. This notice announces the opening of the scoping process the Commission will use to gather input from the public and interested agencies regarding the project. This notice is intended to advise all participants as to the potential scope of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document and to seek additional information pertinent to this analysis. Commission staff does not intend to issue a separate scoping document.

As part of the NEPA review process, the Commission takes into account concerns the public may have about proposals and the environmental effects that could result from its action whenever it considers the issuance of a hydropower license. This gathering of public input is referred to as “scoping.” The main goal of the scoping process is to focus the analysis in the environmental document on the important environmental issues.

l. *Scoping Comments:* By this notice, the Commission requests written public comments on the scope of issues to address in the environmental document. To ensure that your comments are timely and properly recorded, please submit your comments so that the Commission receives them in Washington, DC on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on August 31, 2026.

Comments should focus on the potential environmental effects and reasonable alternatives. Your input will help the Commission staff determine what issues they need to evaluate in the environmental document. Commission staff will consider all written comments during the preparation of the environmental document.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file scoping comments using the Commission’s eFiling system at <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/FEROnline.aspx>. Commenters can submit brief comments

⁹ The applicant has 15 days from the submittal of a motion to intervene to file a written objection to the intervention.

¹⁰ 18 CFR 385.214(c)(1).

¹¹ 18 CFR 385.214(b)(3) and (d).

up to 10,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/QuickComment.aspx>. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, (866) 208-3676 (toll free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY). In lieu of electronic filing, you may submit a paper copy. Submissions sent via the U.S. Postal Service must be addressed to: Debbie Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. Submissions sent via any other carrier must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, MD 20852. All filings must clearly identify the project name and docket number on the first page: Mill Pond Hydroelectric Project (P-9985-039).

The Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure 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.

m. The application is not ready for environmental analysis at this time.

n. *Project Description:* The Mill Pond Project consists of the following existing facilities: (1) a concrete gravity dam approximately 3 to 5 feet high and 130 feet long with a crest elevation of 105 feet mean sea level (msl) topped by 3-foot-high pneumatic flashboards for a spillway crest of 108 feet msl; (2) a 20-foot natural ledge rock fall; (3) a 7.28-acre reservoir with a gross storage capacity of 82 acre-feet at normal water surface elevation of 108 feet msl; (4) an intake structure that includes a trash rack with 1.75-inch clear bar spacing; (5) a 36-inch-diameter concrete trough and conveyance chute adjacent to the intake that passes minimum flows, fish, ice, and debris downstream; (6) an approximately 10-foot-diameter, 147-foot-long steel penstock that bifurcates into two separate, equivalent diameter sections; (7) a powerhouse 30 feet wide and 32 feet long containing two generating units rated at 500 kilowatts (kW) each for a total installed capacity of 1,000 kW; (8) 2.4-kilovolt (kV) generator leads connecting the generating units to a 13.2-kV-ampere step-up transformer located in a small switchyard; (9) a 200-foot-long (mostly underground) transmission line from the step-up transformer to the point of

interconnection with the distribution system; and (10) appurtenant facilities.

Existing project recreation access consists of an approximately 250-foot-long public access trail between Route 23B/Main Street and the northern shoreline of the project impoundment, with associated signage, as required by Article 404 of the current license. Rivers Electric proposes to continue operating and maintaining the existing trail, to include vegetation maintenance (e.g., physical removal of poison ivy along the trail), repair or replacement of damaged sections of an existing safety fence (to prevent access to the project facilities and a steep embankment near the project intake), extension of the existing safety fence to the shoreline at normal full pool elevation, and monthly inspections of trail conditions to determine the need for ongoing repairs or maintenance.

Rivers Electric proposes to continue operating the project in a run-of-river mode such that outflow from the project approximates inflow to the project reservoir and to release, through the conveyance chute, a minimum flow of 20 cubic feet per second, or inflow, whichever is less, on a year-round basis as required by Article 402 of the current license.

o. A copy of the application, with details of the proposed project, can be viewed on the Commission's website at <https://www.ferc.gov> using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the project's docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document (P-9985). For assistance, contact FERC at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, (866) 208-3676 (toll free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY).

p. *NEPA Process and the Environmental Document:* Any environmental document issued by the Commission will discuss effects that could occur as a result of the project's relicensing under the relevant general resource areas, such as:

- geology and soils;
- water resources;
- fish resources;
- aquatic resources;
- terrestrial resources;
- recreation resources;
- land use resources;
- aesthetic resources;
- cultural resources;
- socioeconomics; and
- air quality.

Commission staff will also evaluate reasonable alternatives to the proposed project or portions of the project and make recommendations on how to lessen or avoid effects on the various resource areas. Your comments will

help Commission staff identify and focus on the issues that might have an effect on the human environment and potentially eliminate others from further discussion in the environmental document.

Following this scoping period, Commission staff will determine whether to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The EA or EIS will present Commission staff's independent analysis of the issues. If Commission staff prepares an EA, a *Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment* will be issued. The EA may be issued for an allotted public comment period. The Commission would consider timely comments on the EA before making its decision regarding the proposed project. If Commission staff prepares an EIS, a *Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement* will be issued. Staff will then prepare a draft EIS which will be issued for public comment. Commission staff will consider all timely comments received during the comment period on the draft EIS and revise the document, as necessary, before issuing a final EIS. Any EA or draft and final EIS will be available in electronic format in the public record through eLibrary. If eSubscribed, you will receive instant email notification when the environmental document is issued (see paragraph (r) of this notice for instructions on using eSubscription).

q. For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, contact the Office of Public Participation at (202) 502-6595 or OPP@ferc.gov.

This notice is being distributed to the Commission's official mailing list for the project and any additional entities on the applicant's distribution list. You can access the Commission's official mailing list for this project at <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/MailListLOR.aspx?Type=MailList&ListVar=P-9985>. If you want to receive future mailings for the project and are not included on the Commission's official mailing list, or if you wish to be removed from the Commission's official mailing list, please send your request by email to FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov. In lieu of an email request, you may submit a paper request. Submissions sent via the U.S. Postal Service must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. Submissions sent via any other carrier must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese,

Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, MD 20852. All written or emailed requests must specify your wish to be added to or removed from the mailing list and must clearly identify the following on the first page: Mill Pond Hydroelectric Project No. 9985–039.

Additionally, the Commission offers a free service called eSubscription, which makes it easy to stay informed of all issuances and submittals regarding the dockets/projects to which you subscribe. These instant email notifications are the fastest way to receive notification and provide a link to the document files which can reduce the amount of time you spend researching proceedings. Go to <https://www.ferc.gov/ferc-online/overview> to register for eSubscription.

In addition to publishing the full text of this notice in the **Federal Register**, the Commission provides all interested persons an opportunity to view and/or print the contents of this notice, as well as other documents in the proceeding (e.g., license application) via the internet through the Commission's Home Page (<https://www.ferc.gov>) using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document (P–9985). For assistance, contact FERC at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, (866) 208–3676 (toll free), or (202) 502–8659 (TTY).

(Authority: 18 CFR 2.1)

Dated: July 31, 2026.

Debbie-Anne A. Reese,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–15879 Filed 8–4–26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP26–19–000]

Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC; Notice of Availability of the Environmental Assessment for the Proposed NKY Gate Enhancement Project

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared an environmental assessment (EA) for the NKY Gate Enhancement Project, proposed by Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC (Columbia) in the

above-referenced docket.¹ Columbia requests authorization to construct about 30.2 miles of new natural gas pipeline, abandon 48.5 miles of existing natural gas pipeline, and construct or abandon associated auxiliary and appurtenant facilities in Kentucky and Ohio. The project purpose is to enhance the safety, integrity, and reliability of Columbia's existing natural gas transmission system by replacing vintage pipeline infrastructure originally installed in the 1950s with new, modern pipeline facilities.

Any person wishing to comment on the EA may do so. To ensure consideration of your comments on the proposal prior to making a decision on the project, it is important that the Commission receive your comments on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on August 31, 2026. Instructions for filing comments are provided on page 4.

FERC is the lead federal agency for authorizing interstate natural gas transmission facilities under the Natural Gas Act of 1938 (NGA) and the lead federal agency for preparation of the EA. The EA assesses the potential environmental effects of the NKY Gate Enhancement Project in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)² and the Commission's implementing regulations.³ The principal purposes of the EA are to: identify and assess the potential effects on the natural and human environment; describe and evaluate reasonable alternatives; identify and recommend mitigation measures; and facilitate public involvement in the environmental review process. The EA concludes that approval of the proposed project would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

The EA addresses the potential environmental effects of the construction/installation, operation, and abandonment of the following project facilities:

- installing about 24.62 miles of new 36-inch-diameter natural gas transmission pipeline in northeastern Kentucky (Line AM36), primarily paralleling Columbia's existing Line AM04 and Line AM09 pipelines,

¹ For tracking purposes under the National Environmental Policy Act, the unique identification number for documents relating to this environmental review is EAXX–019–20–000–1770220686.

² National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (Public Law [Pub. L.] 91–190, 42 U.S.C. 4321–4347, as amended by Pub. L. 94–52, July 3, 1975; Pub. L. 94–83, August 9, 1975; Pub. L. 97–258, 4(b), September 13, 1982; Pub. L. 118–5, June 3, 2023; Pub. L. 119–21, July 4, 2025).

³ 18 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 380.

crossing the Ohio River and terminating south of Interstate 275 in Ohio;

- installing about 0.10 mile of new 8-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline lateral, beginning at Line AM36 milepost (MP) 2.22, and terminating at the proposed Black River Meter Station in Bracken County, Kentucky;
- installing about 0.36 mile of new 24-inch diameter natural gas pipeline lateral, beginning at Line AM36 MP 21.50 and terminating at the proposed Cold Spring Meter Station in Campbell County, Kentucky;
- installing about 0.06 mile of new 24-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline lateral, beginning at Line AM36 MP 24.60, and terminating a customer tie-in in Hamilton County, Ohio;
- installing about 5.02 miles of new 30-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline, beginning at Columbia's existing Moorefield Site, and primarily paralleling the existing Line EKY pipeline, and terminating at the existing Carlisle Meter Station in Nicholas County, Kentucky;
- abandoning in-place and by removal a total of about 22.48 miles of existing 24-inch-diameter, interstate, natural gas transmission pipeline (Line AM04), beginning at Columbia's existing Foster Launcher Receiver in Bracken County, KY and terminating before the Ohio River crossing east of Mary Ingles Highway (KY State Highway 445);
- abandoning in-place and by removal a total of about 20.50 miles of existing 26-inch-diameter, interstate, natural gas transmission pipeline (Line AM09), beginning at Columbia's existing Foster Regulator Station in Bracken County, Kentucky and terminating at Columbia's existing Cold Spring Meter Station;
- abandoning in-place and by removal a total of about 4.99 miles of existing 14-inch-diameter, interstate, natural gas transmission pipeline;
- abandoning by removal a total of about 0.57 mile of existing 20-inch-diameter interstate, natural gas transmission pipeline;
- constructing four new meter stations (Bracken Meter Station, Gubsur Mill Meter Station, Parkview Meter Station, UL47 Meter Station);
- modifying six existing stations (Foster Regulator Station; Black River Meter Station, Pendleton Meter Station, Alexandria Meter Station, Cold Spring Meter Station, Carlisle Meter Station); and
- installing tap facilities, launchers/receiver sites, mainline valves, and other associated pipeline facilities.

The Commission mailed a copy of the *Notice of Availability* of the EA to