



Solutions for the Future

Nushagak Electric & Telephone Cooperative, Inc.
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December 1, 2023

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

- FILED ELECTRONICALLY -

Initial Study Report Filing for the Nuyakuk River Hydroelectric Project (P-14873)

Dear Secretary Bose:

On June 11, 2018 the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued a Preliminary Permit to the Nushagak Electric and Telephone Cooperative (Cooperative) for the proposed Nuyakuk River Hydroelectric Project (Project). On October 7, 2019, the Cooperative filed its Pre-Application Document (PAD) and Notice of Intent (NOI) and formally entered into the Integrated Licensing Process (ILP). Upon the filing of the PAD, the Cooperative adhered to all scheduling milestones and FERC approved modifications associated with the ILP, had substantial consultation and collaboration with Project stakeholders (kick-off meeting, study planning meetings, numerous phone calls, etc.) and developed a Proposed Study Plan (PSP) which was filed with FERC on April 16, 2020.

As FERC is aware, the Project was put into abeyance due to a number of extenuating circumstances on June 11, 2020. These circumstances included the COVID pandemic, additional collaboration/agreement time necessary with local stakeholders, the upcoming commercial fishing season and the potential for a better overall ILP schedule.

By early 2022, conditions were appropriate, and the necessary collaborative dialogue had been had to lift the abeyance with the Cooperative filing a revised/updated PSP to formally re-initiate the licensing process. Since that time, a collaboratively developed Revised Study Plan (RSP) has been developed and filed (8/1/2022), all necessary study preparations and permit acquisitions have taken place, and the bulk of 2023 was utilized to implement the 1st of two comprehensive natural resource study seasons. By all accounts (safety, consistency with methods and a robust dataset), the 2023 study season was a successful first year for the study program and will assist greatly in assessing the feasibility of the proposed Nuyakuk River Hydroelectric Project.

With this as context, we hereby file the Initial Study Report (ISR) with FERC. We would also like to note that our study report meetings are planned for December 5, 2023. Two analogous meetings will take place; one from 1pm to 4pm and another from 6pm to 9pm (both AK time).

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Both meetings will be held in the Nushagak Cooperative's Board Room in Dillingham, Alaska. As has been conveyed to the entire contact list for the Project via email, the Cooperative's website, Facebook, local media outlets and direct communications with parties, there are both in-person and virtual mechanisms for participating in the meetings.

We continue to appreciate all of the genuine collaboration and interest in the potential Project. We look forward to the upcoming study report meetings, sharing the results from the first study year and continuing to answer any questions and genuinely collaborate with all interested parties. Please feel free to contact me (907.842.5251 or wchaney@nushagak.coop) with any questions regarding this filing.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Will Chaney", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Will Chaney
Electric Operations Manager/CEO
Nushagak Cooperative



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Please note: due to file size limitations on the Cooperative's website, the Initial Study Report can be downloaded from FERC here:

https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/filelist?accession_num=20231201-5201