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November 17, 2021

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20426

**Subject: Byllesby-Buck Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2514-186)  
Filing of Updated Study Report and Schedule for Virtual USR Meeting**

Dear Secretary Bose:

Appalachian Power Company (Appalachian or Licensee), a unit of American Electric Power (AEP), is the Licensee, owner, and operator of the two-development Byllesby-Buck Hydroelectric Project (Project) (Project No. 2514), located on the upper New River in Carroll County, Virginia.

The Project is currently licensed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission). The Project underwent relicensing in the early 1990s, and the current operating license for the Project expires on February 29, 2024. Accordingly, Appalachian is pursuing a subsequent license for the Project pursuant to the Commission's Integrated Licensing Process (ILP), as described at 18 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 5.

By way of background, Appalachian developed a Revised Study Plan (RSP) for the Project that was filed with the Commission and made available to stakeholders on October 18, 2019. On November 18, 2019 FERC issued the Study Plan Determination (SPD). On December 18, 2019, Appalachian filed a request for rehearing of the SPD. The SPD was subsequently modified by FERC by an Order on Rehearing dated February 20, 2020. On July 27, 2020, Appalachian filed an updated ILP study schedule and a request for extension of time to file the Initial Study Report (ISR) to account for Project delays resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. These delays pushed the start of the 2020 field season into early August 2020 and resulted in some of the spring and summer 2020 field work being rescheduled for 2021. The request was approved by FERC on August 10, 2020, and the filing deadline for the ISR for the Project was extended from November 17, 2020 to January 18, 2021. The ISR was filed on January 18, 2021 and the ISR meeting was held on January 28, 2021. No modifications to the study plan were required by FERC following the ISR meeting and subsequent comments.


Appalachian has conducted studies in accordance with 18 CFR §5.15, as provided in the RSP and as subsequently modified by FERC's SPD. In accordance with 18 CFR §5.15, Appalachian is hereby filing the Updated Study Report (USR) with the Commission. The USR describes the Licensee's overall progress in implementing the study plan and schedule, summarizes available data, and describes any variances from the study plan and schedule approved by the Commission.

The Commission's regulations at 18 CFR §5.15(c) require Appalachian to hold a meeting with participants and FERC staff within 15 days of filing the ISR. **Accordingly, Appalachian will hold a USR Meeting via Webex from 9 AM to approximately 4 PM on Wednesday, December 1, 2021.** An agenda for the USR Meeting is provided in Attachment 1. Participants are free to join the meeting in part based on interests or availability, but please note that the agenda is intended as an approximation and more or less time may be spent on individual studies, as needed.

**Appalachian respectfully requests that the stakeholders interested in participating in the Virtual USR Meeting contact Maggie Salazar at [maggie.salazar@hdrinc.com](mailto:maggie.salazar@hdrinc.com) on or before close of business Monday, November 29, 2021 to obtain instructions for joining the virtual meeting.**

If there are any questions regarding this progress report, please do not hesitate to contact me at (540) 985-2441 or via email at [ebparcell@aep.com](mailto:ebparcell@aep.com).

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Parcell  
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cc: Distribution List  
Jonathan Magalski (AEP)

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