

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20426
May 5, 2020

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

Project No. 2336-094 – Georgia
Lloyd Shoals Hydroelectric Project
Georgia Power Company

VIA FERC Service

Courtenay O'Mara, P.E.
Hydro Licensing and Compliance Supervisor
Southern Company Generation
241 Ralph McGill Boulevard, NE, BIN 10193
Atlanta, GA 30308

Subject: Revised Process Plan and Schedule for the Lloyd Shoals Hydroelectric Project

To All Interested Parties:

On December 20, 2018, the Commission issued a process plan and schedule under the Integrated Licensing Process (ILP) for Georgia Power Company's (Georgia Power) Lloyd Shoals Hydroelectric Project No. 2336 (Lloyd Shoals Project). The process plan and schedule set pre-filing milestones and deadlines for, among other things, filing study reports, requesting modifications to the approved study plan, filing a preliminary licensing proposal (or draft license application), and filing the final license application.

On April 19, 2019, Georgia Power filed a Revised Study Plan (RSP) that included eight proposed studies in support of its intent to relicense the project. On May 20, 2019, the Commission issued a study plan determination for the project approving Georgia Power's RSP with staff-recommended modifications.

On April 30, 2020, Georgia Power filed a letter requesting that the Commission modify the project process plan and schedule to account for the effects of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and high inflow conditions on the first study season. Specifically, Georgia Power requests that the Commission revise the process plan and schedule to allow Georgia Power to conduct the Initial Study Report (ISR) meeting on July 29, 2020, instead of June 3, 2020, and extend the remainder of the first study season by about two months. The process plan and schedule for the second study season would remain unchanged. Georgia Power states that without this revision, they will be unable to

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present complete results of the American eel abundance and upstream movements study, delayed by both weather and COVID-19 restrictions, prior to the scheduled ISR meeting.

Georgia Power also states that the revision will potentially allow more stakeholders to participate in the ISR meeting if relaxation of COVID-19 restrictions allows an in-person meeting by July 29, 2020. Regardless, Georgia Power is making provisions for a virtual meeting on that date should an in-person meeting not be possible.

To allow Georgia Power to provide more study results and enable greater stakeholder participation at the ISR meeting while still completing two seasons of studies before its final license application is due in December 2021, we are issuing the attached revised process plan and schedule for the Lloyd Shoals Project.

If you have any questions, please contact Navreet Deo at (202) 502-6304 or navreet.deo@ferc.gov.

Sincerely,

Vince Yearick
Director
Division of Hydropower Licensing

Attachment: Revised Process Plan and Schedule

REVISED PROCESS PLAN AND SCHEDULE

The process plan and schedule do not include all milestones that will be needed to process the license application. Shaded milestones are unnecessary if there are no study disputes. If a due date falls on a weekend or holiday, the due date is the following business day. Early filings or issuances will not result in changes to these deadlines.

Responsible Party	Pre-Filing Milestone	Date	FERC Regulation
FERC	Director's Study Plan Determination	5/20/19	5.13(c)
Mandatory Conditioning Agencies	Any Study Disputes Due	6/10/19	5.14(a)
Dispute Panel	Third Dispute Panel Member Selected	6/25/19	5.14(d)
Dispute Panel	Dispute Resolution Panel Convenes	6/30/19	5.14(d)(3)
Georgia Power	Applicant Comments on Study Disputes Due	7/5/19	5.14(j)
Dispute Panel	Dispute Resolution Panel Technical Conference	7/10/19	5.14(j)
Dispute Panel	Dispute Resolution Panel Findings Issued	7/30/19	5.14(k)
FERC	Director's Study Dispute Determination	8/19/19	5.14(l)
Georgia Power	First Study Season	2019-2020	5.15(a)
Georgia Power	Initial Study Report	5/19/20	5.15(c)(1)
All stakeholders	Initial Study Report Meeting	7/29/20	5.15(c)(2)
Georgia Power	Initial Study Report Meeting Summary	8/13/20	5.15(c)(3)
All stakeholders	Any Disputes/Requests to Amend Study Plan Due	9/14/20	5.15(c)(4)
All stakeholders	Responses to Disputes/Amendment Requests Due	10/14/20	5.15(c)(5)
FERC	Director's Determination on Disputes/Amendments	11/13/20	5.15(c)(6)
Georgia Power	Second Study Season	2020-2021	5.15(a)
Georgia Power	Updated Study Report due	5/19/21	5.15(f)
All stakeholders	Updated Study Report Meeting	6/3/21	5.15(f)

Responsible Party	Pre-Filing Milestone	Date	FERC Regulation
Georgia Power	Updated Study Report Meeting Summary	6/18/21	5.15(f)
All stakeholders	Any Disputes/Requests to Amend Study Plan Due	7/18/21	5.15(f)
All stakeholders	Responses to Disputes/Amendment Requests Due	8/17/21	5.15(f)
FERC	Director's Determination on Disputes/Amendments	9/16/21	5.15(f)
Georgia Power	File Preliminary Licensing Proposal	8/3/21	5.16(a)
All stakeholders	Preliminary Licensing Proposal Comments Due	11/1/21	5.16(e)
Georgia Power	File Final License Application	12/31/21	5.17
Georgia Power	Issue Public Notice of License Application Filing	1/14/22	5.17(d)(2)

Document Content(s)

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April 30, 2020

Lloyd Shoals Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2336-094)
Request for Adjustment to ILP Licensing Schedule because of COVID-19

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, N.E.
Room 1-A- Dockets Room
Washington, D.C. 20426

Dear Secretary Bose:

On behalf of Georgia Power Company (Georgia Power), Southern Company is filing this letter with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to request a change to the Lloyd Shoals Hydroelectric Project ILP relicensing study review schedule. Georgia Power is currently completing field work for its relicensing studies and is due to file a Study Report by May 19, 2020, with a Study Results Meeting scheduled to occur on June 3, 2020. However, through this letter we would like to formally request to delay the Study Results Meeting to July 29, 2020, when we are hopeful of being able to conduct a meeting in-person with our stakeholders.

The draft schedule on the following page outlines the expected shifts caused by this proposed schedule change. Even with the shifted schedule, we would have all new study requests and necessary approvals from FERC resolved before the second season begins, if that is determined to be required. During this delay we are also hoping to conduct additional American eel monitoring events to make up for some components of sampling events that have been missed due to both COVID-19 and high inflows earlier in the study season. Georgia Power has been in consultation with National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on ways to adapt our American eel sampling efforts considering the field challenges we have encountered. Georgia Power believes a slight delay in the scheduled Study Results Meeting, paired with the additional sampling, will help to further the study results discussion during the July 29, 2020 meeting.

Further, it is anticipated that Georgia Power could host a Skype meeting on July 29, 2020 if we are still mandated to small gatherings due to COVID-19. Thank you for considering our request and please contact me at 404.506.7219 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Courtenay R. O'Mara".

Courtenay R. O'Mara, P.E.
Hydro Licensing and Compliance Supervisor

cc: FERC/OEP – Neetu Deo, Allan Creamer
Kleinschmidt – Steven Layman, Ph.D.
Troutman Sanders – Hallie Meushaw

DRAFT

Lloyd Shoals Project ILP Relicensing Potential Schedule Shifts (P-2336-094)

First Season Studies		May 2019 – April 2020	New Date	Original Date
Study Report filed	Georgia Power	To be filed no later than 1 year after FERC approval of Study Plan 18 CFR § 5.15	19-May-20	19-May-20
Study Results Meeting	Georgia Power	Within 15 days of Study Reports 18 CFR § 5.15	29-Jul-20	3-Jun-20
File Study Results Meeting Summary	Georgia Power	Within 15 days of Study Results Meeting 18 CFR § 5.15	13-Aug-20	18-Jun-20
File Study Results Meeting Summary Disagreements and/or Modified or New Study Requests	Stakeholders	Within 30 days of Study Results Meeting Summary filing 18 CFR § 5.15	14-Sep-20	20-Jul-20
File Response to Study Results Meeting Summary Disagreements and/or Modified or New Study Requests	Georgia Power	Within 30 days of stakeholder deadline for Study Results Meeting Summary Disagreements and/or Modified or New Study Requests 18 CFR § 5.15	14-Oct-20	19-Aug-20
FERC resolves disagreements (and modifies Study Plan if necessary)	FERC	Within 30 days of filing response to Study Results Meeting Summary Disagreements and/or Modified or New Study Requests 18 CFR § 5.15	13-Nov-20	18-Sep-20
Second Season Studies (If necessary)		May 2020 – April 2021		