
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NEWS RELEASE

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GUIDELINES TO ENHANCE HISTORIC PRESERVATION AT HYDRO PROJECTS

Pat Wood III, Chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and John L. Nau III, Chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, today signed guidelines to help hydroelectric project owners better prepare Historic Properties Management Plans (HPMP).

HPMP manage the effects of properties listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places, the National Park Service's official list of properties recognized for their significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture. These historic properties can include dams, powerhouses, prehistoric and historic archeological sites and properties of traditional religious and cultural significance to Native Americans.

Today's action is part of an ongoing effort to streamline the FERC licensing and certification processes and the National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 process, and to minimize associated time and costs.

The guidelines will:

- Help licensees prepare comprehensive HPMP to protect historic properties;
- Assist with integrating the HPMP with other management plans (e.g. recreation plans, wildlife management plans, operating plans);
- Reduce administrative burden; and

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- Assist the Commission in fulfilling its obligations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act in a timely fashion.

Prior to the establishment of the guidelines, plans were submitted on a case-by-case basis which created delays in processing time as well as additional expense.

The guidelines will be available on the Commission's website—www.ferc.gov.

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