March 26, 2025

Mr. Charles Ezell Acting Director Office of Personnel Management 1900 E Street NW Washington, DC 20415-0001

Re: Review of Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Agency Actions

March 10, 2025, through March 21, 2025

Dear Acting Director Ezell:

The Office of Personnel Management sent a continuing request to the employees of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or the Commission) for information regarding the work they have completed. As I did in prior letters, I am hereby responding to that request, on behalf of the Commission, highlighting selected important actions covering the period noted above.

The Commission is authorized by statute to ensure the cost-effective and reliable transmission and wholesale sale of electricity and natural gas in interstate commerce, as well as the transportation of oil by pipeline in interstate commerce. FERC also reviews proposals to build interstate natural gas pipelines, natural gas storage projects, and liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminals, and licenses non-federal hydropower projects. Congress assigned these responsibilities to FERC in various laws, including the Federal Power Act (FPA), originally enacted over 100 years ago; the Natural Gas Act (NGA); and the Interstate Commerce Act (ICA). In addition, as part of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, Congress gave FERC additional responsibilities to protect the reliability and cybersecurity of the Bulk-Power System through the establishment and enforcement of mandatory reliability standards, as well as additional enforcement authority. FERC's staff is dedicated to ensuring the Commission meets these statutory obligations. With that in mind, the Commission has accomplished the following important work from March 10, 2025, through March 21, 2025.



Issued the following Orders under Sections 3 and 7 of NGA to ensure that infrastructure needed to ensure plentiful supplies of natural gas at reasonable prices is in place:

- 1. Authorized Corpus Christi Liquefaction LLC and CCL Midscale 8-9 LLC to construct and operate two midscale liquefaction trains capable of liquefying up to 170 Bcf/y of domestically produced natural gas for export.
- 2. Granted Mississippi Hub, LLC authorization to construct and operate two new high withdrawal storage caverns, and increase the capacity of two existing caverns, together adding approximately 33.88 Bcf of gas storage capacity.
- 3. Authorized Florida Gas Transmission Company, LLC to construct and operate a new compressor station in Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana, and a new delivery point in Orange County, Texas. This will provide up to 150,000 dekatherms per day of firm natural gas transportation service to an Entergy Texas, Inc. Power Station.
- 4. Authorized Colorado Gas Company, L.L.C. to construct and modify facilities at its Totem storage field in Adams County, Colorado, increasing the withdrawal rate of the field by approximately 50 million cubic feet per day and base gas capacity by one billion cubic feet.

Defended in Federal Courts FERC Orders acting on pipeline and LNG proposals under the NGA, including:

- 1. <u>City of Port Isabel, et al. v. FERC</u> (D.C. Cir. No. 23-1174, et al.; FERC No. CP16-454, et al.) Secured from the D.C. Circuit, following briefs in support of court rehearing, a revised court opinion that allows project authorizations to remain in place pending further agency proceedings which allows construction to continue.
- 2. <u>Antero Resources Corp. v. FERC</u> (D.C. Cir. No. 24-1076; FERC No. RP21-552) Presented oral argument to the D.C. Circuit defending Order approving pipeline company's proposed assignment of costs of expansion project.

Issued twenty-two (22) notices to proceed with construction and work approvals of natural gas infrastructure, including but not limited to:

1. Authorized Corpus Christi Liquefaction, LLC to energize the Train 3 Substations associated with its Stage III Project in Texas.



- 2. Authorized Golden Pass LNG Terminal LLC to commission essential diesel generators, diesel storage, and diesel distribution systems and to commission the flare, the fuel gas, inlet facility, and metering systems for the Golden Pass LNG Export Project in Texas.
- 3. Authorized Port Arthur LNG, LLC to commence construction activities of the spill containment trench located in its Port Arthur LNG project in Texas.
- 4. Granted Spire Storage West, LLC's request to place into service certain facilities associated with the Clear Creek Expansion Project in Wyoming.
- 5. Authorized Elba Liquefaction Company, L.L.C. to introduce hydrocarbons into the Elba Liquefaction Optimization Project in Georgia.
- 6. Issued an Environmental Assessment for the Texas Connector Amendment Project located in Jefferson and Orange Counties, Texas.

Issued one hundred and sixty-four (164) Orders under the Federal Power Act including:

- 1. Matters concerning electric utility rates, terms, and conditions under Sections 205 and 206 of the Federal Power Act including but not limited to:
 - a. Affirmed, subject to condition, the operation of the Southeast Energy Exchange Market, a platform designed to enhance competition and maximize the use of transmission for the benefit consumers in 10 states in the Southeast region.
 - b. Accepted, subject to condition, the expansion of Southwest Power Pool's Regional Transmission Organization into the Western Interconnection, which will enhance reliability and energy market efficiency.
 - c. Accepted, in part, four electric utilities' proposals to implement more efficient processes to accelerate the interconnection of new generation resources to the grid.
 - d. Accepted Southwest Power Pool's proposal to enhance collateral requirements to better protect customers from the risk of market participant defaults.



- 2. Corporate matters under sections 203 and 204 of the Federal Power Act, including:
 - a. Authorized transactions that permit investments in approximately 350 MW of generating facilities, while ensuring the transactions are consistent with the public interest.
 - b. Authorized electric utilities to issue nearly \$3 billion in short-term borrowing to fund the operations and investment in needed infrastructure.

Defended in Federal Courts FERC Orders under the Federal Power Act including:

Michigan Electric Transmission Co. v. FERC (D.C. Cir. No. 24-1039; FERC No. ER23-2443) – Presented oral argument to the D.C. Circuit defending Order concerning ownership of new electric transmission facilities needed to accommodate the interconnection of a new generating facility.

Held a Joint Workshop with the North American Electric Reliability Corporation on Supply Chain Risk Management:

As part of the Commission's statutory responsibility for addressing cybersecurity risks under section 215 of the Federal Power Act, Commission staff held a joint workshop with the North American Electric Reliability Corporation on March 20, 2025, focused on supply chain risk management.

Issued Annual State of the Markets Report:

On Thursday, March 20, 2025, Commission staff issued its annual State of the Markets report to provide the industry and public with key information on market conditions and emerging issues in natural gas and electricity markets, as well as significant market trends and fundamentals for the year.

Took actions to promote public participation in Commission Proceedings:

Launched a <u>webpage</u> listing priority natural gas and hydropower infrastructure projects that provides a comprehensive informational toolbox with background on each project, listings of open houses and scoping meetings, and step-by-step guides for submitting public comment on the record and engaging at the Commission.



We appreciate the opportunity to provide you with an overview of the diligent work the Commission does on behalf of the American people to ensure abundant, safe, reliable, and affordable energy for all consumers.

Sincerely,

Mark C. Christie

Chairman

Cc: The Honorable Chris Wright, Secretary Department of Energy

The Honorable Doug Burgum, Secretary Department of Interior

The Honorable Russell Vought, Director Office of Management and Budget

The Honorable Dr. Stuart Levenbach, Associate Director Office of Management and Budget

Mr. Peter Lake National Energy Dominance Council Department of the Interior