



FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Chairman Mark C. Christie

April 22, 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
April 7, 2025, through April 18, 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 from 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 Congress assigned these responsibilities to FERC in various laws, including the Federal Power Act (FPA), originally enacted over 100 years ago; the Natural Gas Act (NGA); and the Interstate Commerce Act (ICA).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 April 7, 2025, through April 18, 2025.



Issued the following Orders under Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act to ensure that infrastructure needed to ensure plentiful supplies of natural gas at reasonable prices is in place:

- (1) Authorized Texas Gas Transmission, LLC to replace compression at its Eunice Compressor Station to increase system reliability and create 120,000 MMcf per day of new capacity and abandon the capacity by lease to Gulf South Pipeline, LLC, which will integrate the capacity into its existing system to provide additional transportation service.
- (2) Authorized Cimarron River Pipeline, LLC to abandon by sale to DCP Operating Company, L.P. interstate pipeline facilities and granted DCP's Petition for a Declaratory Order finding the acquired facilities, when incorporated into DCP's existing gathering system, will be gathering facilities not subject to FERC's jurisdiction under the NGA.

Defended in Federal Courts FERC Orders under the Natural Gas Act issuing pipeline certificates and LNG authorizations, including:

- (1) Sierra Club, et al. v. FERC (D.C. Cir. No. 24-1199; FERC No. CP23-29) – Presented oral argument to the D.C. Circuit defending Order authorizing construction and operation of a natural gas pipeline and related facilities for the export of natural gas at the International Boundary between the United States and Mexico.
- (2) FERC v. New Jersey Conservation Foundation, et al. (S. Ct. No. 24A978; FERC No. CP21-94) – Coordinated with U.S. Department of Justice, including preparing memorandum in support of seeking *certiorari*, regarding petition for U.S. Supreme Court review of U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit decision overturning Commission Orders authorizing construction and operation of natural gas pipeline expansion project in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Issued necessary assessments for natural gas infrastructure under the Natural Gas Act, including but not limited to:

Issued an Environmental Assessment for Black Bayou Gas Storage, LLC's proposed storage project in Cameron Parish, Louisiana, consisting of four underground natural gas storage caverns and other facilities having a working capacity of about 34.7 billion cubic feet (Bcf) and providing for peak daily injection capability of up to 1.6 Bcf/day and peak daily deliverability of 2.0 Bcf/d day in Cameron Parish, Louisiana.



Issued twenty-eight (28) notices to proceed with construction and work approvals of natural gas infrastructure, including but not limited to:

- (1) Authorized Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC to place into service the Centerville Compressor Station in Louisiana and commence full service of its East Lateral XPress Project.
- (2) Authorized Elba Liquefaction Company, LLC to introduce hazardous fluids into its Elba Liquefaction Optimization Project in Georgia and proceed with construction of the condensate plant.
- (3) Authorized Golden Pass LNG Terminal, LLC to commission pretreatment systems, refrigeration, and high-pressure fuel gas systems as part of its Golden Pass LNG Export Project in Texas.
- (4) Authorized Rio Grande LNG, LLC to install impoundment basin sumps, a compressor shelter, and wet and dry flares; as well as to commission the low-pressure flare systems at its Rio Grande LNG Project in Texas.
- (5) Authorized Louisiana LNG Infrastructure, LLC to construct LNG tank equipment and thermal protection, and to install Firewater Underground Piping for its Woodside Louisiana LNG Project in Louisiana.
- (6) Authorized Venture Global Plaquemines LNG, LLC to install a gas turbine generator and commission Liquefaction Block 11 at its Plaquemines LNG Project in Louisiana.
- (7) Authorized Freeport LNG Development LP to place its Noble Gas Project into service at its existing operational LNG terminal in Texas.
- (8) Authorized Port Arthur LNG, LLC to commence installation of mechanical equipment outside at its Port Arthur LNG project in Texas.

Issued Orders for hydropower projects under Part I of the Federal Power Act including but not limited to:

- (1) Addressed arguments raised on rehearing and sustained the Commission's prior Order granting a preliminary permit to York Energy Storage, LLC to study the



feasibility of constructing the York Energy Storage Waterpower Project on the Susquehanna River, in York and Lancaster Counties, Pennsylvania.

- (2) Granted Premium Energy Holdings, LLC's request for a three-year extension of a preliminary permit, to study the feasibility of constructing the Isabella Pumped Storage Project at the Isabella Reservoir in Kern County, California.
- (3) Issued a relicense to Hydro Technology Systems, Inc. for the 1.35-MW Meyers Falls Project in Stevens County, Washington.
- (4) Issued a relicense to Winooski Hydroelectric Company for the 0.856-MW Winooski 8 Hydroelectric Project in Washington County, Vermont.

Defended in Federal Courts FERC's Order under the Interstate Commerce Act, including:

Phillips 66 Co., et al. v. FERC (D.C. Cir. No. 24-1263; FERC No. IS20-108) – Filed brief in the D.C. Circuit in defense of Order concerning rates for crude oil transportation service.

Issued one hundred and thirty-three (133) 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. Accepted, in part, proposals by four electric utilities' (NYISO, Public Service Company of New Mexico, Arizona Public Service, and Cube Yadkin) to implement more efficient processes to accelerate the interconnection of new generation resources to the grid.
 - b. Accepted, in part, Sunzia Transmission, LLC's proposed tariff supporting the development of a new 550-mile high-voltage transmission line, enhancing electric reliability and affordability in the West.
 - c. Accepted Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc.'s (MISO) proposal to revise its *pro forma* Generator Interconnection Agreement to include new performance requirements for inverter-based resources, ensuring reliable interconnections to the transmission system.



(2) Corporate matters under section 203 of the Federal Power Act, including:

- a. Authorized several transactions that permitted investment to repower approximately 650 MW of generating facilities in the Southwest Power Pool footprint, while ensuring each transaction is consistent with the public interest.
- b. Granted BlackRock, Inc., BlackRock Institutional Trust Company, and their investment management subsidiaries' request to extend their authorization to invest in various electric utility companies for an additional three years.

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

Entergy Arkansas, et al. v. FERC (D.C. Cir. 22-1334; FERC No. ER22-496) – Successfully secured D.C. Circuit decision rejecting appeal of Order on request of regional electricity market to impose minimum capacity obligation outside auction mechanism, to protect ratepayers against exercise of market power.

Reviewed Bulk Power System performance during cold weather events:

Issued a joint review, with the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) and NERC's Regional Entities, of Bulk Power System performance during successive cold weather events in January 2025, finding system performance demonstrates the benefits of actions taken in response to prior winter storm reports' recommendations and the need for continued coordination between natural gas and electric systems.

Hosted NERC Presentation on Large Load Integration:

At the Commission's Open Meeting, invited NERC to present on activities and plans to address the reliability impacts on the Bulk Power System from the integration of large loads, such as data centers.

Completed an audit under the Federal Power Act:

FERC issued an Order on the results of its audit of Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. (MISO) which evaluated compliance with: (1) provisions of its Open Access Transmission, Energy, and Operating Reserve Markets Tariff, business practices, corporate bylaws, policies, and codes of conduct related to its market administration obligations; (2) provisions of selected rate schedules and agreements; and (3) relevant Commission Orders. The audit identified three areas of noncompliance and four other



areas for improvement. MISO agreed to implement the recommendations in the audit report.

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,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Mark C. Christie". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

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