



FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Chairman Mark C. Christie

July 15, 2025

Mr. Scott Kuper
Director
Office of Personnel Management
1900 E Street NW
Washington, DC 20415-0001

*Re: Review of Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Agency Actions
June 30, 2025, through July 11, 2025*

Dear Director Kuper:

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 have done regularly 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 continues to produce a record of success and accomplishment in promoting the construction of needed energy infrastructure and a reliable electricity grid.

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

1. Authorized Venture Global Plaquemines LNG, LLC at its LNG export terminal in Louisiana to: commission a Phase 2 Booster Gas Compressor with Nitrogen, Phase 2 H₂S Removal Unit, and Thermal Oxidizers A and B; and introduce hazardous fluids into a Phase 1 Heat Recovery Steam Generator, and the Phase 2 Mercury Removal Unit, Pretreatment Train A, Booster Compressor A, and Heavy Hydrocarbon Condensate Handling and Storage Unit.
2. Authorized Elba Liquefaction Company, LLC to construct the remainder of the condensate plant, including installation of hazard detection, hazard control systems, and emergency shutdown button, as part of the Elba Liquefaction Optimization Project in Georgia.



3. Authorized Golden Pass LNG Terminal, LLC to introduce hazardous fluids to ground flare no. 3 for ignition testing at its LNG export terminal in Texas.
4. Authorized Eastern Shore Natural Gas Company to conduct limited site preparation activities, and later, full site preparation activities for an LNG peak-shaving facility in Maryland.
5. Authorized Rio Grande LNG, LLC to install transformer firewalls, erect the Fire Truck Garage, Workshop, Warehouse, and Laboratory Building, and install remaining major equipment in Train 1 at its Rio Grande LNG Project in Texas.
6. Authorized Port Arthur LNG, LLC to commence installation of the Sanitary Wastewater Treatment Plant at the Port Arthur LNG facility in Texas.
7. Authorized Port Arthur LNG Phase II, LLC to modify the design of the Port Arthur Liquefaction Expansion Project in Texas.
8. Authorized Spire Storage West, LLC to place into service certain facilities associated with the Clear Creek Expansion Project in Wyoming.

Issued a Final Rule revising the Commission's regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), removing references to the Council on Environmental Quality rescinded NEPA regulations.

1. Commission staff concurrently issued a staff guidance manual outlining the Commission's revised NEPA procedures.

Defended in Federal Courts FERC Orders under the Federal Power Act concerning rates and terms of electricity service, including but not limited to:

1. Pacific Gas and Elec. Co., *et al.* v. FERC (9th Cir. No. 24-2527, *et al.*; FERC No. ER24-96) – Successfully secured from the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit a decision affirming Commission order declining to award a rate incentive to California utilities who are compelled under state law to join and remain in the California Independent System Operator (ISO).
2. Energy Harbor LLC v. FERC (D.C. Cir. No. 24-1092; FERC No. EL23-63) – Successfully secured from the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit a decision affirming Commission order on the performance obligations of electric generators in the mid-Atlantic Pennsylvania-New Jersey-Maryland (PJM) region.



3. Michigan Electric Transmission Co., LLC v. FERC (D.C. Cir. No. 24-1039; FERC No. ER23-2443) – Successfully secured from the D.C. Circuit a decision affirming Commission order on ownership of transmission facilities interconnecting with new electric generating facility.
4. Paragould Light & Water Comm’n v. FERC (D.C. Cir. No. 23-1133; FERC No. ER18-99) – Successfully secured from the D.C. Circuit a decision affirming Commission order on zonal allocation of costs associated with certain SPP transmission facilities.
5. Affirmed Energy LLC v. FERC (D.C. Cir. No. 25-1091; FERC No. ER24-2995) – Filed with the D.C. Circuit a brief in defense of Commission order accepting filing to remove wholesale market auction participants that could increase consumer costs without improving system reliability.
6. Maryland Office of People’s Counsel v. FERC (D.C. Cir. No. 24-1353; FERC No. EL24-104) – Filed with the D.C. Circuit a brief in defense of Commission order denying complaint seeking to adjust results (rates) from wholesale market auction.

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

1. Issued an Order Adopting Categorical Exclusions under the National Environmental Policy Act for two hydropower-related categorical exclusions from the United States Bureau of Reclamation to streamline the processing of some “maintenance, rehabilitation, and replacement” activities at existing facilities or “minor safety of dam construction activities” that are not expected to have a significant effect on the environment.

Issued necessary assessments for hydropower projects under the Federal Power Act, including but not limited to:

1. Issued an Environmental Assessment for non-capacity amendment for BOST4 Hydroelectric LLC’s and BOST5 Hydroelectric LLC’s proposal to replace licensed turbines at the unconstructed 28.1-MW Red River Lock and Dam No. 4 and 28.1-MW Red River Lock and Dam No. 5 in Louisiana.
2. Issued an Environmental Assessment for an exemption from licensing for the Town of Stowe Electric Department’s proposed 150-kW Smith’s Falls Hydroelectric Project in Vermont.



Defended in Federal Courts FERC Orders under the Federal Power Act concerning the licensing of hydroelectric projects, including but not limited to:

1. Nevada Irrigation District v. FERC (D.C. Cir. No. 23-1342; FERC No. P-2310, *et al.*) – Successfully secured from the D.C. Circuit a decision affirming Commission that State did not waive its authority under the Clean Water Act to consider implications of proposed relicensing of certain hydroelectric projects.

Issued one hundred and fifty-three (153) Orders under the Federal Power Act, including but not limited to:

1. Matters concerning electric utility rates, terms, and conditions under section 205 of the Federal Power Act, including but not limited to:
 - a. Accepted New York Independent Service Operator's proposal to create a new uncertainty reserves product that will value and compensate the dispatchable resources needed to maintain reliability.
 - b. Sustained the Commission's decisions in two proceedings finding that San Diego Gas & Electric Co. is no longer entitled to collect an adder to its return on equity for its continued participation in a regional transmission organization and that, under a settlement with California and customers, the company must make refunds for a prior rate period during which it charged the same adder (Docket Nos. EL24-115-001, ER25-270-001).
2. Corporate matters under Sections 203 and/or 204 of the Federal Power Act, including but not limited to:
 - a. Issued an order under Section 204 of the Federal Power Act that authorized \$3.6 billion in securities issuances.

Issued an Order Approving Stipulation and Consent Agreement with FERC's Office of Enforcement to resolve an investigation concerning a violation of a Regional Transmission Operator/Independent Service Operator (RTO/ISO) Tariff:

1. Approved a settlement with Enel North America, Inc. for a violation of the Southwest Power Pool Tariff in which Enel agreed to pay a civil penalty of \$20,000 to the United States Treasury and implement certain compliance improvements.



Promoted grid reliability by conducting a technical conference on increasing market and planning efficiency through improved software:

1. Commission staff held the *Increasing Market and Planning Efficiency through Improved Software* technical conference, featuring technical experts from industry, Regional Transmission Operators/Independent Service Operators (RTOs/ISOs), Department of Energy National Labs, and academia presenting the latest research on ways to reduce customer costs and increase electric reliability by improving grid operator models and software including: improving resource adequacy, streamlining generator interconnection, grid-enhancing technologies, and leveraging artificial intelligence and machine learning in power system software. This year's conference featured 51 presentations and a panel discussion on artificial intelligence integration in electric power markets.

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 black ink, reading "Mark C. Christie". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "M" and "C".

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