



FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Chairman Mark C. Christie

April 08, 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 24, 2025, through April 4, 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 Congress assigned these responsibilities to FERC in various laws, including the Federal Power Act (FPA), originally enacted over 100 years ago; the Natural Gas Act (NGA); and the Interstate Commerce Act (ICA).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 March 24, 2025, through April 4, 2025.



Issued the following Order 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:

Authorized East Tennessee Natural Gas, LLC to construct and operate the new Ridgeline Expansion Project, which will provide up to 300,000 dekatherms per day (Dth/d) of incremental firm transportation service and 95,000 Dth of Customized Delivery Service to the Tennessee Valley Authority's new natural gas-fired Kingston power plant in Morgan County, Tennessee.

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

- (1) El Puente de Williamsburg, et al. v. FERC (D.C. Cir. No. 23-1333; FERC No. CP23-518) – Presented oral argument to the D.C. Circuit defending decision by FERC to allow the immediate construction and operation of pipeline at Puerto Rico LNG terminal, as necessary to meet emergency local needs.
- (2) Healthy Gulf and Sierra Club v. FERC (D.C. Cir. No. 23-1226; FERC No. CP21-465) – Secured from the D.C. Circuit an opinion upholding FERC Order granting certificate to construct and operate new interstate natural gas pipelines in Louisiana.

Issued twenty-six (26) notices to proceed with construction and work approvals of natural gas infrastructure, including but not limited to:

- (1) Authorized Venture Global Calcasieu Pass, LLC to place into service the remainder of the facilities at the Calcasieu Pass LNG Terminal in Louisiana.
- (2) Granted Equitrans L.P.'s request to place into service the final facilities associated with its Ohio Valley Connector Expansion Project, which is expected to provide approximately 350,000 dekatherms per day of transportation service to markets.
- (3) Granted Natural Gas Pipeline of America LLC's request to place into service two compressor units in Montgomery County, Texas, as part of the Texas-Louisiana Expansion Project to provide increased capacity to shippers.
- (4) Authorized Venture Global Plaquemines LNG, L.L.C. to commission several electrical buildings, install additional firewater piping and equipment, and



commission Liquefaction Block 10 equipment with Nitrogen for the Plaquemines Liquefaction Project in Louisiana.

- (5) Authorized Corpus Christi Liquefaction, LLC to introduce fuel gas into Flare No. 2 of its Stage III Project in Texas.
- (6) Authorized Rio Grande LNG, LLC to erect the Central Control, Security, and Administration Buildings for its Rio Grande LNG Project in Texas.

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

- (1) A final Environmental Impact Statement for the relicensing of Alabama Power Company's 142.5-MW R.L. Harris Hydroelectric Project, located in Randolph, Clay, and Cleburne Counties, and land within the James D. Martin-Skyline Wildlife Management Area, located in Jackson County, Alabama.
- (2) An Environmental Assessment for a non-capacity amendment for Pacific Gas and Electric Company's 36.1-MW Battle Creek Hydroelectric Project, located in Shasta and Tehama Counties, California regarding implementation of the ongoing Battle Creek Salmon and Steelhead Restoration Project, and concluded the work does not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

Issued Order under the Interstate Commerce Act

Dismissed protests and approved proposed changes to Colonial Pipeline's tariff regarding how Colonial handles two grades of gasoline on its system, thereby allowing Colonial to increase operational efficiency.

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

Petro Star v. FERC (D.C. Cir. No. 23-1348; FERC No. OR14-6) – Filed supplemental brief in the D.C. Circuit, on whether courts of appeals continue to have direct review authority of FERC oil pipeline rate decisions.



Issued one hundred and eighty-one (181) 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, ISO New England's proposal to implement more efficient processes to accelerate the interconnection of new generation resources to the grid.
 - b. Accepted Midcontinent Independent System Operator's market design enhancement proposal to provide efficient incentives for market participants to increase electricity supply or reduce demand during emergency conditions to support system reliability.
 - c. Accepted an amended agreement to accommodate the recommissioning of the Palisades Nuclear Plant by providing for its reliable interconnection to the grid.

- (2) Corporate matters under sections 203 and 204 of the Federal Power Act, including:
 - a. Authorized transactions that permitted investment in approximately 2.5 GW of generating capacity across the country, while ensuring each transaction is consistent with the public interest.
 - b. Authorized an electric utility to issue approximately \$800 million in long-term borrowing and guarantees to permit the continued purchase of nuclear fuel by a subsidiary.

Developed the resource adequacy Commissioner-led technical conference:

Developed a detailed agenda and selected panelists for a Commissioner-led technical conference on June 4 and 5, 2025. The conference will explore current risks to electric resource adequacy; the efficiency and effectiveness of capacity markets in achieving resource adequacy at just and reasonable rates; design and performance comparisons between capacity markets and alternative resource adequacy constructs; and the roles and interests of states and others in achieving resource adequacy. It will include over fifty panelists from across industry, state entities, the North American Electric Reliability Corporation, regional transmission organizations, independent system operators, and consumer advocates to ensure discussions reflect a broad array of stakeholder perspectives.



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

Affirmed Energy v. FERC (D.C. Cir. No. 25-1091; FERC No. ER24-2995) – Filed response in opposition to motion to D.C. Circuit seeking to stay Order accepting filing to remove resource participation in regional wholesale capacity market, to lower costs to ratepayers in that market.

Approved settlement in a contested audit proceeding under the Federal Power Act:

Approved a settlement between FERC’s Office of Enforcement and Commonwealth Edison Company under which the parties agreed that going forward the company will base labor overhead costs it attributes to construction projects on the actual time spent on construction by its employees or a study of such actual time during a representative period and will reduce its existing plant account balances by \$70 million dollars.

Completed electric utility cybersecurity assessment:

Commission staff completed a cybersecurity assessment of a FERC-jurisdictional electric utility’s Information Technology (IT) and Operational Technology (OT) computer network architecture identifying, and helping to address, vulnerabilities.

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 that reads "Mark C. Christie". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "M".

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