

GB ENERGY PARK LLC

October 1, 2015

Filed Electronically
and via FedEx

Kimberley D. Bose, Secretary
Office of the Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street NE
Washington, DC 20426

**Subject: Gordon Butte Pumped Storage Hydro Project (P-13642)
Application for Original License**

Dear Secretary Bose:

GB Energy Park, LLC (GBEP), holder of the Preliminary Permit for the proposed Gordon Butte Pumped Storage Project (FERC No. 13642, (Project)), files its Application for Original License (Application) – pursuant to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission’s (FERC) Regulations at 18 CFR Part 4, Subpart D, governing the Traditional Licensing Process (TLP) and 18 CFR Part 4, Subpart E, requirements for an Application for Major Unconstructed Project.

GBEP has consulted extensively with interested agencies and other stakeholders during the pre-filing period. With strong stakeholder support, GBEP requested, and was granted, approval to use the TLP pursuant to 18 CFR 5.3, based on an assessment of a low probability of controversy or complexity of issues. In addition, with agency and stakeholder support, GBEP requested and FERC staff issued Scoping Document 1, held NEPA scoping meetings, and issued Scoping Document 2 during the pre-filing consultation period. This early NEPA scoping helped to identify and clarify all relevant issues requiring evaluation. GBEP continued its engagement with agencies and stakeholders through sharing of draft study plans and draft study reports, and reviewing the study findings beyond the requirements of the TLP.

In addition, as part of its agency and stakeholder outreach efforts, GBEP prepared its draft Exhibit E formatted as a draft Environmental Assessment and circulated that document with participating agencies. Follow up meetings and communications allowed GBEP to make adjustments to its development proposal and identify and reach agreement on appropriate resource protection and mitigation measures.

Ultimately, based on this extensive outreach and collaboration, GBEP obtained waivers from the participating agencies pursuant to 18 CFR 4.38(e) from the need to issue a draft license application to those entities for review and comment. These waivers are included within the extensive consultation record included as part of this Application.

Thus, with support and cooperation from agencies, stakeholders and FERC staff, GBEP has fully complied with FERC's pre-filing consultation and application requirements. And an effective and efficient manner and through extensive outreach and collaboration has reached agreement regarding the identified effects of project development and the necessary and appropriate protection and mitigation measures.

In accordance with FERC's Submission Guidelines, dated January 14, 2014, located on FERC's website, GBEP is filing this Application electronically, along with an original and two paper copies. This Application filing consists of the following elements:

Initial Statement

Exhibit A – Project Description

Exhibit B – Project Operation & Resource Utilization

Exhibit C – Proposed Construction Schedule

Exhibit D – Statement of Costs and Financing

Exhibit E – Environmental Report

Exhibit F – Preliminary General Design Drawings and Supporting Design Report

Exhibit G – Project Maps

GBEP is requesting special treatment of certain information included as part of this Application:

1. Privileged Information – certain sensitive financial information required as part of Exhibit D
2. Critical Energy Infrastructure Information (CEII) – Exhibit F drawings and Supporting Design Report

These aspects of this Application have been appropriately marked and separated from the balance of the information within the hard copy original and copies of the Application and as well have been filed electronically within these specific privileged and CEII categories.

Pursuant to 18 CFR 4.32(b)(6), GBEP will publish notice of the filing of the Application in The Billings Gazette and The Meagher County News twice within 14 days after the filing date. GBEP will provide FERC with proof of publication of these notices upon receipt of the publisher's affidavits.

As required by 18 CFR 4.32(b)(3) GBEP will also make information regarding its proposed Project reasonably available to the public for inspection and reproduction from the date on which this Application is filed until the licensing proceeding is completed.

Information will be made available at Absaroka Energy LLC (GBEP) offices during regular business hours:

Absaroka Energy LLC
209 South Willson Ave.
Bozeman, MT. 59715
(406) 585-3006

A copy of the Application will also be available at the Bozeman Public Library:

Bozeman Public Library
626 East Main St.
Bozeman, MT. 59715
(406) 582-2400

An electronic copy of this Application is being sent by certified US mail to each of the entities on the attached Contact List.

GBEP looks forward to continuing engagement with interested agencies and stakeholders and coordination with the FERC Staff as this Application is being processed. If you have any questions regarding GBEP's Application, please contact Rhett Hurless, Senior Vice President, at (406) 585-3006, or rhurless@absarokaenergy.com

Sincerely,



Carl E. Borgquist,
President, GB Energy Park, LLC

cc: Attached Contact List