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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

North American Hydro, Inc.

Project No. 6476-000

ORDER GRANTING EXEMPTION FROM LICENSING OF A
SMALL HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT OF 5 MW OR LESS

(Issued December 23, 1982)

The Applicant 1/ filed an application for exemption from all or part of Part I of the Federal Power Act (Act) pursuant to 18 C.F.R. Part 4 Subpart K (1980) implementing in part Section 408 of the Energy Security Act (ESA) of 1980 for a project as described in the attached public notice. 2/ 3/

Notice of the application was published in accordance with Section 408 of the ESA and the Commission's regulations and comments were requested from interested Federal and State agencies including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the State Fish and Wildlife Agency. All comments, protests and petitions to intervene that were filed have been considered. No agency has any objection relevant to issuance of this exemption.

- 1/ North American Hydro, Inc., Project No. 6476-000 filed on June 30, 1982.
- 2/ Pub. Law 96-294, 94 Stat. 611. Section 408 of the ESA amends inter alia, Sections 405 and 408 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. §§2705 and 2708).
- 3/ Authority to act on this matter is delegated to the Deputy Director, Office of Electric Power Regulation, under §375.308 of the Commission's regulations, 18 C.F.R. §375.308 (1981) FERC Statutes and Regulations ¶30,238. This order may be appealed to the Commission by any party within 30 days of its issuance pursuant to Rule 1902, 18 C.F.R. 385.1902, FERC Statutes and Regulations ¶29,052 47 Fed. Reg. 19014 (1982). Filing an appeal and final Commission action on that appeal are prerequisites for filing an application for rehearing as provided in Section 313(a) of the Act. Filing an appeal does not operate as a stay of the effective date of this order or of any other date specified in this order, except as specifically directed by the Commission.

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Standard Article 2, included in this exemption, requires compliance with any terms and conditions that Federal or State fish and wildlife agencies have determined appropriate to prevent loss of, or damage to, fish and wildlife resources. The terms and conditions referred to in Article 2 are contained in any letters of comment by these agencies which have been forwarded to the Applicant in conjunction with this exemption.

It is ordered that:

(A) Neshonoc Water Power Project No. 6476 as described and designated in North American Hydro, Inc.'s application filed on June 30, 1982, is exempted from all of the requirements of Part I of the Federal Power Act, including licensing, subject to the standard articles in §4.106 of the Commission's regulations attached hereto as Form E-2, 18 C.F.R. §4.106, 45 Fed. Reg. 76115 (November 18, 1980).

(B) The preliminary permit application, Project No. 6130, filed by Energistics Systems Inc. on March 29, 1982, is hereby denied.

Robert E. Cackowski
Robert E. Cackowski
Deputy Director, Office of
Electric Power Regulation

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
GENERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION**

North American Hydro, Inc. Project No. 6476-000

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION FOR SMALL HYDROELECTRIC POWER PROJECT UNDER 5 MW CAPACITY
 (September 1, 1982)

Take notice that on June 30, 1982, North American Hydro, Inc., filed an application under Section 408 of the Energy Security Act of 1980 (Act) (16 U.S.C. §§2705 and 2710 as amended), for exemption of a proposed hydroelectric project from licensing under Part I of the Federal Power Act. The proposed small hydroelectric Project No. 6476 would be located on the La Crosse River near Hamilton in La Crosse County, Wisconsin. Correspondence with the Applicant should be directed to Mr. Charles Alsberg, North American Hydro, Inc., P.O. Box 676, Wautoma, Wisconsin 54982.

Project Description - The proposed project would consist of : (1) the existing 215-foot long, 17.5-foot high Meahonoc Dam on the La Crosse River; (2) the existing Meahonoc Lake with a surface area of 687 acres at 699.50 feet M.S.L. and a gross storage capacity of 3,105 acre-feet; (3) an existing two-story masonry powerhouse containing two proposed turbine/generator units having an estimated total installed capacity of 500 kW and producing an average annual energy output of 2.10 GWh; (4) an existing 2.5-foot long open-channel tailrace; (5) 150 feet of proposed 1,200 volt underground primary transmission line to connect to an existing Northern States Power Company line; and, (6) appurtenant facilities. Power generated would be sold to Northern States Power Company. The project would be operated in a peaking mode. The Applicant states that it will either purchase or hold easements on all project property.

Purpose of Exemption - An exemption, if issued, gives the Exemptee priority of control, development, and operation of the project under the terms of the exemption from licensing, and protects the Exemptee from permit or license applicants that would seek to take or develop the project.

Agency Comments - The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, The National Marine Fisheries Service, and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources are requested, for the purposes set forth in Section 408 of the Act, to submit within 60 days from the date of issuance of this notice appropriate terms and conditions to protect any fish and wildlife resources or to otherwise carry out the provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act. General comment:

Project No. 6476-000

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concerning the project and its resources are requested; however, specific terms and conditions to be included as a condition of exemption must be clearly identified in the agency letter. If an agency does not file terms and conditions within this time period, that agency will be presumed to have none. Other Federal, State, and local agencies are requested to provide any comments they may have in accordance with their duties and responsibilities. No other formal requests for comments will be made. Comments should be confined to substantive issues relevant to the granting of an exemption. If an agency does not file comments within 60 days from the date of issuance of this notice, it will be presumed to have no comments. One copy of an agency's comments must also be sent to the Applicant's representative.

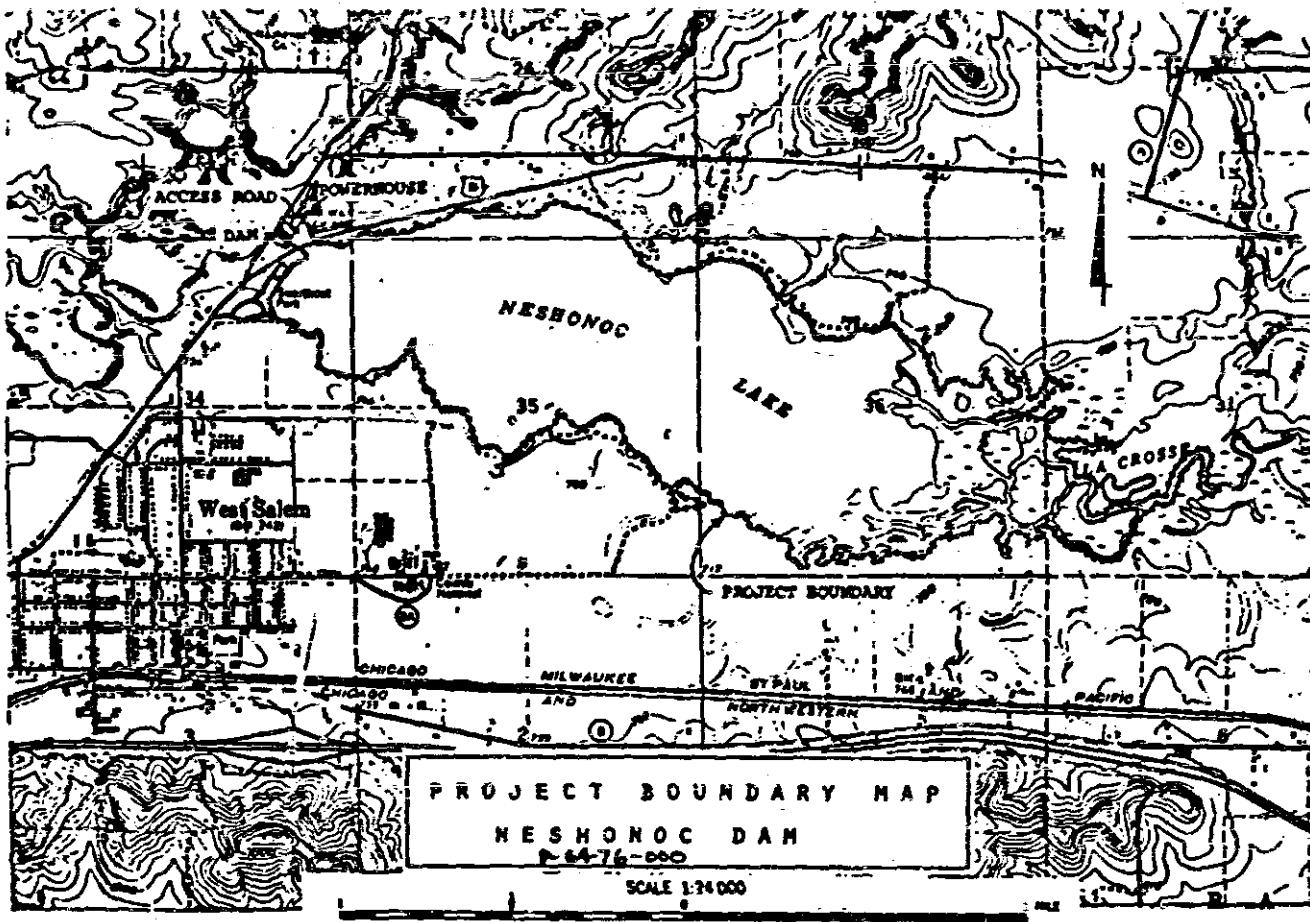
Competing Application - Any qualified licensee applicant desiring to file a competing application must submit to the Commission, on or before July 5, 1982, either the competing license application that proposes to develop at least 7.5 megawatts in that project, or notice of intent to file such a license application. Submission of a timely notice of intent allows an interested person to file the competing license application no later than 120 days from the date that comments, protests, etc. are due. Applications for preliminary permit will not be accepted.

A notice of intent must conform with the requirements of 16 C.F.R. §4.33(b) and (c) (1980). A competing license application must conform with the requirements of 16 C.F.R. §4.33(a) and (d) (1980). Comments, Protests, or Petitions to Intervene - Anyone may submit comments, a protest, or a petition to intervene in accordance with the requirements of the Rules of Practice and Procedure, 16 CFR 385.211 or 385.214. In determining the appropriate action to take, the Commission will consider all protests or other comments filed, but only those who file a petition to intervene in accordance with the Commission's rules may become a party to the proceeding. Any comments, protests or petitions to intervene must be received on or before July 5, 1982.

Filing and Service of Responsive Documents - Any filings must bear in all capital letters the title "COMMENTS", "NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE COMPETING APPLICATION", "COMPETING APPLICATION", "PROTEST", or "PETITION TO INTERVENE", as applicable, and the Project Number of this notice. Any of the above named documents must be filed by providing the original and those copies required by the Commission's regulations to Kenneth F. Plumb, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 825 North Capitol Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426. An additional copy must be sent to Fred E. Springer, Chief, Applications Branch, Division of Hydropower Licensing, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Room 208 R at the above address. A copy of any notice of intent, competing application, or petition to intervene must also be served upon each representative of the Applicant specified in the first paragraph of this notice.

Kenneth F. Plumb
Secretary

EXHIBIT B



§ 4.106 Standard terms and conditions or exemption from licensing.

Any exemption from licensing granted under this subpart for a small hydroelectric power project is subject to the following standard terms and conditions:

(a) Article 1. The Commission reserves the right to conduct investigations under sections 4(g), 306, 307, and 311 of the Federal Power Act with respect to any acts, complaints, facts, conditions, practices, or other matters related to the construction, operation, or maintenance of the exempt project. If any term or condition of the exemption is violated, the Commission may revoke the exemption, issue a suitable order under section 4(g) of the Federal Power Act, or take appropriate action for enforcement, forfeiture, or penalties under Part III of the Federal Power Act.

(b) Article 2. The construction, operation, and maintenance of the exempt project must comply with any terms and conditions that any Federal or state fish and wildlife agencies have determined are appropriate to prevent loss of, or damage to, fish or wildlife resources or otherwise to carry out the purposes of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, as specified in Exhibit Z of the application for exemption from licensing or in the comments submitted in response to the notice of the exemption application.

(c) Article 3. The Commission may accept a license application by any qualified license applicant and revoke this exemption if actual construction or development of any proposed generating facilities has not begun within 18 months, or been completed within four years, from the date on which this exemption was granted. If an exemption is revoked, the Commission will not accept a subsequent application for exemption within two years of the revocation.

(d) Article 4. This exemption is subject to the navigation servitude of the United States if the project is located on navigable waters of the United States.

(e) Article 5. This exemption does not confer any right to use or occupy any Federal lands that may be necessary for the development or operation of the project. Any right to use or occupy any Federal lands for those purposes must be obtained from the administering Federal land agencies. The Commission may accept a license application by any qualified license applicant and revoke this exemption, if any necessary right to use or occupy Federal lands for those purposes has not been obtained within one year from the date on which this exemption was granted.

Document Content(s)

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