

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BEFORE THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

DRAFT APPLICATION FOR NEW LICENSE FOR MAJOR PROJECT – EXISTING DAM

BLLENHEIM-GILBOA PUMPED STORAGE POWER PROJECT

FERC PROJECT No. 2685

EXHIBIT C
CONSTRUCTION HISTORY/PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION

December 2016

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**NY Power
Authority**

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1 Introduction

The Blenheim-Gilboa Pumped Storage Project (B-G Project) is located on Schoharie Creek, a tributary of the Mohawk River, about 40 miles southwest of Albany, New York, in the northern Catskill Mountains. The B-G Project is owned and operated by the Power Authority of the State of New York (Power Authority).

This exhibit is required under the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) regulations, which can be found in 18 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 4.51(d). The information provided herein covers the specifics prescribed for Exhibit C and serves the purpose of providing the construction history of the B-G Project and a construction schedule for proposed modifications to the Project, if any.

2 Construction History (18 CFR Section 4.51(d)(1))

2.1 Original Construction and Modifications

Because 18 C.F.R. Section 4.51 (d)(1) requires a construction history only for applications for an initial license, a construction history is not required for this relicensing application for the B-G Project. As a general matter, however, the Project's original license was issued by the Federal Power Commission on June 6, 1969 for a 50-year term effective May 1, 1969. On July 12, 1969 construction of the B-G Project began. On July 5, 1973, the Project generated power for the first time, and on December 17, 1973 it reached full power production.

The Project's generating units were completely overhauled in 1982-1983, and Unit No. 3 and Unit No. 4 were overhauled again in the mid-1990s. On April 28, 2006, FERC issued an order amending the B-G Project license. This amendment authorized an increase in Project generating capacity and enabled the commencement of the Life Extension and Modernization (LEM), a \$135-million four-year program to modernize and extend the life of the B-G Project. Under the LEM program, all four of the original pump turbine generating units and spherical valves were refurbished between 2006 and 2010, and main power transformers, circuit breakers, exciters, and related equipment were replaced. With completion of the LEM program in May 2010, each of the four turbine generating units was increased from an original generating capacity of 260 MW to an upgraded generating capacity of 290 MW each, providing a new total authorized Project capacity of 1,160 MW.

The Project's three Tainter gates were refurbished in 2008, 2009, and 2010, respectively. In 2011 a Lower Dam PMF Improvements Project was implemented to 1) increase the height of the upstream concrete curb on the spillway bridge, 2) raise the spillway right embankment approximately 150 ft., and 3) raise the elliptical training wall on the spillway's right embankment. With this Improvements Project, the Lower Dam crest was raised to an elevation of 911.1 ft. The installation of a new power supply system to the spillway Tainter gates occurred in 2013-2014. The new power supply system was implemented to provide power and redundancy sources and controls to the spillway Tainter gates.

[Table 2-1](#) depicts the construction and modification chronology for the B-G Project.

Table 2-1: Chronology of the Blenheim-Gilboa Pumped Storage Project Construction and Modifications

Event	Date
Start of Project Construction	July 12, 1969
First Power	July 5, 1973
Completion of Project Construction	October 9, 1973
Full Power	December 17, 1973
Overhaul of Generating Unit Nos. 1 - 4	1982-1983
Overhaul of Generating Unit No. 4	1995-1996
Overhaul of Generating Unit No. 3	1996-1997
LEM: Overhaul of Generating Unit No. 1	2006-2007
LEM: Overhaul of Generating Unit No. 2	2007-2008
LEM: Overhaul of Generating Unit No. 3	2008-2009
Rehabilitation of Tainter Gates	2008-2010
LEM: Overhaul of Generating Unit No. 4	2009-2010
Lower Dam PMF Improvements Project	2011-2012
Installation of New Power Supply System to Spillway Tainter Gates	2013-2014

2.2 Project Schedule for New Development (18 CFR Section 4.51(d)(2))

The Power Authority does not propose any new development for the B-G Project at this time.