

December 7, 2017

To the Party Addressed

On behalf of Scott's Mill Hydro, LLC., we are pleased to advise you that the draft license application for the Scott's Mill Hydropower Project is now available on the Scottsmillhydro web site. For your convenience, you can click on the following link to download the report.

ADD LINK

For those, needing a hard copy of the draft application, please respond to this email with your request. Charges for copies of the draft application will be invoiced per the Commission's regulations. There is no charge to resource agencies or Indian tribes.

Highlights of the Draft Application

Scott's Mill Hydro is proposing to add nine 500-kilowatt turbines to the arch section of Scott's Mill Dam for a total of 4.5 megawatts. Annual energy generation will be about 20,000 megawatt hours. To maintain approximate existing water levels upstream of the dam at average flows, we propose to place a 2-foot high concrete cap on the Scott's Mill spillway (i.e., straight portion of the dam). Scott's Mill is proposing to use a modular construction approach. This will be one of the first hydropower projects to use this innovative design approach.

Scott's Mill has worked with resource agencies to develop and implement a fish restoration plan for American Eel and Sea Lamprey. We plan to install a fishway on both river banks to move these species upstream. We anticipate that passage of resident and other anadromous fish will be forthcoming. It is a matter of timing. We plan to continue consulting with resource agencies on the James River Basin fish restoration efforts, particularly downstream passage, during finalization of the license application and detailed design.

From a recreation perspective, we plan to install a fishing pier downstream of the dam on River Road. In addition, we will be constructing a portage around the dam on the River Road side of the dam.

We anticipate meeting State water quality standards, and have developed plans for doing so. Similarly, our plan is to maintain the valuable aquatic habitat both upstream and downstream of the dam. The draft application assesses project effects on the various resources and proposes other protection, mitigation and enhancement measures, as appropriate, to minimize project impacts and enhance the environment.

Comments on Draft License Application

Comments on the draft application are due 90 days from today (i.e., March 7, 2018). For the final application we will respond to all comments received and we will modify the draft as appropriate. If we receive substantive comments from agencies or Indian tribes, we will convene a Joint meeting to try and resolve the comments. The agenda, location, time and date will be provided via email to the distribution list and published in a local newspaper at least 15 days in advance of the meeting.

Please provide your comments to Scottsmillhydro@yahoo.com or you can send a hard copy to Scotts Mill Hydro at P.O. Box 13, Coleman Falls, Virginia 24536. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Wayne Dyok at (916) 719-7022.