CRESCENT PROJECT
LIHI APPLICATION

ATTACHMENT F
CULTURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION
July 22, 1981

Robert Smart  
Energy Facilities Siting Council  
73 Tremont Street Room 300  
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Mr. Smart:

Staff of the Massachusetts Historical Commission have reviewed plans for the proposed Texon Hydroelectric Project in Russell, Massachusetts.

The project site includes a nineteenth century paper mill which could possibly meet National Register criteria. However, after review, it appears that the structure will remain unaltered, and only the machinery inside will be replaced. MHC feels that this project is unlikely to affect significant historic or archaeological resources. No further review in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 is required.

If you have any further questions, please contact Joe Orfand, Review Director, of my staff.

Sincerely,

Patricia L. Weslowski, Executive Director  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
State Historic Preservation Officer

PLW/JK/pb
Should the Applicant contest any terms or conditions that were proposed by Federal or State agencies in their letters of comment as being outside the scope of Article 2, the Commission shall determine whether the disputed terms or conditions are outside the scope of Article 2.

It is ordered that:

(A) Texon Hydro Project No. 2986 as described and designated in Texon, Inc.,'s application filed on November 27, 1981, 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), and the following Special Article.

Article 6. This exemption is subject to the following provisions of 18 C.F.R., Part 12:

(1) Subpart C – Emergency Action Plans

(B) This order is final unless a petition appealing it to the Commission is filed within 30 days from the date of its issuance, as provided in Section 1.7(d) of the Commission's regulations, 18 C.F.R. 1.7(d)(1981), as amended, 44 Fed. Reg. 66449 (1981). The filing of a petition appealing this order to the Commission or an application for rehearing as provided in Section 311(a) of the Act does not operate as a stay of the effective date of this order, except as specifically ordered by the Commission.

[Signature]
Robert E. Cacklewski
Deputy Director, Office of Electric Power Regulation
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION FOR SMALL HYDROELECTRIC POWER PROJECT UNDER 5 MW CAPACITY

(January 15, 1984)

Take notice that on November 23, 1981, Texon, Inc. (Applicant) filed an application, under Section 408 of the Energy Security Act of 1980 (Act) 16 U.S.C. §§270s, and 2700 as amended, for exemption of a proposed hydroelectric project from licensing under Part I of the Federal Power Act. This application was filed during the term of the Applicants preliminary permit for Project No. 2986, proposed small hydroelectric project, Project No. 2986, would be located on the Westfield River in the County of Hampden, Massachusetts. Correspondence with the Applicant should be directed to Texon, Inc., Canal Street, South Hadley, Massachusetts 01075. Attention: Mr. Irving Hulsey, Senior Vice President.

Project Description - The proposed project would be run-of-the-river and would consist of: (1) an existing gravity dam, 350 feet long and 12 feet high, constructed of stone blocks and concrete with a spillway at the right abutment and provision for 3-foot high (flashboards); (2) a reservoir having minimal pondage; (3) an existing power intake structure, forebay and channel leading to (4) a powerhouse to be renovated and equipped with two new turbine-generators having a total rated capacity of 1,660 kw; (5) a restored tailrace; (6) existing transmission lines and a substation; and (7) appurtenant facilities. The Applicant estimates that the average annual energy output would be 9,500,000 kw. Project energy will be sold to the Western Massachusetts Electric Company.

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

Agency Comments - The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, The National Marine Fisheries Service, and the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife 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 comments 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, the 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. Any formal requests for comments will be made. Comments should be directed 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 representatives.

Competing Applications - Any qualified license applicant desiring to file a competing application must submit to the Commission, on or before March 31, 1984, either the competing license application that proposes to develop at least 7.5 megawatts in that project, or a 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.


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, 18 C.F.R. §§1.10 (1980) 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 March 31, 1984.

Filing and Service of Responsive Documents - Any filings must bear in all capital letters the title "FILED IN APPEAL APPLICATION", "FILED IN APPLICATION", "PETITION", 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 one copy of the original, and one copy of the original, by the Commission's regulations to: Kenneth F. Plumb, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 825 North Capitol Street.
Project No. 2986-001

NE., Washington, D.C., 20436. An additional copy must be sent to Fred F. Spriner, Chief, Applications Branch, Division of Hydropower Licensing, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Room 2011 at the above address. A copy of any notice of intent, specification, or petition to intervene shall also be served upon each representative of the applicant specified in the first paragraph of this notice.

Kenneth F. Plum
Secretary

LOCATION MAP - CRESCEINT MILLS DAM

P-2986-001
§ 4.106 Standard terms and conditions of 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 F 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.
Comments on 820125 notice of appl for exemption re Texon Texon Hydro Proj in Hampden County, MA.
Search

Document Information

Advanced Search
Accession Number: 19820318-0271
Document Date: 3/9/1982
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Filed Date: 3/12/1982
First Received Date:
Non-decisional: No

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Posted Date:
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Docket Search

Daily Search
Description:
Comments on notice of exemption appl for Texon Hydro Proj, Hampden County, MA. No objections to proposed exemption.

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http://ferris.ferc.gov/idmws/doc_info.asp 05/20/2008
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Reply comments of Texon, Inc to 820318 Lt to FERC from US Dept of Interior re fish-passage, inflow & anglers' access.

Category:
Submittal
Library:
Hydro

Document Type:
Class:
Type:
Comments/Protest
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Docket Numbers:
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Mr. Todd Cormier  
Halliwell Associates, Inc.  
589 Warren Avenue  
East Providence, Rhode Island 02914  

Dear Mr. Cormier:

This responds to your request for our recommendation concerning streamflow regulation at the Texon hydroelectric project (FERC No. 2986). Our streamflow policy for New England recommends that on regulated rivers such as the Westfield, the Aquatic Base Flow (ABF) be 0.5 cubic feet per second per square mile of drainage area above the dam (cfs/mi²). When inflows to the project area fall below 0.5 cfs/mi², the greater of inflow or 0.2 cfs/mi² should be released. Drainage area at the Texon dam is roughly 329 square miles, which provides a value of 165 cfs for 0.5 cfs/mi².

While it is our recommendation that the licensee maintain an adequate maintenance streamflow (0.5 cfs/mi²) at the project, it should not be necessary to spill water over the Texon dam to do so. Because the powerhouse is located adjacent to the dam, outflows from the tailrace will adequately cover the substrate below the dam, provided that operation is run-of-the-river. Lack of streamflow over the dam will expose a stretch of riverbed no more than 50 feet long. There would be a negligible loss of habitat in this area, however, as it consists largely of a vertical bedrock outcrop.

The Aquatic Base Flow (0.5 cfs/mi²) should, therefore, be maintained at the tailrace for the Texon project. This should not affect the power production by the project, as proposed operation is run-of-the-river.

We hope this will clarify our recommendation regarding streamflow regulation at the Texon project.

Sincerely yours,

Gordon E. Beckett  
Supervisor
August 11, 1981

Halliwell Associates, Inc.  
865 Waterman Avenue  
East Providence, Rhode Island  02914

Re:  Water Quality Certification  
Texon Hydroelectric  
Westfield River  
Russell

Dear Mr. Ryder:

In response to your request dated July 28, 1981 submitted on behalf of Texon, Inc., this Division has reviewed your application for a license for the operation and maintenance of a hydropower facility located on the Westfield River, Russell. This certification of water quality is directed solely at the operation of the facility and not any work such as dredging or cofferdam construction which is anticipated prior to operation.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 401 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act as amended (Public Law 95-217), this Division hereby certifies that, based on information and investigations, there is reasonable assurance that the proposed activity will be conducted in a manner which will not violate applicable water quality standards adopted by this Division under authority of Section 27(5) of Chapter 21 of the Massachusetts General Laws, said water quality standards having been filed with the Secretary of State of the Commonwealth on September 15, 1978.

The proposed activity is a run-of-the-river facility with water being returned to the river through a tailrace, no further than fifty feet downstream of the hydroelectric dam. In order to maintain water quality in the vicinity of the facility, a continuous minimum low flow of 22 cubic feet per second must be maintained. This minimum low flow can be passed either through the tailrace or over the dam.
Should any violation of the water quality standards or the terms of this certification occur as a result of the proposed activity, the Division will direct that the condition be corrected. Non-compliance on the part of the permittee will be cause for this Division to recommend the revocation of the permit(s) issued therefor or to take such other action as is authorized by the General Laws of the Commonwealth. This certification does not relieve the applicant of the duty to comply with any other statutes or regulations.

Very truly yours,

Thomas C. McMahon
Director

cc: Anthony D. Cortese, Sc.D., Commissioner, Department of Environmental Quality Engineering, One Winter Street, Boston 02108
Morgan Rees, Chief, Permits Branch, Corps of Engineers, 424 Trapelo Road, Waltham 02154
John J. Hannon, Director, Division of Land & Water Use, Department of Environmental Quality Engineering, One Winter Street, Boston 02108
Richard Cronin, Director, Division of Fisheries & Wildlife, 100 Cambridge Street, Boston 02202
Kimball Simpson, Division of Water Pollution Control, Westboro 01581
Robert Smart, Energy Facilities Siting Council, 73 Tremont Street, Boston 02108