

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BEFORE THE
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION**

Stevens Creek Hydroelectric Project

FERC Project No. 2535

**APPLICATION FOR NEW LICENSE
FOR A MAJOR WATER POWER PROJECT
EXISTING DAM**

**INITIAL STATEMENT
(Pursuant to 18 C.F.R. §4.51)**

1. Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc. (Applicant) applies to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) for a New License for the Stevens Creek Hydroelectric Project (Stevens Creek Project), as described in the attached exhibits.

2. The location of the Stevens Creek Project is:
State: South Carolina; Georgia
County: Edgefield and McCormick, SC; Columbia, GA
Township or nearby Towns: Clarks Hill, SC; Evans, GA
Stream or other body of water: Stevens Creek; Savannah River

3. The exact name and business address of the Applicant are:
Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc.
220 Operation Way
Mail Code B223
Cayce, SC 29033-3701

The exact name and business address of each person authorized to act as agent for the Applicant in this application are:

Iris Griffin
Vice President
Power Generation
Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc.
220 Operation Way
Mail Code B223
Cayce, SC 29033-3701

Amy Bresnahan, P.E.
Relicensing Project Manager
Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc.
220 Operation Way
Mail Code B223
Cayce, SC 29033-3701

J. Hagood Hamilton, Jr.
General Counsel
Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc.
220 Operation Way
Mail Code C222
Cayce, SC 29033-3701

4. The Applicant is a domestic corporation organized under the laws of the state of South Carolina and is not claiming preference under section 7(a) of the Federal Power Act.
5. (i) The statutory or regulatory requirements of the states of Georgia and South Carolina, in which the Stevens Creek Project is located, which would, assuming jurisdiction and applicability, affect the Stevens Creek Project as proposed with respect to bed and banks and the appropriation, diversion, and use of water for power purposes, and with respect to the right to engage in the business of developing, transmitting, and distributing power and in any other business necessary to accomplish the purposes of the license under the Federal Power Act are:
 - a. Water Quality Permit: Section 401(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act (CWA) requires that an applicant for a federal license or permit for any activity that may result in a discharge into navigable waters of the United States provide to the licensing or permitting agency a certification from the state in which the discharge originates that such discharge will comply with certain sections of the CWA. As is stated under the provisions of the current license of the Stevens Creek Project, “water is discharged through the powerhouse on the Georgia shore of the Savannah River; thus, since the point of discharge is in the State of Georgia, the State of Georgia has authority under Section 401 of the CWA to issue water quality certification.” The Applicant will be required to apply for a Section 401 Water Quality Certification from the State of Georgia, or waiver thereof, prior to the issuance of a new license for the Stevens Creek Project, within 60 days of FERC’s issuance of the Ready for Environmental Analysis.
- (ii) The steps the Applicant has taken, or plans to take, to comply with each of the laws cited above, are:
 - a. Water Quality Permit: The Applicant will apply to the Georgia Environmental Protection Division for the Section 401 Water Quality Certification pursuant to the requirements of 18 C.F.R. §5.23(b).
6. The Stevens Creek Project encompasses 104 acres of Federal lands owned by the U.S. Forest Service within the Sumter National Forest with pre-existing easements and 0.21 acres of Federal lands within the Sumter National Forest without pre-existing easements. Additional information on these lands is included in Exhibits A, E, and G.

ADDITIONAL GENERAL INFORMATION PURSUANT TO

18 C.F.R. § 4.32

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc. has obtained and will maintain any proprietary rights necessary to construct, operate, or maintain the Stevens Creek Hydroelectric Project (Stevens Creek Project) (FERC No. 2535).

2. Identify (providing names and addresses):

(i) Every county in which any part of the Stevens Creek Project, and any Federal facilities that would be used by the Stevens Creek Project, would be located: the Stevens Creek Project is located within Edgefield and McCormick counties, South Carolina and Columbia County, Georgia, and encompasses U.S. Forest Service lands. Their addresses are as follows:

Tommy Paradise
Edgefield County Administrator
124 Courthouse Square
Edgefield, SC 29824

Columbus Stephens
McCormick County Administrator
610 South Mine Street
McCormick, SC 29835

Scott D. Johnson
Columbia County Administrator
630 Ronald Reagan Drive
Evans, GA 30809

Gray Buckles
District Ranger
U.S. Forest Service
Long Cane Ranger District
810 Buncombe Street
Edgefield, SC 29842

(ii) Every city, town, or similar political subdivision:

(a) In which any part of the Stevens Creek Project is or is to be located and any Federal facility that is or is to be used by the Stevens Creek Project is located:

Not Applicable

- (b) That has a population of 5,000 or more people and is located within 15 miles of the existing or proposed Stevens Creek Project:

Mayor Garnett L. Johnson
City of Augusta
535 Telfair Street
Suite 200
Augusta, GA 30901

Mayor Briton Williams
City of North Augusta
100 Georgia Avenue
North Augusta, SC 29841

- (iii) Every irrigation district, drainage district, or similar special purpose political subdivision:

- (a) In which any part of the project, and any Federal facilities that would be used by the project, would be located:

DESC knows of no irrigation districts, drainage districts, or similar special purpose political subdivisions located near the Stevens Creek Project.

- (b) That owns, operates, maintains, or uses any project facilities or any Federal facilities that would be used by the project.

Not applicable. See item (a), above.

- (iv) Every other political subdivision in the general area of the project that there is reason to believe would likely be interested in, or affected by, the application:

Derrick Miller
Special Uses Program Manager
U.S. Forest Service
Francis Marion & Sumter National Forest Supervisor Office
4931 Broad River Road
Columbia, SC 29212

Stan Simpson
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
100 West Oglethorpe Street
Savannah, GA 31401

- (v) All Indian Tribes that may be affected by the Stevens Creek Project:

Native American tribes listed below may or may not be present in the immediate Stevens Creek Project vicinity but may have tribal interests and potential concern for traditional cultural resources, sacred sites and cultural hunting and gathering areas in the Stevens Creek Project vicinity:

Dr. Wenonah G. Haire
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Catawba Nation
1536 Tom Steven Road
Rock Hill, SC 29730

LeeAnne Wendt, M.A., RPA
Tribal Archaeologist, Historic and Cultural Preservation Department
Muscogee Nation
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447

Elizabeth Toombs
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Cherokee Nation
P.O. Box 948
Tahlequah, OK 74465

3. For a license (other than a license under section 15 of the Federal Power Act) state that the applicant has made, either at the time of or before filing the application, a good faith effort to give notification by certified mail of the filing of the application the parties identified in 18 C.F.R. § 4.32(a)(3)(i):

Not applicable, as this application is being provided pursuant to section 15 of the Federal Power Act.

4. In accordance with 18 C.F.R. §4.51, the following Exhibits are attached to and made part of this application:

Exhibit A – Project Description
Exhibit B – Project Operation
Exhibit C – Construction History
Exhibit D – Cost and Financing (Privileged Information/Not Provided with the DLA)
Exhibit E – Environmental Report
Exhibit F – General Design Information (CEII Information/Not Provided with the DLA)
Exhibit G – Project Maps
Exhibit H – Additional Information (Information Required by 18 C.F.R. §16.10)

SUBSCRIPTION
To Be Signed in Final Application

This Application for License for the Stevens Creek Hydroelectric Project, FERC No. 2535, is executed in the State of South Carolina, Counties of _____, by _____, _____ of Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc., 220 Operation Way, Cayce, SC 29033, who, being duly sworn, deposes and says that the contents of this application are true to the best of his/her knowledge or belief. The undersigned has signed this application this ____ day of _____, 2023.

DOMINION ENERGY SOUTH CAROLINA, INC.

By _____

Iris Griffin
Vice President – Power Generation
Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc.

VERIFICATION

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public of the State of Georgia, this ____ day of _____, 2023.

(Notary Public)

(My Commission Expires _____)/seal

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Alison Jakupca, Project Manager, Kleinschmidt Associates, hereby certify that I have this day served upon each person designated on the attached Distribution List notice of availability, and/or a copy, of the Stevens Creek Hydroelectric Project, FERC No. 2535, Draft Application for License. Dated this 24 day of March 2023.

By: _____
Alison Jakupca
Project Manager
Kleinschmidt Associates

DISTRIBUTION LIST

Andy Colbert
Outdoor Augusta Riverside
outdooraugusta@gmail.com

Andy Herndon
NOAA/NMFS
Andrew.Herndon@noaa.gov

Bill Post
SCDNR
PostB@dnr.sc.gov

Bill Stringer
SC Native Plants Society
catboyz@nctv.com

Bjorn Lake
NOAA
bjorn.lake@noaa.gov

Bob Swithers
Director
US Bureau of Land Management - Southeastern
States
273 Market Street
Flowood, MS 39232
BLM_ES_SSDO_Comments@blm.gov

Chad Hendrix
City of Augusta
chendrix@augustaga.gov

Chairman
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
101 Executive Center Drive #100
Columbia, SC 29210
contact@psc.sc.gov

Chris Nelson
GDNR - Wildlife Resources Division
chris.nelson@dnr.ga.gov

Chris Thomason
SCDNR
thomasonc@dnr.sc.gov

Clint Peacock
GDNR - Wildlife Resources Division
Clint.Peacock@dnr.ga.gov

Cole Watkins
Individual/Cole Watkins Tours
cole@colewatkins.com

Columbus Stephens
McCormick County Administrator
610 South Mine Street
McCormick, SC 29835

Dan Rankin
SCDNR
RankinD@dnr.sc.gov

David Caddell
Edgefield County Administrator
124 Courthouse Square
Edgefield, SC 29824
Dcaddell@edgefieldcounty.sc.gov

David Eargle
SCDHEC
eargleda@dhec.sc.gov

David Moore
Earth and Water Group
david.moore@earthandwatergroup.com

Derrick Miller
USFS
derrick.miller@usda.gov

Elizabeth Johnson
SCDAH
ejohnson@scdah.sc.gov

Elizabeth Miller
SCDNR
MillerE@dnr.sc.gov

Elizabeth Toombs
Cherokee Nation
elizabeth-toombs@cherokee.org

Eric Bauer
USFWS
eric_bauer@fws.gov

Garnett Johnson
Mayor
City of Augusta
535 Telfair Street
Suite 200
Augusta, GA 30901
mayorjohnson@augustaga.gov

Greg Mixon
SCDNR
mixong@dnr.sc.gov

Hameed Malik
City of Augusta
hmalik@augustaga.gov

J. Keith Whalen
USFS
james.whelen@usda.gov

Jaime Loichinger
ACHP
jloichinger@achp.gov

James Bates
USFS
james.bates@usda.gov

Jamie Sykes
USACE
James.A.Sykes@usace.army.mil

Jason Bettinger
SCDNR
BettingerJ@dnr.sc.gov

Jason Moser
USFS
jason.moser@usda.gov

Jay Payne
GDNR - Wildlife Resources Division
jason.payne@dnr.ga.gov

Jeff Williams
GDNR - Environmental Protection Division
jeffery.williams@dnr.ga.gov

Jeff Duncan
Honorable
US House of Representatives
2229 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Jennifer Bedell
Georgia Historic Preservation Division
Jennifer.Bedell@dca.ga.gov

Jennifer Welte
GDNR - Environmental Protection Division
jennifer.welte@dnr.ga.gov

Jessica Crawford
Archeological Conservancy (owner of Stallings
Island)
tacsoutheast@gmail.com

John Craun
landowner
johncraun@att.net

John Eddins
ACHP
jeddins@achp.gov

John Luton
Columbia County
jluton@columbiacounty.gov

Jon Ambrose
GDNR - Wildlife Resources Division
jon.ambrose@dnr.ga.gov

Kevin Mack
NOAA
kevin.mack@noaa.gov

Kofi Mustapha
Georgia Historic Preservation Division
Kofi.Mustapha@dca.ga.gov

LeeAnne Wendt
Muscogee Nation
lwendt@muscogeenation.com

Melanie Olds
USFWS
melanie_old@fws.gov

Morgan Kern
SCDNR
KernM@dnr.sc.gov

Oscar Flite
City of Augusta
oflite@augustaga.gov

Paul Farrow
Columbia County Visitors Bureau
pfarrow@comcast.net

Paula Marcinek
GDNR - Wildlife Resources Division
paula.marcinek@dnr.ga.gov

R.A. (Tony) Hicks
Individual
barneybimmer@gmail.com

Rob Pavey
Individual
rpavey1@comcast.net

Robert Phillips
Georgia Bass Federation
rphillips@gwf.org

Roderick Alfred
USFS
roderick.alfred@usda.gov

Rusty Wenerick
SCDHEC
weneriwr@dhec.sc.gov

Santiago Martinez
Georgia Historic Preservation Division
Santiago.Martinez@dca.ga.gov

Scott D. Johnson
Columbia County Administrator
630 Ronald Reagan Drive
Evans, GA 30809
sjohnson@columbiacountyga.gov

Shelly Blackburn
Columbia County Visitors Bureau
sblackburn@choosescolumbiacounty.com

Steve Schleiger
GDNR - Wildlife Resources Division
steve.schleiger@dnr.ga.gov

Susan Barrett
Individual
sdbarret@gmail.com

Thom Litts
GDNR - Wildlife Resources Division
thom.litts@dnr.ga.gov

Tonya Bonitatibus
Savannah Riverkeeper
riverkeeper@savannahriverkeeper.org

Turner Hunt
Muscogee Nation
thunt@muscogeenation.com

Twyla Cheatwood
NOAA
twyla.cheatwood@noaa.gov

Wenonah Haire
Catawba Indian Nation
wenonah.haire@catawba.com

Wes Byne
City of Augusta
wbyne@augustaga.gov

William Brown
Office of Energy Projects, Federal Energy
Regulatory Commission, ARO
3700 Crestwood Pkwy, NW
Suite 950
Duluth, GA 30096
william.brown2@ferc.gov