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Subject: [External] FAST-41 Initiation Notice | Robert C. Byrd Hydroelectric Project (P-15094)
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FAST-41 Initiation Notice (FIN)

Project Information:

Title: Robert C. Byrd Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. P-15094)

Sector: Renewable Energy Production

Type: Hydroelectric Generation – Run-of-Release

Sponsor Details:

Sponsor: Current Hydro LLC on behalf of Ohio Power and Light, LLC

Primary Contact:

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Secondary Contact:

Jeremy King, P.E.

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Project Purpose:

The Robert C. Byrd Hydroelectric Project adds 28.5 MW of run-of-release hydropower capacity to the existing, non-powered Robert C. Byrd Locks and Dam, operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, on the Ohio River. The project supports federal goals to expand access to affordable, reliable baseload renewable energy, particularly in response to growing demand across the PJM RTO. It has strong local support and is considered non-controversial.

Project Location:

Address: 1116 RC Byrd Drive, Gallipolis Ferry, WV 25515—Mason County, West Virginia

Site Description: The project consists of two powerhouses, situated in the main and auxiliary decommissioned lock chambers. The project will occupy 16 acres of federal land administered by USACE. A substation yard and control building will be sited on federal property within the USACE security-controlled area but physically separated from USACE operations buildings.

Environmental/Cultural Resources: The project is located within the Ohio River corridor and is subject to review under NEPA, Section 106 of the NHPA, and Section 408 of the Rivers and Harbors Act due to its proximity to federal infrastructure and potential impacts on navigational and cultural resources. The Robert C. Byrd Locks and Dam, formerly known as the Gallipolis Locks and Dam is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Current Hydro has completed numerous archaeological and historical studies at this site and has maintained regular consultation with the USACE cultural resource specialists as well as the state's Historic Preservation Officer. Numerous environmental studies have been completed to assess local resources and inform mitigation strategies.

Comprehensive project details—including environmental studies, resource assessments, and mitigation plans—are publicly available in the Final License Application, accessible via FERC's eLibrary by searching Project No. P-15094 or through [this link](#).

Sponsor Capability:

Current Hydro LLC has extensive experience in developing, permitting, and financing hydropower projects. The sponsor has assembled a multidisciplinary team with expertise in engineering, construction, environmental compliance, and federal permitting. The project is backed by private capital and structured to meet FERC licensing and USACE coordination requirements.

Federal Involvement:

The project will require:

- FERC License—Scoping Document 1 issued September 25, 2025. No public or agency scoping meeting. Pending issuance of the REA notice.
- Section 408 Approval from USACE (Huntington District) for alterations to Corps infrastructure
- NEPA Review—likely an Environmental Assessment prepared by third-party contractor
- Section 106 Consultation for cultural resources
- Section 404/401 Permits under the Clean Water Act
- Operating Agreement with USACE for use of federal lands and coordination with dam

operations

Confirm the Project Meets FAST-41 Eligibility Criteria:

The Robert C. Byrd Hydroelectric Project qualifies under the Standard Pathway of FAST-41 eligibility:

- It is a renewable energy infrastructure project.
- It requires multiple federal authorizations, including FERC and USACE.
- It is subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- It is likely to require a total investment of \$200M.
- It is likely to benefit from enhanced interagency coordination, given its location on federal property and proximity to USACE infrastructure.
- The project's potential FAST-41 designation would support timely and transparent permitting, especially given its visibility and alignment with federal energy priorities, and an executed renewable energy purchase agreement.

Regards,

Jeremy R. King, P.E.

Chief Executive Officer

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