

HYDROPOWER RELICENSING USING THE NEW INTEGRATED LICENSING PROCESS: THE MYSTIC LAKE EXAMPLE

Ginger Gillin, GEI Consultants, Inc., 127 E Front St., Suite 216, Missoula, MT 59802,
ggillin@geiconsultants.com

The Integrated Relicensing Process or ILP became the obligatory Federal Energy Regulatory Commission standard licensing process in 2005 for future relicensings. Although 13 ILP proceedings are in process, no Licensee has yet received a new FERC license under ILP rules. The ILP process differs from previous relicensing processes because the schedule of activities is rigorous and unforgiving. Disputes are resolved via an appointed dispute resolution panel with on a specified timeline. There are incentives for stakeholders to collaborate and participate early on. The Mystic Lake Project, owned and operated by PPL Montana, is in the first group of projects to undertake this new licensing process. I will use the Mystic Lake relicensing as an example to highlight some of the opportunities and potential pitfalls in the ILP process.