

Thompson Falls Relicensing Schedule

Table 1: Thompson Falls pre-filing relicensing schedule (FERC activities in green, Relicensing Participant comment opportunities in orange).

Activity	Comment	Code of Federal Regulations (CFR Title 18)	Date
File PAD and NOI to Relicense with FERC. (Formal FERC process begins with this filing)	Earliest date to file PAD & NorthWestern's filing date	§5.5 and 5.6	July 1, 2020
Tribal consultation meetings	With FERC staff	§5.7	Aug 1, 2020
Notice of Commencement, Scoping Document 1 (SD1)	Within 60 days of PAD/NOI	§5.8	Aug 28, 2020
Scoping Meetings and On-Site Project Site Visit ¹	Within 30 days after SD1	§5.8	Sep 2020
PAD/SD1 Comments and Study Requests Due	60 days after Notice of Commencement	§5.9	Oct 27, 2020
Scoping Document 2 (as necessary)	45 days after comment deadline on SD1	§5.10	Dec 11, 2020
File Proposed Study Plan (PSP) based on Relicensing Participants input on PAD	45 days after comment deadline on SD1	§5.11	Dec 11, 2020
Study Plan Meetings	30 days after PSP filed	§5.11	Jan 11, 2021
Relicensing Participants Comments on PSP Due	90 days after PSP filed	§5.12	Mar 11, 2021
File Revised Proposed Study Plan based on Relicensing Participants input on the PSP	30 days after comment deadline on PSP	§5.13	Apr 12, 2021
Relicensing Participants Comments on Revised Study Plan (RSP) Due	15 days after RSP filed	§5.13	Apr 27, 2021
FERC Study Plan Determination ²		§5.13	May 12, 2021
Initial Study Season		§5.15	Spring/Summer 2021
Initial Study Season Report	One year after study plan determination	§5.15	May 12, 2022

¹ Due to the proclamation declaring a National Emergency concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), issued by the President on March 13, 2020, FERC is waiving section 5.8(b)(viii) of the Commission's regulations and does not intend to conduct a public scoping meeting or site visit in this case. Instead, FERC is soliciting written comments, recommendations, and information, on the SD1.

²Agencies and Tribes with mandatory conditioning authority may request the use of a formal dispute resolution process regarding FERC's Study Plan Determination. Within 20 days of the Study Plan Determination, any federal agency or Tribe with authority to include mandatory conditions in a license may file a notice of study dispute with respect to studies pertaining directly to the exercise of their authorities under sections 4(e) and 18 of the Federal Power Act or section 401 of the Clean Water Act

Activity	Comment	Code of Federal Regulations (CFR Title 18)	Date
Initial Study Report Meeting with Relicensing Participants	Within 15 days of study report	§5.15	May 27, 2022
Initial Study Meeting Summary	Within 15 days of study report meeting	§5.15	June 11, 2022
Second Study Season, if needed		§5.15	Spring/Summer 2022
Updated Study Report, if needed	Two years after study plan determination	§5.15	May 12, 2023
Updated Study Report Meeting with Relicensing Participants	Within 15 days of study report	§5.15	May 27, 2023
Updated Study Meeting Summary	Within 15 days of Study Report meeting	§5.15	June 11, 2023
Preliminary Licensing Proposal (PLP) or Draft License Application	Target date	§5.16	Jul 2023
Comment period on PLP or Draft License Application	90 days after PLP or Draft License Application	§5.16	Oct 2023
Filing of Final License Application	No later than 2 years prior to license expiration	§5.17	Dec 31, 2023

Table 2: Thompson Falls Anticipated Post-Filing Relicensing Schedule (FERC activities in green, Relicensing Participants comment periods in orange). Dates are approximate, based on an assumed FLA filing date of December 31, 2023.

Activity	Comment	Code of Federal Regulations (CFR Title 18)	Approximate Date
File FLA	2 years before license expiration	§5.17	Dec 31, 2023
FERC issues Tendering Notice and Schedule	14 days after FLA filed	§5.19	Jan 15, 2024
FERC issues Ready for Environmental Analysis Notice (REA)	Target date	§5.22	Feb 2024
Comments, interventions, and preliminary recommendations and agency conditions and prescriptions due	60 days after REA	§5.23	Apr 2024
401 Water Quality Certification Request	No later than 60 days after REA	§5.23	Apr 2024
Applicant files Comments on Agency Conditions	105 days from REA	§5.23	June 2024
FERC Issues NEPA Document	120 days from REA	§5.24, 5.25	Dec 2024
Comments on NEPA Document Due	No more than 60 days	§5.23	Feb 2025
FWS issues ESA BO, if needed	Target date		Apr 2025
Modified recommendations, agency conditions and prescriptions due	No later than 60 days from NEPA Document comment due date	§5.24, 5.25	Apr 2025
FERC Issues Final NEPA Document	Target date	§5.24, 5.25	Jul 2025
FERC Licensing Decision	Target date		Oct 2025
Thompson Falls Project FERC License Expires			Dec 2025