

**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 name and address of the owner of the Stevens Creek Hydroelectric Project is listed in Item 3 above.
7. 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 within the Stevens Creek Project boundary. However, the following entities are located directly downstream of the Project and are known to have an interest in the proceeding:

Wes Byne, Director  
City of Augusta Utilities Department  
452 Walker Street  
Suite 200  
Augusta, GA 30901

Dayton Sherrouse, Executive Director  
Augusta Canal Authority  
1450 Greene Street  
Enterprise Mill, Ste 400  
Augusta, Georgia 30901

- (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

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

Indigenous 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 – Statement of Cost and Financing (*Privileged*)

Exhibit E – Environmental Report (*Cultural Resources Reports filed as Privileged*)

Exhibit F – General Design Information and Supporting Design Report (*CEII*)

Exhibit G – Project Boundary Maps

Exhibit H – Miscellaneous Filing Material

**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, County of Lexington, by Iris Griffin, Vice President, Power Generation 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 25<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2023.

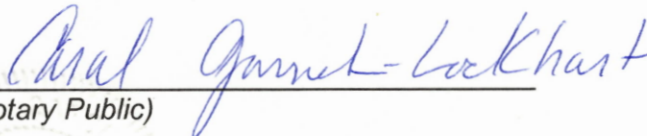
**DOMINION ENERGY SOUTH CAROLINA, INC.**

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 South Carolina, this 25<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2023.

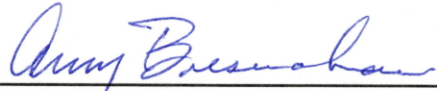
  
(Notary Public)

(My Commission Expires 6/25/31)/seal

CAROL GARRICK-LOCKHART  
Notary Public  
State of South Carolina  
My Commission Expires 06/25/2031

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Amy Bresnahan, Relicensing Project Manager, Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc., 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, Final Application for License. Dated this 27 day of October, 2023.

By:   
Amy Bresnahan  
Relicensing Project Manager  
Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc.

## **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

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

Bryant Bowen  
GADNR – Wildlife Resources Division  
bryant.bowen@dnr.ga.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  
GADNR - Wildlife Resources Division  
chris.nelson@dnr.ga.gov

Chris Thomason  
SCDNR  
thomasonc@dnr.sc.gov

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

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

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

Craig Clarke, P.E.  
USACE – Savannah District  
Craig.M.Clarke@usace.army.mil

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 Hedeem  
GADNR – Environmental Protection Division  
david.hedeem@dnr.ga.gov

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

Dayton Sherrouse  
Augusta Canal Authority  
Sherrouse@augustacanal.com

Dennis Hodges  
Columbia County  
dhodges@columbiacountyga.gov

Derrick Miller  
USFS  
derrick.miller@usda.gov

Elizabeth Booth  
GADNR – Environmental Protection Division  
Elizabeth.booth@dnr.ga.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

Fritz Rohde  
NOAA – SERO  
fritz.rohde@noaa.gov

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

Gray Buckles  
USFS  
samuel.buckles@usda.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

Jeff Darley  
GADNR  
jeff.darley@dnr.ga.gov

Jeff Williams  
GADNR - 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 DCA  
Jennifer.Bedell@dca.ga.gov

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

Jessica Crawford  
Archeological Conservancy  
tacsoutheast@gmail.com

John Craun  
Landowner  
johncraun@att.net

John Eddins  
ACHP  
jeddings@achp.gov

John Luton  
Columbia County  
jluton@columbiacounty.gov

John Sylvest  
SCDAH  
jsylvest@scdah.sc.gov

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

Kevin Mack  
NOAA  
kevin.mack@noaa.gov

LeeAnne Wendt  
Muscogee Nation  
lwendt@muscogeenation.com

Melanie Olds  
USFWS  
melanie\_olds@fws.gov

Morgan Kern  
SCDNR  
KernM@dnr.sc.gov

Olivia Kendrick  
Georgia DCA  
olivia.Kendrick@dca.ga.gov

Oscar Flite  
City of Augusta  
oflite@augustaga.gov

Paul Farrow  
Columbia County Visitors Bureau  
pfarrow@comcast.net

Paula Marcinek  
The Nature Conservancy  
paula.marcinek@tnc.org

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

Robert Phillips  
Georgia Wildlife Federation  
rphillips@gwf.org

Roderick Alfred  
USFS  
roderick.alfred@usda.gov

Rusty Wenerick  
SCDHEC  
weneriwr@dhec.sc.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

Stan Simpson  
USACE – Savannah District  
stanley.l.simpson@usace.army.mil

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

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

Tony Hornbuckle  
Landowner  
thornbuckle61@gmail.com

Tonya Bonitatibus  
Savannah Riverkeeper  
riverkeeper@savannahriverkeeper.org

Turner Hunt  
Muscogee Nation  
thunt@muscogeenation.com

Wei Zeng  
GADNR – Environmental Protection Division  
wei.zeng@dnr.ga.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