



# Press Release

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## **NHA shows support at FERC conference for expedited licensing proposal for ocean, tidal, instream projects**

**WASHINGTON DC (Oct. 1, 2007)** – The National Hydropower Association will join dozens of waterpower developers, utility companies, government agencies and other interested groups Tuesday in Portland, Oregon, to discuss the [Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's proposed licensing process for hydrokinetic energy pilot projects](#).

The FERC proposal, announced in July, is designed to complete the licensing of ocean, tidal, wave and instream hydrokinetic projects in as few as six months. Among other things, the process allows for these emerging technology generators to produce power while still testing. FERC is hosting the workshop to answer questions and receive feedback related to the proposal.

NHA has more than 30 member companies that compose its Ocean, Tidal, and New Technologies Council – a group that is actively pursuing potential development of waterpower resources. Representatives from many of those companies will be attending, along with NHA Executive Director Linda Church Ciocci, who is one of several panelists.

“There’s no doubt that through development of hydrokinetic energy—whether from oceans, tides, waves or rivers— we can produce a great amount of clean, climate-friendly, renewable energy,” said Church Ciocci. “There is more than energy to be harnessed; there is also the spirit of innovation. FERC is proposing a regulatory process that encourages the development of these evolving technologies in a real-world environment and that is precisely what the industry needs to thrive.”

FERC Commissioner Philip Moeller will lead the conference.

“This new generation of hydrokinetic technologies will bring hydropower to the forefront of the renewable energy debate,” Moeller said. “It is generating a lot of enthusiasm throughout the country, particularly in coastal states like my home state of Washington.”

A recently released report by the Electric Power Research Institute estimates hydropower can add at least another 23,000 megawatts by the year 2025, with a total growth potential of nearly 90,000 megawatts. That 2025 estimated potential includes 13,000 megawatts from ocean, wave and instream hydrokinetic technologies.

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*NHA is a non-profit national association dedicated exclusively to advancing the interests of the U.S. hydropower industry. The association represents 61 percent of domestic, non-federal hydroelectric capacity in the U.S. Its membership consists of more than 140 organizations including public utilities, investor-owned utilities, independent power producers, equipment manufacturers, environmental and engineering consultants, and attorneys.*