



Press Release

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NHA Welcomes New FERC Commissioners

WASHINGTON, DC - The National Hydropower Association congratulates Philip Moeller, Jon Wellinohoff, and Marc Spitzer on their unanimous Senate confirmation to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

"NHA is pleased that these three accomplished individuals are joining Chairman Kelliher and Commissioner Kelly at FERC," said Linda Church Ciocci, NHA executive director. "We look forward to working with them to ensure a strong and healthy future for the hydropower resource while maintaining the stewardship and protection of our nation's rivers."

The new commissioners arrive at a time when hydropower's role as a climate-friendly, domestic contributor to America's energy portfolio is needed more than ever. Several critical issues will require their attention, including the development of a regulatory process for new hydropower technologies - in-stream, ocean and tidal power - and monitoring the continued implementation of both the integrated licensing process (ILP) and the EAct 2005 hydropower licensing provisions.

With the approval of the three new commissioners, FERC, for the first time in several years, has a full Commission of five members.

Added Church Ciocci, "It is important to have a full Commission and the variety of experience and expertise the new commissioners bring is a valuable asset to FERC."

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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.