



PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

NHA Congratulates Energy Secretary Rick Perry on Confirmation

Washington, D.C. (March 2, 2017) – The National Hydropower Association issued the following statement today congratulating Rick Perry on his confirmation as Secretary of the Department of Energy.

“The hydropower industry extends its congratulations to Rick Perry on his confirmation as Secretary of Energy. Secretary Perry takes this cabinet post at a critical moment for the hydropower and marine energy sectors. Significant growth is available today, but the slow incremental, growth of clean hydropower remains the status quo. An outdated regulatory process continues to hold hydropower back, taking 10 years or more to license a project.

“Last year, the U.S. Department of Energy drew up the blueprints for unlocking hydropower’s potential. The Hydropower Vision report showed that we can sustainably grow by 50 GW by 2050, and put the nation on a new path to creating nearly 76,000 jobs. Getting there requires Congress and the Administration to take action to add generation to our nation’s existing dam infrastructure, which is sitting idle.

“At the same time, even though hydropower provides numerous benefits to the grid, nearly half of the nation’s renewable electricity and 97 percent of America’s energy storage, the value of its contribution has gone unaddressed.

“We are hopeful Secretary Perry makes hydropower and marine energy a priority, and that he plays a major role in revitalizing and reinvesting in the nation’s energy and water infrastructure.”

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