



Document Details

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Submitter Info

Comment: See attached file(s) * 

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Comment: Provide ongoing resource assessment to provide economic feasibility of new energy from the 54,000 potential non energy sites, Potential of thousands of new jobs, potential to add up to 12.1 GW (12,100 MW) at NPDs in the US. Provide a big picture analysis of potential hydropower sites. Focus on moving the nation towards a cleaner energy economy that includes developing environmentally appropriate renewable energy projects involving hydropower. Maximizing existing infrastructure is lowhanging fruit to meet the goal of developing more, the federal hydropower system, and in particular Reclamation, has an important role to play in realizing this untapped potential; incentives for development can expand the universe of hydropower projects that are economically viable. Present the best information and most accurate picture of growth opportunities. U.S. renewable energy resources; Evaluate the potential of additional hydropower from non-powered dams (NPDs) that could contribute to the amount of renewable energy available across the nation. Substantial hydropower potential exists at Reclamation sites. Some site analyses base on over 20 years of hydrologic data that indicate a high likelihood of generation capability.

Sites that could be economically feasible to develop today, based on available data and study assumptions. Congress and the Administration, as well as the states, have set ambitious energy goals for the country, seeking the short and long term benefits of significantly increased renewable energy generation, such as reduced emission of greenhouse gases and air pollutants. Hydropower can and should play a leading role in meeting these goals by bringing significant new renewable energy generation online. As the federal system makes up about half of the hydropower generation in the United States today, and as there is significant existing nonpowered federal infrastructure that could be converted to generating resources, the hydropower industry believe Reclamation (as well as the Corps of Engineers) is uniquely situated to support the deployment of new hydropower resources to meet these goals. Given that mitigation costs for hydropower are highly site specific, it may not be appropriate to assume that these costs are dependent on the installed capacity of the project. Study a technical analysis and identify the 54,000 NPDs in a hydropower resource assessment effort. Estimate the maximum generation potentials of all NPDs in a nationally consistent manner. Make available to developers for use in focusing their attention on selected regions for more detailed site identification and analysis. Provide new technical ideas for water passing a facility to be converted to electrical energy and remove constant at facilities. Site-specific designs will (a) incorporate detailed monitoring of daily and hourly head and flow variations and (b) balance initial costs with energy revenue to yield site-specific designs of lesser capacity and production potential. Upgrade facilities and demonstrate new technologies at existing hydropower locations. Identify specific Federal facilities that are well-suited as sites for sustainable hydropower. Coordinate research and development on advanced hydropower technologies; Increase hydropower generation through low-impact and environmentally sustainable approaches; Assess the potential for developing new hydropower capacity and generation at existing Reclamation facilities. Determine the economic viability of hydropower production at existing Reclamation facilities. Document economically viable opportunities for future hydroelectric power development. Turbine types and efficiency specified for each site as indicated by the available hydraulic head and flow. Actual or estimated distances and costs of transmission lines. Calculation of the internal rates of return. Hydrologic data, including flow and net hydraulic head (net head), are necessary to calculate potential power generation at a site. Net head is the difference between head water and tail water elevations. Power generation can be estimated using the following formula: $\text{Power [kW]} = (\text{Flow [cfs]} * \text{Net Head [feet]} * \text{Efficiency}) / 11.81$ Flow, head water and tail water data are typically available from flow meter or gage measurements, reservoir elevations, and project design specifications. Efficiency is dependent on the turbine design capacity, operating capacity, and turbine type. The summary of Non-powered Dam Hydropower Potential by Federal Agency, US Army Corps of Engineers; # of NPDs 121; Bureau of Land Management, 657.0, Department of Defense 219.0, Forest Service 2,531.0, Fish and Wildlife Service 297.0, National Park Service 96.0, Bureau of Indian Affairs 694.0. The Resource Assessment considers potential benefits related to water

supply, fish and wildlife considerations, and effects on Native Americans, storage, water for wildfire fight, water quality, and recreation. *🌐

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