

194 FERC ¶ 62,128  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Lock+™ Hydro Friends Fund X, LLC

Project No. 15257-001

ORDER GRANTING EXTENSION OF TERM FOR  
PRELIMINARY PERMIT

(March 18, 2026)

On February 27, 2026, Lock+™ Hydro Friends Fund X, LLC (Lock Hydro) filed an application for a four-year extension of its existing preliminary permit for the proposed Melvin Price Dam Hydropower Project (project), issued on July 25, 2022, and expiring on June 30, 2026.<sup>1</sup> The proposed project would be located at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (Corps) Melvin Price Dam on the Mississippi River in St. Charles County, Missouri. For the reasons discussed below, the request to extend the term of the preliminary permit for an additional four years is granted.

Section 5(b) of the Federal Power Act (FPA),<sup>2</sup> allows for a preliminary permit term to be extended once for not more than four additional years if the Commission finds that the permittee has carried out activities under the permit in good faith and with reasonable diligence. In its three annual progress reports, Lock Hydro indicates that it has: (1) conducted detailed energy and capacity analyses for the project; (2) contacted multiple turbine manufacturers regarding the specifications of turbines; (3) had multiple discussions and negotiations with a buyer for the output of the project; (4) had multiple discussions to obtain funding for the project; (5) obtained from the Corps information, data, studies, and reports regarding the construction of the Melvin Price Dam; and (6) contacted stakeholders and Tribes to establish points of contact and discuss the project.

Upon review of the application for extension, as well as the three progress reports submitted under the preliminary permit, Lock Hydro has demonstrated that it has carried out activities under the permit in good faith and with reasonable diligence. Therefore, the request for extension of the preliminary permit term is granted. It is expected that during the remaining term of the permit, as extended, agency consultation will continue, studies will be completed, and a development application will be prepared.

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<sup>1</sup> See *Lock+™ Hydro Friends Fund X, LLC*, 180 FERC ¶ 62,041 (2022).

<sup>2</sup> 16 U.S.C. § 798(b)(1).

Project No. 15257-001

- 2 -

The Director orders:

(A) Ordering paragraph (A) of the preliminary permit for the Melvin Price Dam Hydropower Project No. 15257 is amended to read as follows:

(A) A preliminary permit is issued for the Melvin Price Dam Hydropower Project No. 15257 to Lock+™ Hydro Friends Fund X, LLC, for a period effective the first day of the month in which this permit is issued, and ending either 96 months from the effective date or on the date that a development application submitted by the permittee has been accepted for filing, whichever occurs first.

(B) This order constitutes final agency action. Any party may file a request for rehearing of this order within 30 days of the date of its issuance, as provided in section 313(a) of the FPA, 16 U.S.C. § 825*l*, and section 385.713 of the Commission's regulations, 18 C.F.R. § 385.713 (2025). The filing of a request for rehearing does not operate as a stay of any date specified in this order.

Janet Hutzal, Chief  
Midwest Branch  
Division of Hydropower Licensing

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