

Original

FEDERAL POWER COMMISSION  
BUREAU OF POWER  
Division of Licensed Projects  
Washington, D. C. 20426

Date: November 20, 1970

Application for New Major License

Project No.                      2301-Montana (Mystic Lake Project)

Expiration Date of Original License:                      December 31, 1969  
Annual License issued

Date Filed:                      December 23, 1968; amended December 23, 1969; supplemented October 29, 1970

Filed by:                      The Montana Power Company

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Location:

In: Stillwater and Carbon Counties,  
Montana in the vicinity of Fishtail,  
Columbus, Livingston and Billings

On: Mystic Lake and West Rosebud Creek  
(a tributary of the Stillwater River)

Jurisdiction: Affects lands of the United States  
within Custer National Forest

Description of Project:

Installed capacity - 10,000 kw

The Mystic Lake project consists of the following existing facilities: (1) a 145-foot long, 15-foot high earth dike with concrete core; (2) a 368-foot long, 45-foot high concrete arch dam with a 300-foot overflow spillway controlled by flashboards; (3) a 446-acre reservoir having a usable storage capacity of 21,000 acre-feet between its maximum and minimum elevations of 7,673.5 feet and 7,612 feet (USGS datum); (4) a conduit from the reservoir to the powerhouse consisting of a 1005-foot long tunnel, a 9,012-foot long wood-stave pipeline, a surge tank and a 2,690-foot long steel penstock; (5) a powerhouse containing two generating units each rated at 5,000 kw; (6) 10.7 miles of the Mystic Lake - Columbus transmission line and 8.8 miles of the Mystic Lake - Red Lodge transmission line; and (7) all other facilities and interests appurtenant to the operation of the project. A 19-foot high, 410-foot long earth fill re-regulating dam is proposed at the outlet of West Rosebud Lake where it would form a 49-acre reservoir about a mile downstream from the powerhouse.

Fair Value:

The project's estimated claimed fair value of \$5,333,995 (as of December 1, 1961) was submitted by the Applicant October 6, 1965 pursuant to Section 23(a) of the Federal Power Act and Section 4.10 of the Commission's Regulations. This estimate is under consideration by the Commission which will make the final determination of the project's fair value.

Annual Taxes Paid:

Applicant paid about \$98,000 in county taxes in 1968.

Recreational Features:

The project is located within Custer National Forest and is bounded on three sides by the Beartooth Primitive Area which contains the State's highest peaks. The Forest Service administers two recreation sites downstream from the powerhouse and maintains a foot trail to the reservoir. No recreation facilities are presently provided by the Company. The Company proposes to construct a parking area with sanitary facilities near the end of the project's access road and will re-construct the trail leading to the reservoir. It has been agreed that the Forest Service should continue to administer all proposed and existing recreational developments in the project area with the cooperation of the Company. The Company states that the consensus of concerned State and Federal agencies is that the essentially primitive nature of the Mystic Lake Area should be preserved.

Use of Project Energy:

Project output will be integrated with Applicant's other generating capacity to serve customers in Montana.