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# FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

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## NEWS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **GUIDELINES FOR EVALUATING HYDROPOWER PROJECTS REVISED**

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has finalized and issued a revised chapter of its Engineering Guidelines for the Evaluation of Hydropower Projects. The engineering guidelines provide guidance on conducting engineering investigations and analysis at FERC-licensed projects.

Chapter III, "Gravity Dams," has been updated to include several advances in the analysis of concrete gravity dams. The significant changes include the following:

- Changed safety factors when strength parameter uncertainty is reduced;
- Additional guidance on uplift pressure;
- Revised procedures for earthquake analysis;
- Methods for dealing with hydrodynamic forces; and
- Guidance on computer modeling.

The revised Chapter III, as well as the rest of FERC's Engineering Guidelines, are on the Commission's website at <http://www.ferc.gov/hydro/docs/engguide/guidelines.htm>.