# FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION



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**NEWS RELEASE** 

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**NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:** 

Celeste Miller (202) 502-8680

# FERC LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE; FERRIS RENAMED

Chairman Pat Wood, III today announced the redesign of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's website to improve usability and access for users. The new site renames the Commission's document retrieval system, known as FERRIS, to eLibrary.

The website will retain its original address at <u>www.ferc.gov</u> and is effective immediately.

"We are very excited about the new website, Chairman Wood said. AThe site offers a great new design, organization, and features that are practical for citizens, members of the industry, and our employees who use the site as a source of information about FERC activities."

Key elements of the site redesign include:

#### **New Look and Features**

The new web site will have a design that is easier to use and more intuitive to all users. Key features include:

- major content tabs;
- a tabbed FERC Public Calendar to enhance participation;
- a special AFor Citizens@section for those affected by our infrastructure activities; and a
- Customer Protection section.

## **Regrouped Pages**

The site's information has been rearranged to create a sensible network of related (more)

and linked pages (sitemap) that will easily guide the user to the information or features needed.

#### **Clear and Intuitive Titles**

By renaming some titles, user guessing has been eliminated and navigation of the site has been improved. Users will find renamed electronic features in one convenient section: Documents & Filing. However, the functions of the features will not be altered.

- **eLibrary** will replace the name FERRIS
- **eForms** will replace the name Forms
- **eFilings** will replace the name Filings

## **Easier Navigation**

The new site will feature horizontal navigation at the top of the pages and dropdown boxes when the user scrolls over section tabs, making information easier to locate.

# **Leaner and Easily Scanned Pages**

The new site will not be hard on the eyes. The content of the site is easy to scan and will save users time when looking for information. Links have been regrouped.

To make the new site easier to use, the Commission conducted web usability testing on the old site and new site design with energy practitioners, landowners and citizens, members of the press, financial community and FERC staff. The results of the testing significantly affected the overall design of the new site.

"The new site is a fundamental component of the Commission=s mission to provide open and effective communication with the public," Chairman Wood declared. "It is a tool in the Commission=s commitment to timely, reliable information. Our focus is the public. We wanted to make navigation easier, features better and information clearer."