

## Preface

These engineering guidelines have been prepared by the Office of Energy Projects (OEP) to provide guidance to the technical Staff in the processing of applications for license and in the evaluation of dams under Part 12 of the Commission's regulations. The Guidelines will also be used to evaluate proposed modifications or additions to existing projects under the jurisdiction of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission). Staff technical personnel consist of the professional disciplines (e.g. professional engineers and geologists) that have the responsibility for reviewing studies and evaluating designs prepared by owners or developers of dams.

The guidelines are intended to provide technical personnel of the Office of Energy Projects, including the Regional Office and Washington Office personnel, with procedures and criteria for the engineering review and analysis of projects over which the Commission has jurisdiction. In addition, these guidelines should be used by staff in the evaluation of consultant or licensee/exemptee conducted studies. The guidance is intended to cover the majority of studies usually encountered by Staff. However, special cases may require deviation from, or modification of, the guidelines. When such cases arise, Staff must determine the applicability of alternate criteria or procedures based upon their experience and must exercise sound engineering judgment when considering situations not covered by the guidelines. The alternate procedures, or criteria, used in these situations should be justified and accompanied by any suggested changes for incorporation in the guidelines. Since every dam site and hydropower related structure is unique, individual design considerations and construction treatment will be required. Technical judgment is therefore required in most analytical studies.

These guidelines are not a substitute for good engineering judgment, nor are the procedures recommended herein to be applied rigidly in place of other analytical solutions to engineering problems encountered by staff. Staff should keep in mind that the engineering profession is not limited to a specific solution to each problem, and that the results are the desired end to problem solving.

These guidelines are primarily intended for internal use by OEP staff, but also provide licensees, exemptees, and applicants with general guidance that should be considered when presenting any studies presented to the Commission under Parts 4 and 12 of the Regulations (18 CFR, Parts 4 and 12). When any portions of the Guidelines becomes outdated, obsolete, or needs revision for any reason, it will be revised and supplemented as necessary. Comments on, or recommended changes, in these Guidelines should be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Inspections for consideration and possible inclusion in future updates. New pages will be prepared and issued with instructions for page replacements.