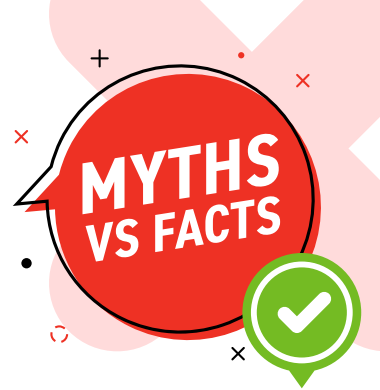




Myth

I&M has made a decision on the future of the hydroelectric facilities.

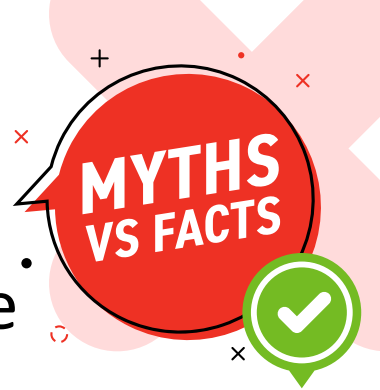
Fact

We are early in the process and are here tonight to gather public feedback. **The studies just began and NO DATA has been gathered.**

YOU are our FIRST STEP in this process.

Myth

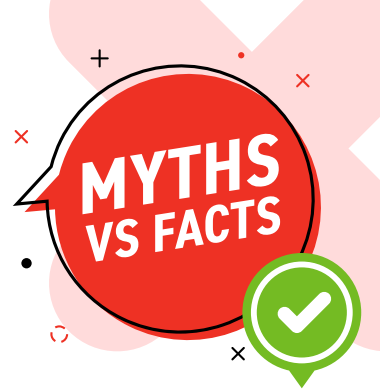
I&M is required to hold public meetings before making a decision.



Fact

Tonight's meeting is NOT a requirement of these studies.

We are here tonight to inform and educate regarding the standard processes we have to follow and gather your input.

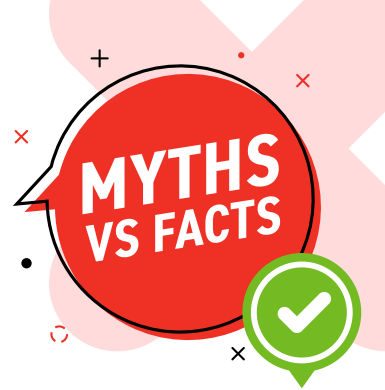


Myth

Relicensing or decommissioning are the **ONLY** options on the table.

Fact

Options can not be determined until these studies are completed. Once completed, I&M will have a clearer view of alternatives moving forward.



Myth

I&M is considering decommissioning due to finances.

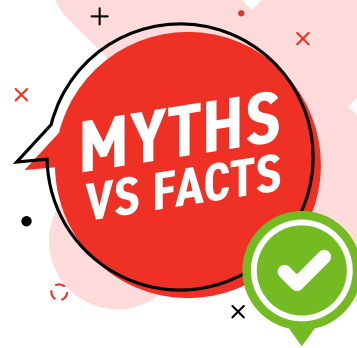
Fact

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission or FERC Licenses will be coming due, and it is standard process to reevaluate.

If left unaddressed, the hydroelectric facilities could cause escalating maintenance costs, and impact to river flow and wildlife. I&M wants to proactively make an informed decision about the facilities' future that balances all these factors and best serves its customers, the community, and the environment.

Myth

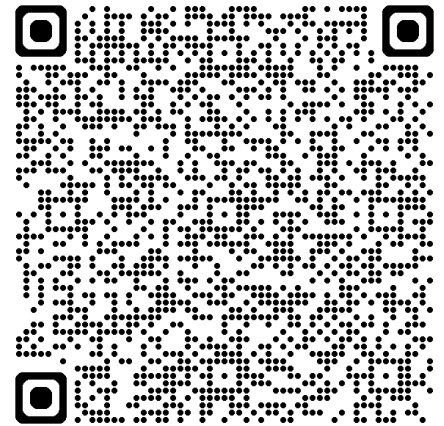
No other hydroelectric facility has to worry about a FERC License.



Fact

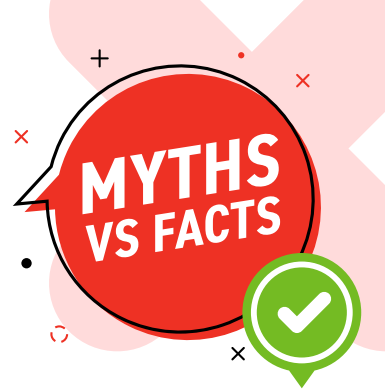
EVERY hydroelectric facility must be licensed by FERC.

A license from the Commission is required to construct, operate, and maintain a non-federal hydroelectric project*.



For More Info, Scan the QR code or visit www.ferc.gov/licensing/small-low-impact-hydropower-projects/small-low-impact-hydropower-projects-types-projects

*Source: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC.GOV)



Myth

These facilities have never been evaluated for a new license.

Fact

Both facilities were evaluated for relicensing approximately 30 years ago.

Due to the aging infrastructure, a decommissioning study is also necessary before relicensing can be considered.

FAQ

What is the Hydroelectric Facility Community Conversation about?



Answer

I&M is exploring the best long-term plan for its Elkhart and Mottville hydroelectric facilities.

No decision on the hydroelectric facilities is being made at this time.

This is an early process to examine future options for the facilities, and the potential impacts and benefits of each option.

We are carefully examining the following options as part of our upcoming FERC license coming due:

1. Relicensing the facilities to continue full operations;
2. Decommissioning the facilities, which involves facility removal and restoring a free-flowing river;
3. Examination of these options encompasses essential studies on the environmental impact, economic consequences, and the community's uses of the river.

FAQ



Why are the hydroelectric facilities being assessed?

Answer

The hydroelectric facilities in Elkhart and Mottville began operation in 1913 and 1923, respectively, and are aging. If left unaddressed, the hydroelectric facilities could cause escalating maintenance costs, and impact to river flow and wildlife.

I&M wants to proactively make an informed decision about the facilities' future that balances all these factors and best serves its customers, the community, and the environment.

The hydroelectric facilities are also being analyzed and assessed from an operations and cost perspective, as part of I&M's regulatory process, for evaluation in I&M's Integrated Resource Plan (IRP).



FAQ

Is I&M examining how a final decision on the hydroelectric facilities will impact the environment?

Answer

Yes.

I&M is carefully studying the potential impacts on the environment of the future options previously described (relicensing, decommissioning, and removing generation equipment), including the impacts on water quality, fish and other wildlife, and river sediment.

FAQ

Will the hydroelectric facilities be replaced with anything?



Answer

It is unknown at this time.

We are conducting a socio-economic study to explore possible options, including whether or not replacement infrastructure would be needed.

Part of the study involves looking at potential land use changes around the hydroelectric facilities if they were to be removed.



FAQ

What is FERC?

Answer

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, or FERC, is an independent agency that regulates the interstate transmission of electricity, natural gas, and oil.

FERC also oversees licensing hydropower projects.



FAQ

What is a FERC license?

Answer

A FERC license is a license to construct, operate or maintain a hydroelectric facility.

FAQ

What is an Integrated Resource Plan (IRP)?



Answer

An IRP is a long-term business planning tool used to evaluate resource options necessary to meet forecasted demand, typically over a future 20-year period, in a way that balances IRP objectives, such as affordability, reliability, and sustainability for I&M's customers and stakeholders.