



Public Utility District No. 1 of Douglas County

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Honorable Magalie Roman Salas, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street NE
Washington, DC 20426

December 1, 2005

Subject: Public Utility District No. 1 of Douglas County – Wells Hydroelectric Project (No. 2149) - Request for Designation as Non-Federal Representative for Endangered Species Act Consultation and Consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

Dear Ms. Salas:

Public Utility District No. 1 of Douglas County (Douglas PUD) is preparing to initiate the Integrated Licensing Process (ILP) for the Wells Hydroelectric Project No. 2149. The formal ILP for the Wells Project will begin in December 2006, when Douglas PUD submits the NOI and PAD for the Wells Project. In preparation for the formal ILP, Douglas PUD has been conducting Pre-ILP discussions with various resource agencies, tribes and local community governments. One of the main goals of these discussions is to identify resource issues associated with future operations of the Wells Project.

Douglas PUD, the resource agencies and Tribes, agree that the process of issue identification would be streamlined if the Commission would assign consultation authority to Douglas PUD for cultural resources and endangered species issues at this time. Therefore, Douglas PUD respectfully requests that FERC do the following:

- (1) Authorize Douglas PUD to initiate and conduct day-to-day consultations on cultural resources with the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, and any appropriate and interested tribal, resource agency or other entities consistent with requirements under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, pursuant to the provisions of 36 CFR § 800.2(c)(4).
- (2) Designate Douglas PUD as the Commission's non-federal representative for the purposes of informal consultation related to ESA listed and candidate species. Agencies involved in this consultation include the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.

Douglas PUD understands that the Commission retains ultimate authority and responsibility for consultation related to ESA and Section 106 issues, including its responsibility for government-to-government relationships with Tribes.

If you have any questions related to this request, please feel free to contact Scott Kreiter at 509-881-2327.

Sincerely,



Shane Bickford
Relicensing Coordinator
Douglas PUD

Copy: Camille Pleasants (Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation - THPO)
Allyson Brooks (Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation – SHPO)
Jim Fisher (Bureau of Land Management)
Mark Miller (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)
Keith Kirkendall (National Marine Fisheries Service)
Ritchie Graves (National Marine Fisheries Service)
David Turner (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission)