

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20426

February 4, 2009

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

Project No. 2149-131-Washington
Wells Hydroelectric Project
Public Utility District No. 1 of
Douglas County

William C. Dobbins, Manager
Public Utility District No. 1 of Douglas County
1151 Valley Mall Parkway
East Wenatchee, WA 98802

**Subject: Determination on Requests for Modifications to the Wells Hydroelectric
Project Study Plan**

Dear Mr. Dobbins:

Pursuant to 18 CFR § 5.13(c), this letter contains my determination on requests for modifications to the Wells Hydroelectric Project (Wells Project) study plan and schedule.

Background

The Public Utility District No. 1 of Douglas County (Douglas PUD) filed its initial study report on October 15, 2008. As required by the regulations, the report described the overall progress in implementing the study plan and the data collected, and included an explanation of the variances from the study plan and schedule. Douglas PUD held an initial study report meeting on October 30, 2008, and filed a meeting summary on November 10, 2008.

Comments were filed regarding the general quality of the initial study report. Additionally, Douglas PUD filed a request to revise the process plan and schedule for the Wells integrated licensing process.

Comments

The City of Pateros, Washington (Pateros) and the City of Brewster, Washington (Brewster) filed comments on November 7, 2008, and December 5, 2008, respectively. None of Pateros' or Brewster's comments specifically request modifications to the study

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plan or new studies, but rather reflect suggestions that would improve the final study reports or provide information that may be useful in preparing the license application. Douglas PUD addressed these comments in its January 14, 2009, letter. The comments do not require modification of the study plan.

Revision of the Process Plan and Schedule

In its January 14, 2009, letter, Douglas PUD requested to revise the process plan and schedule by moving forward deadlines associated with the updated study report. Douglas PUD proposes to use the updated study report document and meeting to present the final results for three interim studies that were presented in the initial study report. As part of Douglas PUD's revised schedule, the deadlines for filing the preliminary licensing proposal (PLP), comments on the PLP, and the license application would remain unchanged. The proposed revisions to the process plan and schedule are reasonable because Douglas PUD is not proposing and no parties requested a second season of studies.

Study Plan Determination

I am approving your proposed revisions to the schedule for the updated study report.

If you have any questions, please contact Bob Easton at (202) 502-6045, or via e-mail at robert.easton@ferc.gov.

Sincerely,

J. Mark Robinson
Director
Office of Energy Projects

cc: Mailing List
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Document Content(s)

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