



Public Utility District No. 1 of Douglas County

1151 Valley Mall Parkway • East Wenatchee, Washington 98802-4497 • 509/884-7191 • FAX 509/884-0553

December 1, 2006

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

**Subject: Wells Hydroelectric Project No. 2149
Notice of Intent to File Application for New License**

Dear Secretary Salas:

Public Utility District No. 1 of Douglas County, Washington (Douglas PUD), licensee of the Wells Hydroelectric Project, hereby notifies the Commission of its intent to file an application for a new license on or before May 31, 2010.

The following Wells Project information is provided pursuant to 18 CFR § 5.5(b):

- | | | |
|-----|--------------------------------|--|
| (1) | <u>Licensee</u> | Douglas PUD |
| | <u>Contacts</u> | William C. Dobbins
Manager
1151 Valley Mall Parkway
East Wenatchee, WA 98802

Robert W. Clubb, Ph.D.
Chief of Environmental and Regulatory Services
1151 Valley Mall Parkway
East Wenatchee, WA 98802

Shane Bickford
Supervisor of Relicensing
1151 Valley Mall Parkway
East Wenatchee, WA 98802 |
| (2) | <u>FERC Project Number</u> | 2149 |
| (3) | <u>License Expiration Date</u> | May 31, 2012 |

(4) Statement of Intent to File

Douglas PUD hereby states its intent to file an application for a new license for the Wells Hydroelectric Project, FERC No. 2149, on or before May 31, 2010. The licensee will utilize the Integrated Licensing Process.

(5) Project Location

Wells Dam is located at river mile 515.8 on the Columbia River in the State of Washington. Wells Dam is located approximately 30 river miles downstream from the Chief Joseph Project, owned and operated by the United States Army Corps of Engineers, and 42 miles upstream from the Rocky Reach Project owned and operated by Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County, Washington. The nearest town is Pateros, Washington, which is located approximately 8 miles upstream from Wells Dam.

(6) Principal Project Works

Wells Dam, the principal component of the Wells Project, includes ten Kaplan turbine generating units. The design of the Wells Project is unique in that the generating units, spillways, switchyard and fish passage facilities were combined into a single structure referred to as the hydrocombine. Fish passage facilities reside on both sides the hydrocombine, which is 1,130 feet long and 168 feet wide with a top deck elevation of 795 feet above mean sea level (MSL). The Wells Project includes the Wells Hatchery immediately west of Wells Dam and two 230 kV single-circuit transmission lines, which run 41 miles in length from Wells Dam to Douglas Switchyard near Rocky Reach Dam.

The Wells Reservoir is 29.5 miles long. The Methow and Okanogan rivers are tributaries of the Columbia River within the Wells Reservoir. The Wells Project Boundary extends approximately 1.5 miles up the Methow River and approximately 15.5 miles up the Okanogan River. The normal maximum surface area of the reservoir is 9,740 acres with a gross storage capacity of 331,200 acre-feet and usable storage of 97,985 acre-feet when the reservoir surface is at an elevation of 781 feet MSL, the normal maximum water surface elevation. The normal minimum elevation of the reservoir is 771 feet MSL.

(7) Installed Plant Capacity

Wells Dam has an installed nameplate capacity of 774.3 Megawatts.

(8) Cities, Towns, Political Subdivisions or Federal Facilities used by the Project

(i) The Wells Project does not use any federal facilities. Wells Dam is located within Douglas and Chelan counties. The Wells Reservoir is located in Douglas, Chelan and Okanogan counties. Approximately two miles of the Wells Reservoir reside within the Chelan County boundary; there are no Chelan County communities affected by the Wells Project. The names and mailing addresses for the counties are as follows:

Douglas County
PO Box 747
Waterville, WA 98858

Okanogan County
123 Fifth Avenue North
Okanogan, WA 98840

Chelan County
350 Orondo Avenue
Wenatchee, WA 98801

(ii) The cities of Pateros (population: 643), Brewster (population: 2,149) and Bridgeport (population 2,059) are the principal municipalities located in the vicinity of the Wells Project (US Census 2000). These communities and some of their recreation facilities are located along the Wells Reservoir.

(iii) No federal facilities use or operate Wells Project facilities. The following irrigation districts have facilities within the Wells Project:

Brewster Flat Irrigation
94 C Mountain View Dr.
Brewster, WA 98812

Methow-Okanogan Reclamation District
PO Box 645
Brewster, WA 98812

Bridgeport Bar Irrigation District
PO Box 353
Brewster, WA 98812

Mutual Irrigation District
1105 Indian Ave. West
Brewster, WA 98812

Bridgeport Irrigation District
PO Box 624
Bridgeport, WA 98813

Pateros Irrigation District
164 B Hwy 153
Pateros, WA 98846

(iv) In addition to the counties, political subdivisions in the general area likely to be interested in the relicensing of the Wells Project include:

City of Brewster
PO Box 340
Brewster, WA 98812

City of Pateros
PO Box 8
Pateros, WA 98846

City of Bridgeport
PO Box 640
Bridgeport, WA 98813

City of Rock Island
PO Box 99
Rock Island, WA 98850

City of East Wenatchee
271 Ninth Street NE
East Wenatchee, WA 98802

City of Waterville
PO Box 580
Waterville, WA 98858

Town of Mansfield
PO Box 218
Mansfield, WA 98830

Port of Douglas County
3306 5th Street SE
East Wenatchee, WA 98802

(v) Affected Indian Tribes

Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation
PO Box 150
Nespelem, WA 99155

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation
PO Box 151
Toppenish, WA 98948

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
P.O. Box 638
Pendleton, OR 97801

Concurrent with the filing of this Notice of Intent (NOI), Douglas PUD is filing its Pre-Application Document (PAD) with the Commission. In accordance with 18 CFR § 5.5(c), a Distribution List is provided in the PAD, which includes a variety of agencies, tribes, local governments, non-government organizations and members of the public. Additionally, the NOI, PAD and other relicensing documents will be available on Douglas PUD's relicensing website located at www.douglaspud.org/relicensing.

In reference to 18 CFR § 5.5(e), Douglas PUD submitted a letter to the Commission dated December 1, 2005 requesting designation as the non-federal representative for Endangered Species Act consultation and for consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The Commission replied in two letters, both dated December 7, 2005, designating Douglas PUD as the non-federal representative for Endangered Species Act consultation and granting authorization to conduct Section 106 consultation.

In conclusion, Douglas PUD has operated and managed the Wells Project in a prudent, safe and environmentally responsible manner since obtaining its license in 1962. Douglas PUD has an excellent record of compliance with the terms of the existing license articles and associated agreements for the Wells Project and places great emphasis on providing excellent service to its customer/owners. Douglas PUD intends to seek a new 50-year license to continue operating the Wells Project. Should you require any additional information, please contact me at (509) 884-7191.

Sincerely,



Shane Bickford
Supervisor of Relicensing