



**PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 of CHELAN COUNTY**

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September 18, 2017

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAILING**

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary  
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
888 First Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20426

**Re: Lake Chelan Hydroelectric Project No. 637  
License Article 405, Article 408, Appendix D Water Quality Certification Condition  
III, A, and Settlement Agreement Article 7(b)(1) – Notification of Temporary  
Change in Pumped Flow to Habitat Channel for Fall 2017**

Dear Secretary Bose:

Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County (Chelan PUD) hereby notifies the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) of its intent to continue a temporary reduction in pumped flow to the Chelan River Habitat Channel by providing a minimum flow of 260 cfs rather than a minimum 320 cfs during the fall (October 15 through November 30, 2017) Chinook salmon spawning period. A previous notification letter regarding a temporary change in pumped flow was filed with the Commission on October 13, 2016.

On March 13, 2017, Chelan PUD filed with the Commission a request to amend the *Operations Compliance Monitoring Plan*, Section 2.1, Table 1<sup>1</sup>; the *Threatened and Endangered Species Protection Plan*, Section 2.1, Table 1<sup>2</sup>; and license Appendix A, Settlement Agreement License Article 7(b)(1) to change the minimum pumped flow. As stated in that filing, Chelan PUD and the Chelan River Fishery Forum (CRFF)<sup>3</sup> have found that a reduced flow improves spawning habitat for Chinook salmon and steelhead. Simultaneously, Chelan PUD filed an application with

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<sup>1</sup> *Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County*, 121 FERC ¶ 62,152 (2007) (Order Modifying and Approving Operations Compliance and Monitoring Plan, Article 405).

<sup>2</sup> *Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County*, 121 FERC ¶ 62,143 (2007) (Order Approving Threatened and Endangered Species Plan Under Article 408).

<sup>3</sup> The CRFF is comprised of the federal and state fishery agencies, Tribes, and local governments that are signatories to the Lake Chelan Comprehensive Settlement Agreement (SA) and assist Chelan PUD with implementing terms and conditions of the Lake Chelan Hydroelectric Project license associated with the Chelan River. The CRFF consists of the following entities: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, USDA Forest Service, National Park Service, NOAA Fisheries, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Colville Confederated Tribes, Yakama Nation, Washington Department of Ecology, Chelan PUD, and city of Chelan.

the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) to make the same change to the 401 Water Quality Certification for the Project ("Certification"), which filing is pending before Ecology. Chelan PUD will file the amended Certification with the Commission once received from Ecology.

Because Chelan PUD's application to amend minimum flows may still be pending during this fall's spawning period, Chelan PUD is following the recommendation from T.J. Lovullo, Aquatic Resources Branch Chief, in Washington D.C., to provide the Commission notification of a temporary change in pumped flow operations for fall 2017.

Please contact me (509) 661-4176 regarding any questions or comments.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey G. Osborn  
License Compliance Supervisor  
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cc: Erich Gaedeke, FERC Portland Regional Office  
Breean Zimmerman, Washington Department of Ecology  
Chelan River Fishery Forum