



PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 of CHELAN COUNTY

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March 30, 2018

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

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

**Re: Lake Chelan Hydroelectric Project No. 637
Notification of Temporary Change in Chelan River and Pumped Flow for Low
Level Outlet Flow Meter Recalibration**

Dear Secretary Bose:

Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County (“Chelan PUD”) hereby provides notification to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (the “Commission”) of planned temporary increased low level outlet (LLO) flow to the Chelan River and reduced pumped spawning flow in the Chelan River Habitat Channel to recalibrate the ultrasonic flow meter located in the LLO. Currently, the flow in the Chelan River is approximately 85 cfs to meet the minimum instream flow requirement and pumped flow in the Chelan River Habitat Channel is approximately 285 cfs for steelhead spawning¹.

Recalibration testing will require releasing three flows from the LLO: 80 cfs; 200 cfs; and 320 cfs. Coincidental reduction in pumped flow will be necessary to maintain spawning flow at or near 285 cfs in the Habitat Channel. All flow-related recalibration efforts will be conducted on Thursday, April 5 beginning at approximately 10:00 am and completed at approximately 3:00 pm. Flow in the Chelan River and Habitat Channel will be returned to pre-calibration levels as soon as possible according to license required ramping rates. Chelan PUD expects that all minimum flow requirements will be met during the recalibration procedures.

Flow recalibration efforts on April 5 will involve the following:

- Begin LLO flow meter recalibration testing at 80 cfs (minimum instream flow requirement) from approximately 10:00 am to noon;

¹ *Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County*, 161 FERC ¶ 62,182 (2017) (Order Amending Minimum Pumped Spawning Flow and Related License requirements; 162 FERC ¶ 62,052 Order Amending Minimum Instream Flow Table).

- Ramp LLO up to 200 cfs, wait ~ ½ hour for stabilization, conduct recalibration testing from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm;
- Ramp LLO up to 320 cfs, wait ~ ½ hour for stabilization, conduct recalibration testing from 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm; and
- Initiate LLO ramp down from 320 cfs to approximately 85 cfs at 3:00 pm, which will be completed sometime during the day on Friday April 6.
- As stated previously in this letter, pump flow reduction will occur as LLO flows are increased to maintain spawning flows in the Habitat Channel as close to 285 cfs as possible.

Habitat Channel spawning flow will exceed the current 285 cfs for a short period of the day on April 5 during the high recalibration flow level provided at the LLO. Chelan PUD biological staff believe that this temporary, short-term increase in spawning flow will have no adverse effect to Steelhead Trout spawning in the Habitat Channel due to the event occurring very early during the Steelhead Trout spawning period, and the short duration of the event.

Please feel free to contact me at (509) 661-4176 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



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cc: Erich Gaedeke, PRO
Bill Christman, Chelan PUD
Chelan River Fishery Forum