

130 FERC ¶ 62,266  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County

Project No. 637-022

Order Approving Cultural Resources Interpretive and  
Education Program

(Issued March 29, 2010)

1. On October 30, 2009, Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County (licensee) filed a Cultural Resources Interpretive and Education Program (Program) for the Lake Chelan Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 637) pursuant to article 401 and article 10(j) of Appendix A of the license.<sup>1</sup> The project is located on the Chelan River, near the City of Chelan, in Chelan County, Washington. The project occupies 465.5 acres of federal lands (the Wenatchee National Forest and the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area of the North Cascades National Park), administered by the U.S. Forest Service and the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, respectively.
2. Article 401 requires that the licensee file certain plans for Commission approval including documentation of consultation. The Program, due within three years of the date of issuance of the license, is one of those plans. Article 10(j) of Appendix A requires that the licensee develop and implement an interpretive plan and educational program, as described in Section 3.4 (Public Interpretation) of the Historic Properties and Cultural Resources Management Plan (HPCRMP), which was approved in article 410 of the order.<sup>2</sup>
3. The HPCRMP contains: (1) a listing of existing interpretive and education elements and resources in the Lake Chelan Project area; (2) assignment of roles and responsibilities in order to implement the program; (3) a thorough discussion of the intent of the program, interpretation and education program elements discussed in the Lake

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<sup>1</sup> Order on Offer of Settlement and Issuing New License issued November 6, 2006 (117 FERC ¶ 62,219).

<sup>2</sup> The Lake Chelan Historic Properties and Cultural Management Plan was filed on October 8, 2003.

Chelan Cultural Forum (LCCF) meetings, and planned enhancements to interpretive and education elements, including development and distribution of a comprehensive human and natural history booklet for Lake Chelan; (4) methods of implementation of the drafting and distribution of the booklet; and (5) an implementation schedule for the Program.<sup>3</sup>

4. Section 3.4 of the HPCRMP specifies that the Program be developed and implemented by the LCCF within 36 months of the effective date of the license. The plan may include provisions such as development of interpretive signs at Chelan PUD trails and parks, development of elementary school teaching aids, contributions to short publications for general audiences, and other cooperative measures within the constraints of the HPCRMP. In addition, this section notes that the HPCRMP requires Chelan PUD to provide annual funding of \$1,000 for educational and interpretive activities.

5. The LCCF members participated in meetings and conference calls to review development and implementation of the Program. Meetings were held on April 14, May 12, and September 9, 2009. The filed Program was developed by the group, as identified in the program document and meeting minutes.

6. The Program includes an interpretive booklet containing information about the human and natural history of the area. The information contained in the booklet will be linkable to the pilot education component or as a stand-alone element. The booklet will provide a content-based framework for an educational pilot program. The Program also provides for a pilot project developed by teachers at Clovis Middle School in East Wenatchee, Washington, wherein the teachers are working with Chelan PUD to present the material consistent with Essential Academic Learning Requirements.

7. A copy of the draft of the booklet is attached as Appendix A of the Program. The booklet will be distributed to local school districts, the ferry service from Chelan to Lucerne and Stehekin, the Chelan Historical Society Museum, the U.S. Forest Service Ranger Station in Chelan, and the National Park Service facility in Stehekin. In addition, the booklet will be converted to a downloadable document from the Chelan PUD website.

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<sup>3</sup> The LCCF meets to share information, coordinate efforts, and to make recommendations regarding historic properties and cultural resources within the project's area of potential effect. The LCCF consists of representatives from the licensee, Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, and Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation.

The booklet will be completed in time for teachers to begin using it in classrooms by fall, 2010, and other distribution channels will be explored on an ongoing basis.

8. The proposed Program meets the requirements of article 401 and section 10(j) of Appendix A of the license, and is consistent with the requirements of the HPCRMP. The licensee will continue to provide annual funding for the Program, pursuant to the HPCRMP. Implementation of the program will help the licensee to share the project's cultural heritage and resources with the public. The licensee's Program should be approved.

The Director orders:

(A) The Cultural Resources Interpretive and Education Program filed October 30, 2009, for the Lake Chelan Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 637), is approved.

(B) This order constitutes final agency action. Requests for rehearing by the Commission may be filed within 30 days of the date of issuance of this order, pursuant to 18 C.F.R. § 385.713.

Robert J. Fletcher  
Chief, Land Resources Branch  
Division of Hydropower  
Administration and Compliance

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