

137 FERC ¶ 62,197  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Public Utility District No. 1  
of Chelan County, Washington

Project No. 2145-111

ORDER APPROVING DESIGN DRAWINGS FOR UPSTREAM LAMPREY  
PASSAGE IMPROVEMENT, FINAL PHASE

(Issued December 1, 2011)

1. On October 31, 2011, Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County, Washington (licensee) filed, for Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) approval, final phase design drawings and specifications for improvements in the Rocky Reach Hydroelectric Project fishway to improve adult Pacific lamprey passage as required by the project license.<sup>1</sup> The Rocky Reach Project is located on the mid-Columbia River in Chelan County, Washington, and occupies about 1,500 acres, of which about 164 acres are federal lands managed by the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management.

BACKGROUND

2. In accordance with license article 401(b) and article 5(4) of license appendix B, the licensee is required to design and implement upstream passage improvements for adult Pacific lamprey, similar to those implemented at other hydroelectric projects in the Columbia and Snake rivers, if appropriate and reasonable.

3. In its filing of December 6, 2010, the licensee proposed to modify the project fishway to improve lamprey passage as recommended in the document *Pacific Lamprey Upstream Passage Modifications Literature Review and Analysis and Recommendations for Passage Improvements in the Rocky Reach Fishway*, prepared for the licensee by Long View Associates and LGL Limited. The proposed work, approved by order issued December 21, 2011,<sup>2</sup> and completed

---

<sup>1</sup> Order on Offer of Settlement and Issuing New License (issued February 19, 2009). 126 FERC ¶ 61,138.

<sup>2</sup> Order Approving Design Drawings for Upstream Lamprey Passage Improvement. 134 FERC ¶ 62,062.

February 28, 2011, included the fabrication and installation of aluminum ramps and plates. The ramps were installed at the perched orifices in the upper fish ladder. Plating was installed along the fishway walls over the diffusion grating in the bifurcation pool and left powerhouse fishway entrance channel.

#### LICENSEE'S PROPOSAL

4. In this final phase, the licensee proposes to install plating at all weir orifices, extending 24 inches upstream and 24 inches downstream from orifices, in the lower fish ladder section, consistent with Section 4.1.4 of the Rocky Reach Pacific Lamprey Management Plan.<sup>3</sup> The licensee states that these modifications were not installed during the 2010-2011 fishway maintenance period due to concerns raised by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) of increasing water velocities across diffuser gratings due to plating installation, and subsequent plating design modifications to address the concern. The proposed schedule for completion is February 22, 2012.

5. Included in the licensee's filing are the design drawings and specifications for the proposed construction, a quality control inspection plan, and a temporary construction emergency action plan.

#### CONSULTATION

6. The licensee presented its proposal to the Rocky Reach Fish Forum (RRFF) via conference call on July 6, 2011, to review and approve the proposed modifications to improve lamprey passage. After discussion, the RRFF approved the licensee's passage improvement proposal.

#### CONCLUSION

7. The licensee has received RRFF support for its plans. We have reviewed the licensee's filing and supporting documents, to include the quality control inspection plan and the temporary construction emergency action plan, and find the licensee's proposal reasonable and appropriate as required. The licensee's final phase design drawings and specifications for improvements in the Rocky Reach Hydroelectric Project fishway to improve adult Pacific lamprey passage as required by the project license should be approved.

---

<sup>3</sup> Attachment B, Chapter 5 of the Rocky Reach Comprehensive Settlement Agreement, filed on March 20, 2006.

The Director orders:

(A) Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County's adult lamprey upstream passage improvement design drawings and specifications, final phase, to include a quality control inspection plan and a temporary construction emergency action plan, filed October 31, 2011, per license article 401(b) and article 5(4) of appendix B of the license for the Rocky Reach Hydroelectric Project, are approved.

(B) This order constitutes final agency action. Any party may file a request for rehearing of this order within 30 days from the date of its issuance, as provided in section 313(a) of the Federal Power Act, 16 U.S.C. § 8251 (2006), and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's regulations at 18 C.F.R. § 385.713 (2011). The filing of a request for rehearing does not operate as a stay of the effective date of this order, or of any other date specified in this order. The licensee's failure to file a request for rehearing shall constitute acceptance of this order.

Thomas J. LoVullo  
Chief, Aquatic Resources Branch  
Division of Hydropower Administration  
and Compliance

Document Content(s)

P-2145-111.DOC.....1-3