FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION Washington, D. C. 20426

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

Project No. 2145-102 – Washington Rocky Reach Hydroelectric Project Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County

August 16, 2013

Ms. Michelle Smith Licensing and Compliance Manager Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County P.O. Box 1231 Wenatchee, WA 98807-1231

Subject: Final Construction Plans for the Entiatqua Trail

Dear Ms. Smith:

This letter refers to your June 27, 2013 filing, as supplemented on August 2, 2013, providing final construction plans for the Entiatqua Trail pursuant to ordering paragraph (B) of the approved Entiatqua Trail implementation plan for the Rocky Reach Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2145).¹

The June 14 order approved conceptual plans to install a bike and pedestrian trail that parallels the Rocky Reach reservoir and Entiat River along an existing earthen embankment which supports the Cascade and Columbia railroad and state highway 97A. The trail is to connect the Entiatqua Outdoor Learning Center with the Entiat Park Waterfront Trail. The trail would be approximately 1,650 feet long and 6 feet wide, composed of compacted aggregate surface, and include fencing, an interpretive sign and a viewpoint along the route. Riparian plantings and woody debris would also be installed as mitigation for shoreline impacts.

Ordering paragraph (B) of the June 14 order requires you to file with the Commission, final construction drawings for the trail and other final construction documentation identified in the approved plan. The final construction details are to be prepared in consultation with the City of Entiat, Washington State Department of Transportation, C&C Railway, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, National Park Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), and documentation of such consultation is to be included in your filing.

 $^{^{1}}$ 139 FERC ¶ 62,226 (issued June 14, 2012).

Your June 27 and August 2, 2013 filings include the information required under ordering paragraph (B). The final plans indicate that the trail would be approximately 1,776 feet long and 8 feet wide, and include a compacted aggregate surface, a riparian corridor with plantings and woody debris, fencing, a bench, and two interpretive signs. The trail would be constructed in accordance with permits obtained from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the City of Entiat. The Corps consulted with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and NMFS during its permitting process pursuant to the Endangered Species Act. The FWS stated its concurrence with the Corps Biological Assessment and NMFS stated its 2007 Biological Opinion provides Endangered Species Act coverage for the trail.

In addition, you indicate that that all necessary rights have/will be obtained to construct and operate the trail. The Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County would construct the trail and the City of Entiat would be responsible for operation and maintenance. Your filing also includes documentation of consultation with the required entities indicating their support or no objection to the trail. Finally, you state that you provided the Commission's Division of Dam Safety and Inspections and Portland Regional Office copies of these final plans pursuant to article 302 of the project license.

Based on our review of the information provided, we find that your filing meets the requirements of paragraph (B) of the June 14, 2012 order. Although the final plans contain minor modifications to the conceptual design of the trail, the trail design generally conforms to the approved plan. You are reminded that pursuant to paragraph (C) of the June 14, 2012 order, you must file for Commission approval, within 60 days of completion, an as-built drawing (single overview site drawing) of the trail showing the location and layout of the completed facilities, in relation to the project boundary. Further, you are reminded that you must obtain prior authorization of the Division of Dam Safety and Inspections (Portland Regional Office) pursuant to the requirements article 302 before beginning construction of the trail.

If you have any further questions on this matter, please contact me at (202) 502-8951.

Sincerely,

Jon E. Cofrancesco Land Resources Branch Division of Hydropower Administration and Compliance