



Responses to FERC Additional Information Request DR-2

Flood Control

Final Report

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Hells Canyon Project
FERC No. P-1971-079

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SCHEDULE A: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUEST DR-2 FLOOD CONTROL

Time Required: 6 months

In your license application (exhibits B and E) you describe the operations of Brownlee reservoir for the purpose of flood control.

The Corps, in its December 22, 2003, letter responding to the Commission's request for comments on SD1, indicates that "[i]t is crucial that the current flood control requirements be maintained as part of any new license [but additionally] the Corps is requesting a requirement to provide winter flood control space of between 50,000 and 100,000 acre-feet at Brownlee upon demand to control winter flood events."

Your application provides no details on criteria for determining the winter flood control storage amount or the period of the year over which the requirement would apply. In your Response to Comment ACOE 1-2 (New License Application, Volume 11, Second Stage Consultation), you state that, based on recent discussions with the Corps, winter flood control storage (50,000 to 100,000 acre-feet) would be needed infrequently, if ever; would be best handled on a case-by-case basis; and would not necessarily need to be part of a license article. Please provide additional information supporting your position that this additional flood control storage request from the Corps does not need to be addressed in this relicensing, and provide confirmation from the Corps that the Corps agrees with your position.

1. INTRODUCTION

Agency review of Idaho Power Company's (IPC) final license application for the Hells Canyon Complex (HCC) (IPC 2003) resulted in requests to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for additional studies. FERC evaluated these study requests and formulated a list of additional information requests (AIRs) to help in determining potential project-related impacts resulting from the three IPC hydroelectric projects comprising the Hells Canyon Complex. This document addresses AIR DR-2, quoted above.

2. RESPONSES

2.1. Response to DR-2—Flood Control

Please provide additional information supporting your position that this additional flood control storage request from the Corps does not need to be addressed in this relicensing, and provide confirmation from the Corps that the Corps agrees with your position.

Further discussion between IPC and the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) has resulted in an agreement to provide winter flood control for the months of December and January on a case-by-case basis. In a

letter dated January 25, 2005 (included as Appendix A), the ACOE has requested—and IPC has agreed to provide—the following specific language for winter flood control operations for the Brownlee flood control re-license article:

The COE and IPC will handle future winter flood control operations for Brownlee Reservoir on a case-by-case basis. In the event flood control operations are necessary to control winter flood events, the COE and IPC agree that the COE may request storage at Brownlee Reservoir equivalent to a maximum draft rate without spill of 3 feet per day over a two- or three-day period, not to exceed a total of 9 feet, for the months of December and January only.

Appendix A. ACOE letter regarding winter flood control operations for the Brownlee flood control re-license article

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Reply to
Attention of:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
NORTHWESTERN DIVISION, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 2870
PORTLAND, OREGON 97208-2870

RECEIVED
JAN 28 2005

CENWD-PDW-H

JAN 25 2005

Mr. Craig Jones
Project Manager
Hydro Relicensing Department
Idaho Power Company
P.O. Box 70
Boise, Idaho 83707

Dear Mr. Jones:

This letter is in reference to a telephone conference call on January 12, 2005 between representatives of the Corps of Engineers (COE) and Idaho Power Company (IPC) regarding the addition of specific language for winter flood control operations for the Brownlee flood control re-license article.

The COE and IPC will handle future winter flood control operations for Brownlee Reservoir on a case-by-case basis. In the event flood control operations are necessary to control winter flood events, the COE and IPC agree that the COE may request storage at Brownlee Reservoir equivalent to a maximum draft rate without spill of 3 feet per day over a two or three-day period, not to exceed a total of 9 feet, for the months of December and January only.

Should you have any questions, please contact Arun Mylvahanan at 503-808-3961 or Ken Soderlind at 503-808-3950.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James D. Barton".

James D. Barton, P.E.
Chief, Columbia Basin Water
Management Division

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