

12-17-08 Meeting Summary * Approved 2-18-09 *
RESOURCE COORDINATION COMMITTEE (RCC)
NORTH UMPQUA HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT- FERC #1927-008

RCC Members or Alternates Present

Ed Meyer (NMFS)
Monte Garrett (PacifiCorp Energy)
Ariel Hiller (BLM)
Dave Harris (ODFW)
Craig Kohanek (OWRD)
Chris Stine (ODEQ)
Gina Freel (USDA-FS)

Also Present

Rich Grost (PacifiCorp Energy)
Beth Bendickson (PacifiCorp Energy)

Absent

Rob Burns (USFWS) – proxy given to Gina Freel

INTRODUCTIONS, AGENDA, OLD BUSINESS

Member Updates - None at this time.

Public Information Opportunities

RCC Action: Finalize and approve November 19 meeting summary. (Approved 12/17/08)

2009 RCC Planning Workshop

- Date confirmed for January 27-28, 2009.
- Need to book rooms by December 30.
- Need tentative food headcounts
- Draft agenda will be sent 1st week of 2009.

Monte Garrett said that the next video project updates would be in 2010.

CURRENT PROJECT UPDATES

Fish Creek (Screens and Canal Shutoff & Drainage)

Canal shut-off & drainage is moving forward but there are continuing challenges regarding communications and power supply. The goal is mid to late January 2009 for a successful test with the RCC, but this will be discussed again at the Planning Workshop.

Screen – we're in a dry weather/cold snap, with flows less than the 50 cfs minimum. It is expected that flows will not be available for diversion for several weeks. This will become a more common issue when the minimum flow requirement becomes 130 cfs in 2012.

The evaluation is still planned for next year. The FERC requires a post-construction evaluation report by April 1, 2009, but this schedule will necessarily need to be revised.

CW2 Canal Shut-off & Drainage - No changes at this time.

LM2 Canal Shut-off & Drainage - 90% design meeting scheduled for January 7.

Soda Springs Tailrace Barrier

A site visit was held on December 16. Suzanne Pollon, Ed Meyer, Rich Grost and ENSR were in attendance. They discussed how to modify the hydraulics, and took measurements at water surface levels throughout the structure. The most challenging issues include minimizing loss of head due to potential use of perforated plates to balance flows across the tailrace bays. ENSR will provide recommendations to PacifiCorp. Once the Soda Springs fish passage project is complete, debris issues at the tailrace barrier should be minimized.

Wildlife Crossings on Lemolo – moving forward to getting most of them constructed by the end of this year.

TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP UPDATES

Wetland TWG

Wetlands – Conceptual design meeting today (December 17). A tentative date of January 29 is proposed for 60% design meeting for Ranawapiti and expanded Lemolo 1 Forebay wetland.

Aquatic Connectivity – TWG meeting will be conducted after the RCC meeting today to address example conceptual designs for review by the parties. An engineering evaluation will provide information for development of the Aquatic Connectivity Plan this year

FHS (Fish Habitat Studies)

19.2 Long Term Monitoring Report – Sam Moyers is working to get the report to RCC by 12/31/08.

2009 19.2 Monitoring Program – ODFW is continuing to monitor brown trout at the Clearwater Reconnect facility. Fish are moving through the facility and were also observed at the historic channel and Toketee Lake. This monitoring will continue next fall. ODFW will put together a draft report of findings.

Dave Harris gave an update as to 2009 personnel status. December 16 was the deadline for EBA position posting. Interviews will be the first week in January.

Dave proposed quarterly prepayment of ODFW EBA positions. He'll send Beth Bendickson an invoice every three months and then detail out the actual expenses on the next month's invoice.

RCC Action: Approve quarterly prepayment of ODFW EBA positions. (Approved 12-17-08)

Rock Creek Fishway – ODFW had a 40% design meeting. There was concern over building a facility with “no budget.” The District will inherit project but has no budget/personnel to run it right now. The motorized gates may not happen. ODFW is trying to discourage the two post sorting tanks and secondary hatchery rearing facility; they want to try to get by with one post sorting tank.

FPD (Fish Passage Design)

Soda Springs Fish Passage Design

December 18 – 90% design meeting; this will be a conference call/net meeting at both the Portland and Green District offices.

February 15 – 100% design; filing w/FERC by mid March

A permit update will be given at the January meeting.

F&R (Flows & Ramping)

Slide Creek Instream Test

The test was postponed again because the wrong equipment was delivered. Hopefully it will happen some time in January; Rich will keep everyone posted.

CSD (Canal Shut off & Drainage)

14.2 Lemolo 2 Canal Shutoff and Drainage

The 90% meeting is scheduled for January 7. The permitting process will begin soon with the development of the joint permit application.

Lemolo Reservoir

TWG meeting update: Not much to report since last month. The drawdown is being slowed down until we get precipitation. Gina Freel said the funding proposal has been brought to Cliff Dils.

Public Comments – *none at this time.*

The next RCC Conference Call will be the annual January planning session, January 27-28, 2009.

Meeting adjourned.