

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON D.C. 20426  
June 28, 2018

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

Project No. 1744-041–Utah  
Weber Hydroelectric Project  
PacifiCorp

Eve Davies  
Weber Relicensing Project Manager  
PacifiCorp – Renewable Resources  
1407 West North Temple, Suite 210  
Salt Lake City, UT 84116

**Reference: Acceptance Letter and Request for Additional Information**

Dear Ms. Davies:

Your license application for this project has been accepted by the Commission for filing as of May 30, 2018, but is not ready for environmental analysis at this time. We need additional information before we can complete our evaluation of the license application and applicant prepared environmental assessment. A list of the information needed is enclosed in Schedule A.

Pursuant to section 4.32(g) of the Commission’s regulations, please file within 90 days from the date of this letter the information requested in the enclosed Schedule A. If the submission of additional information causes any other part of the application to be inaccurate, that part should also be revised and refiled by the due date. Please be aware that further requests for additional information may be sent to you at any time before final action is taken by the Commission on your license application.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file the requested information using the Commission’s eFiling system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov), (866) 208-3676 (toll free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY). In lieu of electronic filing, please send a paper copy to: Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, D.C. 20426. The first page of any filing should include docket number P-1744-041.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Evan Williams at (202) 502-8462 or via email at [evan.williams@ferc.gov](mailto:evan.williams@ferc.gov).

Sincerely,

Timothy Konnert, Chief  
West Branch  
Division of Hydropower Licensing

Enclosure: Schedule A

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION NEEDS**

### **Exhibit A—Project Description**

#### *Description of Project*

1. Section 2.1.7.3 *Bypass Reach and Tailrace* in Exhibit A does not provide a description of the project's tailrace structure, which is also absent from the list of project facilities in Table 3 in Exhibit A, and section 2.1.2 in Exhibit E. Please provide a detailed description of the tailrace structure, including its location, dimensions, and construction materials.

### **Exhibit E—Applicant Prepared Environmental Assessment (APEA)**

#### *Introduction*

1. Section 1.4.3 *Endangered Species Act (ESA)* of the final APEA states that you have sought concurrence from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) that formal consultation is not needed given no federally listed species occur in the project area. Appendix H does not include any correspondence documenting ESA section 7 consultation with FWS. If available, please file with the Commission any correspondence with FWS documenting ESA Section 7 consultation including official letters and species lists from FWS indicating which listed species and designated critical habitat potentially occur in the vicinity of the project.

#### *Existing Project Facilities*

1. Dimensions of project structures differ in various parts of the final license application. Section 2.1.2 *Existing Project Facilities*, of the final APEA states that the Weber diversion dam consists of a 79-foot-long concrete section. Section 2.1 *General* in Exhibit F states that the dam consists of a 71-foot-long gated section. Section 2.4 *Project Facilities* in Exhibit F further states that the dam contains a 79-foot-long gated spillway section. Please provide the correct length of the gated section and its height from the streambed to the top of the spillway gates. Also, please specify the correct dimensions of the intake structure, and describe its exact location in relation to the main diversion dam structure.

*Botanical and Terrestrial Resources*

1. The final (APEA) provides insufficient information about non-native, invasive plant species as it does not include a list of the species known to occur, or that could potentially occur, in the project area or within the project boundary. Please provide this information, including the impact classification/rating for each species, as designated by county, Forest Service, state resource agency, or other relevant organizations. In addition, table 9 in section 2.1.5, *Existing Environmental Protection, Mitigation, and Enhancement Measures* lists annual weed control around several project facilities as one of the botanical measures, but does not indicate which weed species are controlled. Please summarize the weed species that are routinely controlled around existing project facilities including the control methods used. In addition, please provide information on how weed species are monitored, including the frequency of monitoring.
2. In staff's comments on the draft license application, we requested that you provide additional information on proposed environmental measures including the best management practices (BMPs) used to control the introduction and spread of weed species. Section 5.0 *Conclusions and Recommendations, Botanical Resources* of the final APEA states that BMPs are proposed to control weed species, but provides no further information as to what the BMPs entail. As described, this measure lacks the detail needed for staff to evaluate its adequacy to protect botanical and terrestrial resources. Therefore, please provide an outline that describes each proposed BMP including, if relevant, the timing of implementation (e.g. clean equipment off-site prior to proposed action), how each measure would control the potential introduction and spread of weed species, and measures to evaluate their effectiveness (e.g. post-construction monitoring).

*Recreation*

1. Section 3.3.7.2 *Recreation Use and Demand* of the final APEA presents recreational use data from in-person surveys and trail camera photographs, and describes current estimated recreational use by several user groups; however, it does not address the estimated future use of project recreational facilities and future whitewater boating use within the bypass reach. Considering that implementation of PM&E measures REC-1 through REC-9 would improve recreational amenities and encourage recreational use associated with the project, please provide information to describe estimated future use of project recreational facilities and future whitewater boating use in the bypass reach.

2. Section 3.3.7.2 *Recreation Use and Demand* of the final APEA, and Table 37, state that a total of 1,012 individual recreational users, from six use types, were counted with the trail camera. You then describe and provide user numbers for each recreational use type that was identified in the trail camera data, the sum of which equals 1,001 recreational users. Please clarify this apparent discrepancy.
3. Section 3.3.7.2 *Recreation Use and Demand* of the final APEA describes 2015 and 2016 internet survey results for whitewater boating use in the bypass reach; however, you fail to describe the internet survey. Please provide a description of the survey, survey methods, and a citation.