

12-16-09 Meeting Summary * Approved 1-14-10*
RESOURCE COORDINATION COMMITTEE (RCC)
NORTH UMPQUA HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT- FERC #1927-008

RCC Members or Alternates Present

Also Present

Monte Garrett (PacifiCorp Energy)
Pam Sighting (USDA-FS)
Craig Kohanek (OWRD)
Dave Harris (ODFW)
Ed Meyer (NOAA)
Chris Stine (ODEQ)
Ariel Hiller (BLM)

Rich Grost (PacifiCorp Energy)

RCC Members Absent

Rob Burns (USFWS) – Proxy give to Craig Kohanek

INTRODUCTIONS, AGENDA, OLD BUSINESS

Member Updates

No new updates provided

RCC Action: Review and approve 11/18/09 draft meeting summary. *Last meeting's notes were approved with minor edits provided by Monte and Craig.*

Public Information Opportunities

Annual Planning Meeting – Scheduled for January 14-15, 2010, at the USDA-FS office in Roseburg. A draft meeting agenda will be distributed beforehand. Topics will include 2009 lessons learned, 2009 projects that carry over to 2010, review of draft work plans for 2010 projects, and the need for collaboration to get work done on schedule. Dave and Pam indicated they would provide updates on work completed/planned with funding of 19.1 and 19.3, respectively. The agenda will also include time for a brief WQ TWG late on January 14. PacifiCorp staff will be staying at Holiday Inn Express, and others indicated their preference to book at this motel as well.

CURRENT PROJECT UPDATES

Notice-to-Proceed (NTP) Status

All projects scheduled for work on the ground in 2009 have received NTPs; the latest projects include the geotechnical work for the Slide Creek tailrace barrier and the test pits for the Lemolo 2 Reroute project.

Performance testing of the canal shut-off and drainage systems – Performance demonstrations for the canal shut-off and drainage systems will be conducted as soon as practicable in 2010. Low water and/or icing conditions at Fish Creek have prevented a demonstration to date, and PacifiCorp will conduct further testing before a demonstration for the agencies occurs. Therefore, performance of the Lemolo 2 CSD will likely happen before Fish Creek. The Lemolo 2 CSD was completed in late November, including improvements to Burma Road, but complete automated functionality is dependent on Watson Ridge. PacifiCorp expects performance testing of the Lemolo 2 CSD during the first quarter of 2010. Scheduling of this test will be discussed at the annual meeting.

Lemolo 2 Forebay Dredging – Dredging of the forebay was completed in October and the dredge spoil site has been planted with a native seed mix to provide big game forage. The access road into the site has also been planted. The forebay and recently overhauled Lemolo 2 powerhouse are now up and running.

Lemolo 1 Forebay – Completion delayed due to FERC PRO approvals and design changes. Therefore, installation of the forebay liner, as well as the liner for the wetland, is delayed until the summer of 2010. The canal wall will then be breached to connect the waterway to the new forebay. As part of remodeling the forebay to address FERC's concerns, the size of the facility was reduced and steps were taken to protect the disturbed area outside of forebay against erosion this winter.

Soda Springs Fish Passage – The minimum in-stream flow facility is in place, and connection of the pipe to the penstock was completed on December 15. The facility is ready to provide instream flow in the Soda Springs bypass reach when the area immediately below the dam is de-watered from approximately May to October of 2010. All construction below the OHWL is hoped to be completed next year, and construction of the upper facility features, including the fish screen, will be completed in 2011-2012.

Ed Meyer had requested that questions related to hydraulic control within the evaluation facility be posed to our consultant at AECOM. A technical memo was provided yesterday in response that suggests additional considerations in the design of this facility to provide more control during operation. Ed is reviewing this memo, but advised that his expectation is that the facility will perform satisfactorily after construction during the evaluation period. Monte indicated that this is PacifiCorp's expectation as well.

Slide Creek Tailrace Barrier – Similar to issues encountered at the Soda Springs tailrace barrier, the potential for difficulties in hydraulic balancing to meet NMFS criteria was a topic of discussion following agreement of the conceptual design for the Slide Creek tailrace barrier. Ed suggested that

AECOM be approached as to whether a physical modeling exercise would be useful for improving design and predicting hydraulic performance. An opinion from AECOM on this question is expected very soon and will then be shared with Ed.

Watson Ridge – Weather conditions caused delays in completing this project by December, so the USDA-FS issued a waiver through December 18 in order to complete necessary work in an area closed to protect big game winter habitat between December and April each year. The Watson Ridge communication facility will relay critical communication data between TCC and a number of implementation facilities (instream flow structures, CSDs, etc.)

Aquatic Connectivity – The three sites scheduled for completion along the Lemolo 2 waterway in 2009 have been completed.

TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP UPDATES

Aquatic Connectivity – The sites being completed this year are the first-step in a process of completing the remaining 54 sites. The 2010 goal is to develop design plans and schedule the remaining sites (some are complex; some are simple) for completion by the 2016 deadline. A few sites will be completed in 2010.

L2R (Lemolo 2 Reroute) – The 60% design meeting was conducted on December 9 at Toketee. PacifiCorp's consultant engineer led the TWG through design drawings and the group addressed issues on-site. The group discussed the process for installing the 9-ft reinforced concrete pipe, design considerations of the intake and outfall structures, fish exclusion from the facility, minimization of disturbance, mitigating cultural and sensitive species impacts, boat launch improvements at Toketee Lake, and other issues. Test pits for planning water management during construction are being installed at this time, and the evaluation will take place in January.

Associated with construction of the reroute is enhancement of a wetland site in the vicinity of Stinkhole Pond. A disturbed area that will receive water as part of pipe installation had been proposed as a wetland enhancement site. Improving habitat quality to an existing disturbed site was viewed favorably by a number of TWG members, but Dave indicated that further consideration is necessary by ODFW staff.

FHS (Fish Habitat Studies) – This TWG met November 19 and accomplished several items. They approved the Fish Creek Fish Screen and CSD Evaluation Report for delivery to FERC before the November 30 deadline. They reviewed the 19.2 long-term monitoring and predator control study program from 2008, 2009, and looking ahead into 2010. It is recognized that 2010 is the last year to accomplish most of the baseline work, such as resident fish population estimates before interference from Slide Cr powerhouse TRB in 2011 and introduction of anadromy in 2012. Because of larger payments made into this fund in 2009 and 2010, there is no payment scheduled for 2011; hence no work will occur that year unless funds are carried over to allow it. To support a program of work in 2010 similar to that in 2009 (subject to interference from Soda Springs fish passage construction work), the TWG proposes a budget for 2010 equivalent to the entire amount expected to be in the SA

19.2 fund: \$240,000. This budget includes a \$60,000 contingency item that could be used for contractor support, other needs, or carried over to 2011.

RCC Action: The FHS TWG proposal for the 2010 SA 19.2 budget was approved.

The SA 19.2 Annual Report for 2008 was finalized and emailed to the RCC and TWG yesterday.

FPD (Fish Passage Design) –

Slide Creek tailrace barrier – Since the conceptual design was agreed to on November 4, PacifiCorp's design consultant has moved forward with geotechnical evaluations. In-water work for exploratory boring was completed last week as planned. Bedrock was found to be quite shallow (unlike at Soda Springs, where it was deep) which may influence the design as it proceeds. It is anticipated that the 30% design meeting will be held in March 2010, and steps for permitting construction will commence at the 60% level in June. Associated with this project is the emergency spill release project, which will reduce the potential for fish stranding during unscheduled plant trips. This fully automated system will engage when the plant trips, thereby reducing lag time and ramping in the river.

Lemolo Reservoir – No new action by this TWG. There is a meeting scheduled for January 13 but due to delays in contracting the analysis and reporting portion of Max Depth Aquatics work, the water quality presentation from 2009 will not be ready until at least March. A new TWG meeting will be scheduled for spring when the report schedule is better known. Until then, a January meeting may still be useful for brief updates and discussion of plans for 2010.

RCC action: change the January 13 TWG meeting to a brief discussion January 14, 16-1700 hrs, during the RCC Annual Planning Meeting.

Meeting adjourned.