FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426 August 13, 2015

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

Project No. 1744-039 Weber Hydroelectric Project PacifiCorp

Ms. Eve Davies PacifiCorp 1407 West North Temple, Ste. 110 Salt Lake City, UT 84116

Reference: Authorization to Use the Alternative Licensing Process

Dear Ms. Davies:

In your June 1, 2015 filing of a notice of intent and pre-application document (PAD), you requested authorization to use the Alternative Licensing Process (ALP) to prepare a license application for the Weber Hydroelectric Project. The project is located on the Weber River near Ogden, Utah.

On June 1, 2015, you filed documentation with the Commission that you published notice of your request to use the ALP in the May 29 and May 31, 2015 editions of the Standard Examiner, a newspaper serving Ogden, Utah. Your notice contained most of the information required in section 5.3(d)(2) of the Commission's regulations but omitted the required statement that comments on the request to use the ALP must be filed with the Commission within 30 days. On July 10, 2015, you filed documentation with the Commission that you published a second notice in the August 10, 2015 edition of the Standard Examiner, which contained all information required in section 5.3(d)(2) of the Commission's regulations and stated that the comment period was extended to August 10, 2015.

In your PAD you included documentation that the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Utah Division of Water Quality, Trout Unlimited, and American Whitewater support your request to use the ALP and the draft communications protocol. In addition, the U.S. Forest service filed a letter with the Commission on June 8, 2015, in support of your request to use the ALP. 2

PacifiCorp has demonstrated that it has made an effort to contact all resource agencies, citizens groups, and others affected by the project, and that a consensus exists that the use of alternative procedures is appropriate in this case. In light of the support shown for using an alternative licensing process, I believe that the use of alternative licensing procedures would be appropriate in this case because it would foster improved communications, participation, and cooperation among the participants, and ultimately simplify and expedite the licensing process. Therefore, I am approving PacifiCorp's request to follow the ALP.

If you have any questions, please call Claire McGrath at (202) 502-8290 or via email at <u>claire.mcgrath@ferc.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Vince Yearick Director Division of Hydropower Licensing

cc: Public Files Service List