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Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
825 First Street, N.E.  
Washington D.C 20426

**Subject: Weber Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. P-1744)  
Six-Month Progress Report for Alternative Licensing Process**

Dear Secretary Bose:

Pursuant to Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) regulations for the Alternative Licensing Process (ALP; 18 CFR §4.34), PacifiCorp hereby submits its six-month progress report for the Weber Hydroelectric Project, FERC No. P-1744. This report covers the period of February 13, 2016 through August 13, 2016.

This letter and its enclosures have been filed electronically. The security classification of each component in this packet is shown in the Enclosure list below. Copies have also been transmitted to those cited below. If you have any questions concerning these documents, please contact Eve Davies at 801-220-2245, or [eve.davies@pacificorp.com](mailto:eve.davies@pacificorp.com).

Sincerely,

Mark A. Sturtevant  
Managing Director, Hydro Resources

MAS: EFD: MH:BB

<b>Encl:</b>	Transmittal Letter – Public
	Six-Month Progress Report – Public

<b>eFile:</b>	Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary Via eLibrary at <a href="http://www.ferc.gov">www.ferc.gov</a>	<b>hc:</b>	Claire McGrath, Ph.D. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Division of Hydropower Licensing 888 First Street, NE Washington, DC 20426
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**WEBER HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT RELICENSING  
FERC PROJECT No. 1744  
ALTERNATIVE LICENSING PROCESS  
SIX-MONTH PROGRESS REPORT  
FEBRUARY 2016 – AUGUST 2016**

**SUMMARY**

This six-month progress report is the second in a series of reports to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) summarizing major activities undertaken for the Weber Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1744) Alternative Licensing Process (ALP). It covers the period February 13, 2016 through August 13, 2016 and summarizes 1) key project milestones reached, 2) meetings held, 3) communications logged, 4) deliverables completed, 5) progress made on study plans and technical reports, and 6) work expected over the next six-month period.

**PROJECT MILESTONES**

<b>Weber Hydro Relicensing ALP Milestones, February 13, 2016 – August 13, 2016</b>	
February 17, 2016	A recreation work group is formed consisting of volunteers from the larger stakeholder group.
February 23, 2016	Initial meeting of recreation work group held remotely with whitewater boater flow study consultant, Environmental Resources Management, and general recreation study consultant, Cirrus Ecological Solutions.
March 1, 2016	Recreation study kickoff - Site visit with consultants led by PacifiCorp.
March 7, 2016	Revised Draft Study Plans submitted to the interest group for acceptance/approval.
	Fish passage work group's fish passage design kickoff meeting with Kleinschmidt Associates at SWCA offices in Salt Lake City, Utah.
April 4, 2016	Final Study Plans filed with the FERC.
May 3, 2016	Whitewater boater focus group at Ben Lomond Suites in Ogden, Utah, facilitated by Environmental Resources Management.
May 4, 2016	Fish passage work group meeting with Kleinschmidt Associates to review and approve fish passage design criteria and develop fish passage alternatives. Meeting held at Utah Division of Wildlife Resources Northern Regional Offices, Ogden, Utah.
July 13, 2016	Fish passage work group meeting with Kleinschmidt Associates to review and discuss the preferred alternative, as modified, in more detail. Meeting held at Utah Division of Wildlife Resources Northern Regional Offices, Ogden, Utah and includes discussion of upcoming fish entrainment study.
July 19, 2016	Fish entrainment study (phase 1) carried out by PacifiCorp, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, and volunteers from the fish passage work group.
July 29, 2016	Weber dam onsite meeting and conference call with fish passage work group to discuss results of the phase 1 fish entrainment study and plan for phase 2 studies.
August 2, 2016	Technical reports for cultural resource and terrestrial threatened, endangered and sensitive species are distributed to the interest group for 30-day review.
August 9, 2016	Fish entrainment study (Phase 2 – Photographic Study) begins.
Meeting notes, including a record of attendees, and other relicensing materials are available on PacifiCorp's Weber Relicensing website: <a href="http://www.pacificorp.com/es/hydro/hl/weber.html#">http://www.pacificorp.com/es/hydro/hl/weber.html#</a>	

## MEETINGS

**February 23, 2016** - Initial meeting of recreation work group, held remotely. Members review the Recreation Study Plan and hear presentations from consultants from Environmental Resources Management, who will carry out the whitewater boating study, and Cirrus Ecological Solutions, who will carry out the general recreation study. Methods and timeframes for both studies were reviewed. Call leader: Eve Davies, PacifiCorp.

**March 1, 2016** - PacifiCorp site visit with consultants conducting the recreation studies. Recreation work group members invited to attend. Site visit led by Eve Davies, PacifiCorp.

**March 7, 2016** - Fish passage work group holds its fish passage design kickoff meeting with Kleinschmidt Associates, the contractor selected to design the structure. Meeting is held at SWCA offices in Salt Lake City to introduce contractor team, discuss the project and process, and establish design criteria for the structure. Meeting facilitator: Ben Gaddis, Gaddis Consulting.

**May 3, 2016** - Focus group with whitewater boaters who use the Weber River is held at Ben Lomond Suites in Ogden, Utah, facilitated by Environmental Resources Management (ERM). Purpose is to gather information on whitewater boating opportunities, use patterns, flow preferences, and access in the reach of the Weber River downstream of the Weber Project diversion. Meeting facilitator: John Gangemi, ERM.

**May 4, 2016** - Fish passage work group's second meeting with Kleinschmidt Associates to review and approve fish passage design criteria and develop fish passage alternatives. A preferred alternative (standard vertical slot) is identified. Meeting held at Utah Division of Wildlife Resources Northern Regional Offices, Ogden, Utah. Meeting facilitator: Ben Gaddis, Gaddis Consulting.

**July 13, 2016** - Fish passage work group's third meeting with Kleinschmidt Associates to review and discuss the preferred alternative, as modified, in more detail. Meeting held at Utah Division of Wildlife Resources Northern Regional Offices, Ogden, Utah. Work group also discussed the upcoming fish entrainment study. Meeting facilitator: Ben Gaddis, Gaddis Consulting.

## OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

**February 25, 2016** – Fish passage work group notification that Kleinschmidt Associates was chosen as the successful bidder for fish passage design. Initial meeting with contractor set for March 7, 2016. Notification by Eve Davies, PacifiCorp. Email distribution by Miriam Hugentobler, project coordinator.

**March 7, 2016** – Revised draft study plans for water resources; fisheries; recreation; terrestrial threatened, endangered, & sensitive species and noxious weeds distributed to the interest group. Cultural resources study plan also distributed but required no revisions. Acceptance/approval of all study plans requested by March 25, 2016. Email distribution by Miriam Hugentobler, project coordinator.

**April 25, 2016** – Kleinschmidt Associates' draft fishway design criteria memo distributed to the fish passage work group for review and comment. Memo prepared by Jesse Waldrip, Kleinschmidt. Email distribution by Miriam Hugentobler, project coordinator.

**May 11, 2016** – PacifiCorp's draft process plan for a fish entrainment study at the Weber plant distributed to the fish passage work group for review and comment. Plan prepared by Frank Shrier, PacifiCorp. Email distribution by Miriam Hugentobler, project coordinator.

**May 13, 2016** – Fish passage work group notified of PacifiCorp management approval of the preferred fish passage design alternative: the standard vertical slot. Management decision included a commitment for continued operation of the low level gate as part of the fish passage design package and acknowledgement that changes will be necessary to the way the gates operate for successful operation of a new fish passageway. Notification by Eve Davies. Email distribution by Miriam Hugentobler, project coordinator.

**May 16, 2016** – Comments on the draft fish entrainment study process plan received from Claire McGrath and John Mudre, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Email communication from Claire McGrath to Eve Davies, PacifiCorp.

**May 17, 2016** – PacifiCorp's draft plan for a fish entrainment study at the Weber plant distributed to the interest group for review. Plan prepared by Frank Shrier, PacifiCorp. Email distribution by Miriam Hugentobler, project coordinator.

**June 2, 2016** - Fish passage work group conference call with Kleinschmidt Associates to discuss required modifications to design of the preferred alternative. Call leader: Eve Davies, PacifiCorp.

**June 15, 2016** – Kleinschmidt Associates' final design criteria for upstream fish passage at the Weber plant and conceptual design distributed to the fish passage work group. Memo prepared by Jesse Waldrip, Kleinschmidt. Email distribution by Miriam Hugentobler, project coordinator.

**June 23, 2016** – Kleinschmidt Associates' draft alternatives memo for upstream fish passage at the Weber plant distributed to the fish passage work group for review and comment. Memo prepared by Jesse Waldrip, Kleinschmidt. Email distribution by Miriam Hugentobler, project coordinator.

**July 15, 2016** – Kleinschmidt Associates' final fishway design criteria memo distributed to the fish passage work group. Memo includes revisions requested at the July 13, 2016 work group meeting. Memo prepared by Jesse Waldrip, Kleinschmidt. Email distribution by Miriam Hugentobler, project coordinator.

**July 26, 2016** – Results of PacifiCorp's July 19, 2016 fish entrainment study distributed to fish passage work group. Data summary prepared by Frank Shrier, PacifiCorp. Email distribution by Miriam Hugentobler, project coordinator.



**July 29, 2016** - Fish passage work group conference call to discuss preliminary results of the fish entrainment study and the potential need for further study. Interested work group members met at the plant to review conditions in the field with Davies just prior to the call. Call leader: Eve Davies, PacifiCorp.

**August 2, 2016** – A more detailed scope of work for phase 2 (photographic) fish entrainment studies distributed to the fish passage work group. Photographic study to commence as soon as camera equipment can be installed. SOW prepared by Eve Davies. Email distribution by Miriam Hugentobler, project coordinator.

**August 2, 2016** – Draft technical reports for cultural resources and threatened, endangered, & sensitive species and noxious weeds distributed to the interest group for 30-day review. Reports prepared by SWCA. Email distribution by Miriam Hugentobler, project coordinator.

**August 10, 2016** - Distribution of Kleinschmidt's final fish passage alternative memo to fisheries work group. Memo prepared by Jesse Waldrip, Kleinschmidt. Email distribution by Miriam Hugentobler, project coordinator.

## **DELIVERABLES**

The following deliverables were submitted by PacifiCorp to the FERC during this six-month period:

- Final study plans for water resources; fisheries; recreation; terrestrial threatened, endangered, & sensitive species and noxious weeds; and cultural resources were filed with the FERC April 4, 2016.

## **STUDY PLAN SCHEDULE**

Draft study plans for water resources; fisheries; recreation; terrestrial threatened, endangered and sensitive species and noxious weeds; and cultural resources were prepared and filed with the FERC November 18, 2015, prior to the period covered in this report. Revised draft study plans were prepared to address comments received on the draft study plans (except cultural resources). The revised draft study plans were distributed to the interest group for final review/acceptance on March 7, 2016. Final study plans for all five resources were formally filed with the FERC on March 25, 2016 for 30-day public review. No comments were received on the study plans during the public review period.

## **TECHNICAL REPORTS SCHEDULE**

Draft technical reports for cultural resources and terrestrial threatened, endangered and sensitive species and noxious weeds have been completed and were distributed to the interest group for 30-day review August 2, 2016. A supplemental survey for Ute ladies'-tresses, a federally listed plant, took place August 9, 2016. Results from that survey will be reported in an e-mail to the interest group.

Recreation studies are currently underway and include visitor intercept surveys, which began in March and will continue through September 2016 and an online whitewater boater survey, which ran through July 1, 2016. A draft recreation technical report is expected to be complete by mid-October 2016.

Water resources studies addressing water quality are also underway. Water quality monitoring began in late January 2016 and is expected to continue for approximately one year in order to capture all hydrologic periods and any Project operations that may impact water quality. A draft water resources technical report is currently expected to be complete by April of 2017.

Fisheries studies are also currently underway. PacifiCorp initiated Phase 2 of the fish entrainment study in early August 2016. This study, which includes installation of an underwater camera to monitor fish movement through the plant intake, is currently expected to extend through July of 2017. A draft fisheries technical report is expected to be complete by fall of 2017.

## **NEXT REPORTING PERIOD**

Final technical reports for cultural resources and terrestrial threatened, endangered and sensitive species and noxious weeds are expected to be complete and filed with FERC for public review in September 2016. Other required studies will continue per the approved study plans during the next reporting period (August 13, 2016 through February 13, 2017). Most required studies will be complete by January 2017; all studies should be complete by the end of July 2017. Specific work tasks next reporting period include:

### Fisheries

- A draft conceptual design report for the proposed upstream fish passage structure is anticipated in mid-August. Final report is expected in early October 2016.
- Phase 2 of the fish entrainment study will continue.

### Water Resources

- Water quality monitoring will continue per the water resources study plan.
- A draft water resources technical report should be complete by April 2017.

### Recreation

- Visitor intercept surveys for the recreation use and demand study will continue through September 2016.
- A draft recreation technical report (including whitewater boating) is expected in mid-October, with a final report by late 2016.