



Electronically filed February 10, 2017

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 Ms. 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. This report covers the period of August 14, 2016 to February 13, 2017.

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.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Sturtevant
Managing Director, Renewable Resources

MAS: EFD: MH:BB

Encl:	Transmittal Letter – Public
	Six-Month Progress Report – Public

eFile:	Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary Via eLibrary at www.ferc.gov	eMail:	Kyle Olcott (w/o enclosures) Outdoor Recreation Planner Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Division of Hydropower Licensing 888 First Street, NE, Office 62-16 Washington, D.C. 20426 kyle.olcott@ferc.gov
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**WEBER HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT RELICENSING
FERC PROJECT NO. 1744
ALTERNATIVE LICENSING PROCESS
SIX-MONTH PROGRESS REPORT
AUGUST 2016 – FEBRUARY 2017**

SUMMARY

This six-month progress report is the third 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 August 14, 2016 through February 13, 2017 and summarizes 1) key project milestones reached, 2) meetings held, 3) communications logged, 4) deliverables completed, 5) progress made on technical reports, and 6) work expected over the next six-month period.

PROJECT MILESTONES

August 12, 2016	Draft Upstream Fish Passage Conceptual Design Report distributed to the fish passage work group for 30-day review and comment.
September 13, 2016	Draft Terrestrial Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Species and Noxious Weeds Technical Report and Cultural Resources Technical Report filed with FERC for public review.
October 19, 2016	Fish passage work group meeting in Ogden, Utah, to wrap up 2016 activities.
November 3, 2016	Review of Upstream Fish Passage Conceptual Design Report complete. Ready to be incorporated into the Fisheries Technical Report.
November 15, 2016	Preliminary Draft Recreation Study Technical Report distributed to recreation work group for 30-day review.
December 20, 2016	Draft Recreation Study Technical Report filed with FERC for public review.
December 22, 2016	Preliminary Draft Fisheries Technical Report submitted to fish passage work group for 30-day review.
February 9, 2017	Draft Fisheries Technical Report submitted to FERC for public review.
Meeting notes, including a record of attendees, and other relicensing materials are available on PacifiCorp's Weber Relicensing website: http://www.pacificorp.com/es/hydro/hl/weber.html#	

MEETINGS

October 19, 2016 – The fish passage work group met in Ogden, Utah, to hear updates and next steps for the Upstream Fish Passage Conceptual Design Report and the fish entrainment study. After multiple onsite adjustments to camera location, as well as a test viewing involving fish placed directly in front of the camera, PacifiCorp expressed a concern with being able to conduct Phase Two (photographic study) of the entrainment study as planned and collect usable data. The group agreed to discontinue Phase Two studies in favor of a literature review and desktop analysis. The group also agreed that a two-week review of comments on the draft conceptual design report would be sufficient given previous review periods. A subcommittee was formed to work on fish trap design for the upstream fish passage structure.

OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

August 12, 2016 – The Draft Upstream Fish Passage Conceptual Design Report was distributed to the fish passage work group for 30-day review and comment. Email distribution by Miriam Hugentobler, project coordinator.

August 17, 2016 – The fish passage work group was notified of problems encountered during implementation of Phase Two (photographic study) of the fish entrainment study and adjustments being attempted. Notice provided by Frank Shrier, PacifiCorp. Email distribution by Miriam Hugentobler, project coordinator.

September 13, 2016 – The Weber relicensing interest group was notified that the Draft Cultural Resources and Terrestrial Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Species Technical Reports were filed with FERC for 30-day public review. Results of 2016 surveys for Ute ladies'-tresses were incorporated into the Draft Terrestrial TES Report. Email distribution by Miriam Hugentobler, project coordinator. (*No comments received on the draft reports*).

September 14, 2016 – The fish passage work group held a conference call regarding Phase Two (photographic study) of the fish entrainment study. PacifiCorp informed the work group of significant challenges encountered in implementing the photographic study and adjustments attempted. PacifiCorp proposed that Phase Two studies be discontinued in favor of a literature review and desktop analysis. Working group requested additional time to consider. Call leader: Eve Davies, PacifiCorp.

October 10, 2016 – Consensus was requested from the fish passage work group to discontinue Phase Two (photographic study) of the fish entrainment study and proceed instead with literature review and desktop analysis. Consensus was requested by October 17, 2016 and was finalized at the October 19, 2016 work group meeting.

November 15, 2016 – The Preliminary Draft Recreation Study Technical Report was distributed to the recreation work group for 30-day review and comment. Email distribution by Miriam Hugentobler, project coordinator. (*Comments received from Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Forest Service, American Whitewater, and FERC*).

November 15, 2016 – The Weber relicensing interest group was notified of the preliminary Draft Recreation Study Technical Report and invited to participate in review. Email distribution by Miriam Hugentobler, project coordinator.

December 20, 2016 – The Weber relicensing interest group was notified that the Draft Recreation Study Technical Report was filed with FERC for 30-day public review. Email distribution by Miriam Hugentobler, project coordinator. (*One individual commented on the draft report*).

December 22, 2016 – The Preliminary Draft Fisheries Technical Report was distributed to the fish passage work group for 30-day review and comment. Email distribution by Miriam Hugentobler, project coordinator. (*Utah Division of Water Quality, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Trout Unlimited, TU/Stonefly Society, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service commented on the preliminary draft report*).

January 4, 2017 – The Weber relicensing interest group was notified of the preliminary Draft Fisheries Technical Report and invited to participate in review. Email distribution by Miriam Hugentobler, project coordinator.

February 2, 2017 – The recreation and water quality work groups held a conference call to hear updates on the Recreation Study and Water Resources technical reports and 2017 scheduling. The groups were informed that severe freezing had prohibited operation of the Project, and thus collection of water quality data at the ‘downstream of Project’ study location. Call led by Eve Davies, PacifiCorp.

February 8, 2017 – The fish passage work group held a conference call to hear updates on the Draft Fisheries Technical Report, to discuss PacifiCorp’s winter operations, and 2017 scheduling. Call led by Eve Davies, PacifiCorp.

February 8, 2017 - PacifiCorp held a conference call with U.S. Forest Service representatives to discuss the Forest Service Special Use Permit and associated National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements. Call led by Eve Davies, PacifiCorp.

February 9, 2017 – PacifiCorp submitted the Draft Fisheries Technical Report to FERC for public review.

DELIVERABLES

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

- Draft Cultural Resources Technical Report and Draft Terrestrial Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Species and Noxious Weeds Technical Report submitted September 13, 2016.
- Draft Recreation Study Technical Report submitted December 20, 2016.
- Draft Fisheries Technical Report submitted February 9, 2017.

TECHNICAL REPORTS SCHEDULE

- The Draft Cultural Resources and Terrestrial TES, and Recreation Study technical reports were filed with FERC September 13, 2016 and 30-day public review is now complete.
- The Draft Fisheries Technical Report was filed with FERC for 30-day public review February 9, 2017.
- An analysis of water quality monitoring data is currently underway for the water resources studies. The Draft Water Resources Technical Report will be reviewed by the water resources work group and any other interested stakeholders and is then expected to be filed with FERC for public review in April 2017.

- Any comments on the draft technical reports will be addressed and final technical reports for all resources noted above should be filed with FERC in the second quarter of 2017.

NEXT REPORTING PERIOD

Data analysis is currently underway for the Water Resources Technical Report. A preliminary draft of this report will be reviewed by the water resources work group in the coming weeks. The Draft Water Resources Technical Report is expected to be filed with FERC no later than May 2017. Final technical reports for all resources will then be filed with FERC in the second quarter of 2017.

The Weber relicensing interest group will meet in April 2017 (date TBD) to discuss potential protection, mitigation and enhancement (PM&E) measures for resources of concern, to review a preliminary draft of the Applicant-Prepared Environmental Analysis, and to begin discussions of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA).