PROPOSED ONEIDA PUMPED STORAGE FACILITY

BEAR RIVER HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT (FERC No. 20)

LICENSE AMENDMENT JOINT MEETING

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, October 25, 2023; 9:00 o'clock a.m.

BE IT REMEMBERED that the public meeting in above matter was taken at the Preston City Hall, Preston, Idaho, before DiAnn Erdman Prock, CSR SRL 963, CCR, Court Reporter and Notary Public, in and for the State of Idaho, in the above-entitled matter.

ATTENDANCE LIST

MORNING MEETING:

MARK STENBERG, PACIFICORP
CONLEY BALDWIN, PACIFICORP
MATTHEW BURAK, WSP
JACK KOLKMAN, PACIFICORP
STEVE LIECHTY, ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER
JOHN HUTCHINS, PACIFICORP
JEFF LOVINGER, PACIFICORP ATTORNEY
EVE DAVIES, PACIFICORP
MATT SHENK, IDEQ
AUBREY MORRIS, PACIFICORP
JIM DeRITO, TROUT UNLIMITED
BROCK FREYER, WSP
CLAUDIA CONDER, PACIFICCORP
SCOTT EVANS, CIRRIUS ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS
JUSTIN BARKER, CIRRIUS ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS
ERIC DUFFIN, CIRRUS ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS
LESLIE POMAVILLE
DAVID COTTLE, BEAR LAKE WATCH
ADAM ECKERSELL, DEQ
AARON HARNSBERGER, DEQ
NEAL ARTZ, CIRRIUS ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS
JAIME CAMPBELL, PACIFICORP
JENNIFER CORNELL, IDEQ
LEE FRANKLIN
MICHELLE FRANKLIN
LUJEAN YOUNG
DAVID YOUNG
CINDY JERNIGAN, BLM
DANNY MILLER, BLM
BLAINE NEWMAN, BLM
MATTHEW BUSH
CHRISTINA MUELLER, FRIENDS OF BEAR RIVER
BRITTANI WATTS
STEVEN SMITH, DEQ
TOM SHARP
CRAIG McGREGOR, FRIENDS OF BEAR RIVER
JIM DeRIBO
MATT SCHENK
ANNA OWSIAK, IDFG
PATRICK KENNEDY, IDFG
JENNIFER JACKSON, IDFG
BECKY JOHNSON, IDFG
STEVE HECHT
ERIC PANKAU, SAGEBRUSH SPECIAL INTEREST
ZACK WADSWORTH

ATTENDANCE LIST (CONTINUED):

MORNING MEETING:

MARQUETTE BAGLEY
TIM HEMSTREET, PACIFICORP
TODD OLSON, PACIFICORP

FIELD VISIT:

MATTHEW BURAK, WSP
LESLIE POMAVILLE
STEVEN LIECHTZ
DAN KELLER
ZACH WADSWORTH, SHOSHONE-BANNOCK
MARQUETTE BAGLEY
PATRICK KENNEDY
ANNA OSWIAK
BRITTANI WATTS
CHRISTINA MUELLER, FRIENDS OF BEAR RIVER
JENNIFER JACKSON, IDFG
SHERI MURRAY ELLIS, CIRRUS ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS
BECKY JOHNSON
CHARLIE VINCENT, AW
DANNY MILLER, BLM
CINDY SZEMKA, BLM
TODD OLSON, PACIFICORP
SCOTT EVANS
ERIC DUFFIN
BROCK FREYER
JAIME CAMPBELL, PACIFICORP

(The public meeting proceeded at 9:00 a.m. as follows:)

* * * * * *

MARK STENBERG: Well, good morning, everybody. Thanks for coming out.

So I'm going to be a little off script when we get going here right at the first, and then we'll get into our presentation, do introductions, all that stuff.

First, if everybody can sign in. That helps us just keep track of numbers for the consultation record, and we can add people to the distribution list, keep everybody in the loop on what's going on in the process, you know, as we move forward.

I was telling a couple people in the back, I'm really excited we have people here this morning. We've done some meetings over the last couple years where, you know, one or two people show up, and the purpose of doing meetings is to get input, make sure we're not missing the target on issues and interests, you know, with our neighbors and reacting with our projects. And we want to be fully informed around our proposals.

I was telling somebody we had this one

meeting and one person showed up and the reason they showed up was to see who else showed up.

So anyway -- but no, it's good to have people here, and we're going to cover a lot of material today. I wanted to -- the context I want to set up is just a little bit about PacifiCorp, our interaction on Bear River around our hydro projects, and then what we've done around outreach so far on this project, some of the timelines and the documents we've sent out and who we've sent them out to.

There was a comment I saw yesterday about a hastily announced meeting, and I just -- I wanted to kind of address that up front here.

So early this year, I work with this group, it's associated with our hydro projects at Soda, Grace, Oneida, and it's fourteen members to it. It's all of our state agencies, our federal agencies, and some nongovernmental groups. They help us to manage ongoing compliance, enhancements around our Bear River hydroelectric facilities.

So back in March, we started talking to that group about this Oneida proposal, this concept here. That got us to September 18th this year, which was our first official outward communication

on September 18th about the proposal.

And what we did on September 18th is we posted this document which is the initial consultation document, and the title of that is super important: Initial Consultation Document.

What this document puts forth is the proposal for what the facility would look like potentially, how potentially it would be run, and then from, you know, a desktop sense, the consultant team gathering in all the known resource information we have: Wetlands, fisheries, geology, et cetera, in the document. So things we know.

Then identifying in here what we know about issues around these resources: Threatened endangered species, noxious weeds, other examples. Identified gaps in information, and then also in the back, a study plan document to get at how we want to study these resources.

So this came out, and we'll talk about this more. Matt and I will be tag-teaming throughout in this morning. We'll talk about this document. It's posted on PacifiCorp's website. It was up on September 18th, filed with the Federal Regulatory Commission.

In that September 18th communication, we

put this October 25th date out. Okay? FERC requires us, just simply, no less than thirty days after we post this and no more than sixty days, to have this meeting, and it's a joint meeting.

Jim, there's a sign-in by the door there. Right on.

Let's see, where was I? So we're on October 25th which is thirty-seven days from when this was posted and the date came out. We also had a number of ads that ran on September 10 and 11. Those are required by FERC.

We also did a press release. I don't remember the dates of that, but it ran actually two TV stations picked that up and read the press release on Friday evening news for us in September. I think it was the last Friday of September, not a hundred percent sure on that date, though.

So who did we notice about the ICD? So we use a couple different mailing lists. FERC, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, keeps a service list so anybody that wants to be given notice about actions around the project signs up with FERC.

So we noticed the FERC service list. We noticed the Bear River Environmental Coordination

Committee I talked about, and they're the parties to the settlement around the current -- little jargony, sorry -- Bear River project. Becky, Eric. We noticed them, and then we also noticed all our neighbors.

We built a list of adjoiners to our three hydro projects; even though this proposal is just down from Oneida, we noticed everybody that's a neighbor of ours at all three of the projects.

And then we had another kind of southeast Idaho pump storage interested party list that we used also. Hundred and twenty-nine plus or minus parties on that list that got the notice about this being posted back on September 18th.

October 9th then we put the official notice out that was required by FERC about the meeting. Went to the same hundred twenty-nine folks. If you were a neighbor, should have got a letter, print letter on that.

If we have e-mail for you from other groups, we e-mailed. And safe to say mailing lists are always an evolving art, right, as you go through a project. People move. People are missed. So if we've missed people who need to be on there, your neighbor, you didn't get a letter, let us know.

We'll make sure you're on the list.

If you're just an interested party, sign in. Make sure you've got your e-mail, and we'd get you added to the distribution list.

Our goal here, we're about consultation on the project. Okay? So a little context, and this is actually -- I saw some social media yesterday, and I just want to talk about Oneida Canyon real quick.

And I came here in 2005, and my job was to manage the new license on the Bear River. I've been here since '05. And Oneida Canyon, and I love it dearly, I got to implement PacifiCorp's land management plans and our new license on Oneida Canyon. What that meant was, we used to wholesale graze Oneida Canyon.

And you can look at this on Google Earth. Just go back and find, like, July and August images on Google Earth pre-2005, late summer. And it's beat pretty good. You know, and I had someone I work with externally told me he grew up locally here. Oneida Canyon used to be the place if you want to do late night deeds, that's where you would go, to the Oneida Canyon. We had off-road vehicle use. We had all kinds of, you know, kind of

unsanctioned activities going on there.

We managed that per like a comp plan, if you're a city person. We have our site plans for all of our projects. We managed our lands per those site plans required in our hydro license.

Oneida Canyon took out six miles of cross fencing that was a hazard to wildlife. We don't graze it anymore. We do noxious weed control. We got vehicle traffic all on the road. Lots of things happen in Oneida Canyon to present the landscape you see there today and the users there.

Last time we counted users in the Oneida Canyon, which I think it was 2015, we had sixty-five thousand visitors there in the summer.

Oneida Canyon, and I'm just putting this out there so everybody appreciates the importance of the Oneida Canyon, below Oneida dam, that is the longest, free-flowing, publicly accessible piece of the Bear River. That's the importance of that.

And there isn't a block of land like that that's publicly accessible going upstream until you get to the Georgetown WMA. And the hydro project over time has kept that, you know, a publicly accessible reach of the river, the reservoir, you know, keeps that available there.

It's one of the benefits of the project being there.

There was some comments about, you know, what do you do for the region. From hydro standpoint, PacifiCorp has been involved in the conservation of five thousand acres of conservation easements in the actionary here through our environmental coordination committee over the years, either primarily funding or partially funding conservation easements. We've been involved in about a hundred and seventy habitat projects again through hydro projects, funding tributary work with land owners, fencing, fishing screening, you know, all kinds of projects, water quality, cutthroat trout.

So there's a multitude of things like that plus local jobs. We have Idaho, about six thousand acres we manage primarily for big game and nongame habitat.

So anyway, the point I'm trying to make is there's a lot of -- we are committed to the Oneida Canyon. We've got a lot of interest there. This document, as Matt and I are going to go through, you know, looking at the current environment, the resources around it, study needs,

the proposal, it's posted on the PacifiCorp's website.

All right. I'm going to jump in here. So our purpose today, we want to inform why PacifiCorp's proposed pump storage facility, the project which is the facility, communicate the process and the schedule under which an application for the project's approval is made, and invite participation from all interested parties to identify issues and concerns with the proposed project.

Okay. Our agenda today, and we'll -- okay, welcome introductions, general housekeeping. I'm going to talk us through the agenda. We're going to talk about operations and the facilities, who's FERC, you know, I mentioned them.

What's the license amendment process that we're following and the schedule? Existing environment, and I'm going to hand this over to Matt. He's going to take us through the existing environment, resource issues identified to date, ongoing studies, proposed studies, information collecting, next steps, and then, depending on the flow of the meeting, we may break up around PacifiCorp folks and consultants to talk in detail

about specific issues folks have. We'll kind of see how the flow goes here.

Comments and questions, and then site visit directions. We're going to do a site visit today, and we'll go through the details of that starting at 1:00.

Anybody have any questions before we jump into this?

EVE DAVIES: Can that screen be adjusted at all?

MARK STENBERG: So everybody, I think that's the extent of it there. Is that better?

EVE DAVIES: Yeah.

MARK STENBERG: A lot better. Yeah.

Okay. So emergency exit over here, bathrooms are out the door.

We will talk about safety when we get to site visit directions. We'll do a little tail board about driving, where we're going, hazards on the route. Okay? All right.

Introductions, please remember to sign in. If you'd like to be on the mailing list, also helps us keep track of our consultation record. I'm Mark Stenberg. I'm a local FERC license program manager, work for PacifiCorp.

Let's do PacifiCorp first. Just tell us your role, and then we'll do consultants team for introductions, and then if we can move through it quick enough, we'll do other folks.

So I'd love everybody to make those connections between your agency partners and landowners and other interested parties. Let's just go around the room. Let's just go --

Mark Stenberg, PacifiCorp.

CONLEY BALDWIN: Conley Baldwin, PacifiCorp.

THE COURT REPORTER: I didn't understand you.

CONLEY BALDWIN: Conley Baldwin, PacifiCorp.

MATTHEW BURAK: Matthew Burak, WSP.

ERIC DUFFIN: Eric Duffin, Cirrius Ecological.

MICHELLE FRANKLIN: Lee and Michelle Franklin, property owners.

MARK STENBERG: Let's go up front here.

JENNIFER JACKSON: Jennifer Jackson, Idaho Fish and Game.

BECKY JOHNSON: Becky Johnson, Idaho Fish and Game.

STEVE LIECHTY: Steve Liechty, Rocky Mountain Power.

JACK KOLKMAN: Jack Kolkman, PacifiCorp.

JOHN HUTCHINS: John Hutchins, PacifiCorp.

JEFF LOVINGER: Jeff Lovinger. I'm the attorney for PacifiCorp.

TIM HEMSTREET: Tim Hemstreet, PacifiCorp.

JUSTIN BARKER: Justin Barker with Cirrius.

LUJEAN YOUNG: David and Lujean Young, property owners.

THE COURT REPORTER: I didn't understand you.

LUJEAN YOUNG: David and Lujean Young.

STEVEN SMITH: Steven Smith, DEQ.

TOM SHARP: Tom Sharp, landowner.

TODD OLSON: Todd Olson, PacifiCorp.

PAT KENNEDY: Pat Kennedy, Idaho Fish and Game.

DANNY MILLER: Danny Miller, Bureau of Land Management.

CINDY JERNIGAN: Cindy Jernigan, Bureau of Land Management.

ANNA OWSIDK: Anna Owsidk, Idaho Fish and Game.

EVE DAVIES: Eve Davies, PacifiCorp.

CRAIG McGREGOR: Craig McGregor, Friends of Bear River.

JAIME CAMPBELL: Jaime Campbell, PacifiCorp.

MATT SHENK: Matt Shenk, with IDEQ.

JENNIFER CORNELL: Jennifer Cornell, IDEQ.

ERIC PANKAU: Eric Pankau, Sagebrush Special Interest.

ADAM ECKERSELL: Adam Eckersell, IDEQ.

AARON HARNSBERGER: Aaron Harnsberger, IDEQ.

THE COURT REPORTER: Can you repeat that?

AARON HARNSBERGER: Aaron Harnsberger.

BROCK FREYER: Brock Freyer, WSP.

CHRISTINA MUELLER: Christina Mueller, Friends of Bear River.

BRITTANI WATTS: Brittani Watts, Mink Creek resident.

LESLIE POMAVILLE: Leslie Pomaville, WSP.

TYLER OLSON: Tyler Olson, Franklin County resident.

AUBREY MORRIS: Aubrey Morris, PacifiCorp.

CLAUDIA CONDER: Claudia Conder, PacificCorp.

THE COURT REPORTER: Claudia?

CLAUDIA CONDER: Conder.

DAVID COTTLE: David Cottle, Bear Lake Watch.

BLAINE NEWMAN: Blaine Newman, Bureau of Land Management.

JIM DeRITO: Jim DeRito, Trout Unlimited.

THE COURT REPORTER: I didn't understand him.

JIM DeRITO: Trout Unlimited.

SHERI ELLIS: Sheri Ellis, Cirrius Environmental Solutions.

NEAL ARTZ: Neal Artz, Cirrius Ecological Solutions.

SCOTT EVANS: Scott Evans, Cirrius Ecological.

THE COURT REPORTER: Scott Evans?

SCOTT EVANS: Scott Evans, Cirrius

Ecological.

MARK STENBERG: I can help you with those later.

THE COURT REPORTER: Yeah. I'm going to need it because they're --

MARK STENBERG: I'll get you a copy of the list.

Everybody make sure you sign in so we can true this up.

One of the FERC requirements is we prepare a transcript of our meetings, so that's our support for that.

So questions during the presentation, this is kind an in between-sized group, so I'd like to try to have questions during the presentation.

I usually like twenty people just do questions as we go. Larger, we're kind of in between, let's see how it goes. If we get bogged down too much, then we'll save questions until the end, but I like to be able to address them as we go along, or just take comments.

We'll be preparing the transcript here, but also the consultant team will also be paying attention during this trying to get people's names and what their comments and issues are so we can

follow up on those comments. Okay?

When you speak, please identify yourself for the transcript. Okay?

And we will post the transcript when it's available. It's usually a couple weeks out.

We're going to post this presentation on our website. I've got to get it to the admins. I doubt it will happen tomorrow, but I'll get it to them, and we'll get it up with the ICB here shortly. Okay? At that -- and that's where this document is at that link. Anybody wants to get in, see details, go to the link. You know, lots of information there. Okay.

So PacifiCorp's proposal. We would like to work through the process to amend our current FERC license to include a two-hundred mega watt pump storage facility in association with our Oneida development. More details on that to come.

As part of this, we would also like to extend the Bear River license for all three projects and the settlement agreement that's the cornerstone of the existing license for another twenty years.

FERC allows that through a license amendment process if you're making large capital investments in your project. It helps you with

financing around them. We're also hopeful, and I think extension of the settlement agreement, and it's my opinion, would be to the benefit of many of the stakeholders involved in that settlement agreement. But we'll be working on that concurrently with this license amendment piece. Okay?

So PacifiCorp has and maintains what we call an Integrated Resource Plan, or IRP for short. The IRP -- the IRP identifies our strategies for serving our customers' energy needs now and into the future.

Of particular note that second bullet, eight thousand megawatts of storage resources including batteries, co-located with solar generation, standalone batteries, and the pump storage resources.

This two hundred megawatt project fits into that vision there. We have huge tasks ahead of us. To move away from climate change causing emissions, right? We're going to decarbonize our fleet here.

The important thing with storage, when you have -- and I don't want to go into it too much because of time, but -- so our carbon, our

coal-fired fleet, they get those things fueled up, tuned up, they can run, provide base power.

As we replace those with wind and solar, those resources is more variable. Solar, as an example, solar works during the day. Wind, the wind's got to be blowing. Right?

So to replace that resource that's available, say, ninety percent of the time with resources that are available, say, solar, daytime only, we've got to be able to store power. Right? We've got to be able to collect it when it's generated. We've got to be able to return it to the grid at times it's needed. Okay?

So short story there.

Quick orientation on PacifiCorp's facilities. We'll get the pointer out here.

All right. I've got the Bear River coming down through Wyoming. It comes in. We've got our Bear Lake facilities up here that are managed, and we store water at Bear Lake for irrigation deliveries during the summer. We return that water to the Bear River through the lift and pumping station, Outlet Canal. We've got the Soda Dam, Last Chance project, Grace Dam, Oneida Dam north of Preston here.

Bear River then goes on to our Cutler project down in Utah. We also are working on a relicensing project down there to relicense that facility down there with FERC. Okay?

So jumping in to the project overview, so the concept, how this works, and there's -- I was talking to a couple of our operators yesterday out in the field, and some -- little bit of misinformation floating around, but I will try to dispel that. And this is -- there's some important pieces here, so if anybody doesn't track, stop me, let's make sure we're -- we understand how this would function potentially. Okay?

So, Oneida Reservoir sits here. Upper Reservoir up on the mountain, twenty-three-acre footprint of the reservoir. We're going to need a little bit of land around it, fencing, that type of thing. Okay?

Two eleven-foot-diameter steel penstocks would connect the upper reservoir to a new power house pumping station. There would be two, one-hundred megawatt reversible. They both generate, and they pump in this new powerhouse.

And if you know the Oneida development where Old Camp is, where they used to have old

homes. We took most of those down a few years ago, four years ago now. It would be at the north end of that is the proposal at this point. Okay?

Water would go back and forth between Oneida Reservoir, and this is the point I want to clarify. This wouldn't be connected to the river. Okay? And that was some of the misinformation yesterday that was floating around. Folks were, like, wow, that's really going to change the river below the dam. It does not connect to the river. It connects to the reservoir.

When the Oneida project was built, there's two large pipes going through the earthen embankment dam. One is used. Currently it's connected to the existing powerhouse. The other one has just sat there. It's capped. There's a headgate on it. It's unused. So the proposal would connect to that existing cap into the reservoir existing intake structure right where the red dot is. Okay?

So other -- questions on that? So it's back and forth from the reservoir. Okay?

Existing lower reservoir is four hundred and eighty acres. Oneida actually has two dams. We have a concrete dam. It's about a hundred and

fifteen feet tall, I think it is. Here. And then we have an earthen embankment dike on this side. Okay?

We'll have a new substation next to the powerhouse in Old Camp, and about a half mile of new transmission line to connect to the existing Oneida substation.

So everything down low here is tucked in an area that's already developed for generations. The new facilities would be up here crossing land managed by BLM.

And then on to private land up top here, it's about seventy-five acres plus or minus on private, about thirty-five on land managed by BLM.

Road access. We don't know yet. That will be part of ongoing engineering work to look at road access needs, options, you know road study. Okay?

And Jack, how far -- just how far along would you say? Is engineering one percent?

JACK KOLKMAN: Yeah.

MARK STENBERG: Yeah. So that's how far engineering is at this point. It is at one percent. So very preliminary. I just talked through this slide a little bit in advance of the slide, but the

purple is Bureau of Reclamation lands that are managed by BLM here. The yellow is BLM, and then this is PacifiCorp, and then the private lands are up above here. It shows just, you know, it's outlined here. Okay?

So a little more on how this works, and this is a pretty good representation, kind of. This is a Department of Energy graphic on the right here, and this is how pump storage works in an open loop concept, where open means that water is flowing through this lower reservoir. It's coming down the river. It's going down the reservoir. It's going through the current powerhouse. You know, that just kind of continues on as an operation. It's just that stays there.

And then the pump storage project operates in the reservoir, pumps up the hill to this new upper reservoir, and returns water. Okay? Pumping would happen when electrical demand is low. It would move water from the lower to the upper reservoir.

This project as proposed right now would provide potentially about ten hours of generation if it ran continuously.

And so upper reservoir -- and I get

questions about this: Can people go to the upper reservoir? And the answer is no because it's going to fluctuate about a hundred and fifteen feet in a full cycle from top to bottom of water within that twenty-six-acre footprint. Okay?

The lower reservoir would fluctuate five to six feet. We are -- we'll talk about it in a little bit -- one of the studies we haven't done yet. We're going to do an imagery survey this fall and really look at the storage capacity in the reservoir, so we'll be able to put a finer number on that with some more information.

The hydraulic capacity of this would be about two thousand cubic feet per second when fully engaged. That would be the water moving in and out of that second intake earthen dike.

Two hundred megawatts, potentially could generate thirty-five to forty-five percent of the time and it would be pumping forty-five to fifty-five percent of the time. You can't pump the water up as fast as you can generate with it. Okay?

Questions on where we're at right here?

Claudia. Claudia Conder.

CLAUDIA CONDER: What is the distance from the existing dam up to the upper reservoir?

What's the distance?

MARK STENBERG: Yeah. So the penstock length is fifty-eight hundred feet approximately.

Any further questions? Matt?

MATT SHENK: This is Matt with the DEQ.

Did you say the upper reservoir dam was going to be three hundred feet tall?

MARK STENBERG: Yup.

MATT SHENK: But the fluctuation is only going to be a hundred fifteen feet within that?

MARK STENBERG: Yup. And we'll see that today. The topography is very steep up there and it's in a bit of a, you know, notch, so there's what we call a dead pool in the bottom of it.

MATT SHENK: Okay.

MARK STENBERG: And you would be using the top hundred fifteen feet or so of the three hundred and fifteen feet. Two hundred feet would be this wedge down at the bottom that would kind of sit there.

MATT SHENK: Thank you.

MARK STENBERG: FERC. FERC regulates our projects. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. They issue licenses for our project. They set the process, the requirements for consultation like

this. They would approve this capacity amendment. If we get to the point where we make application, they're the ones that would approve it.

They're responsible for NEPA analysis on these undertakings, and they are, as it states there, they're an independent government agency that regulates non-federal hydroelectric projects by authorizing their construction and operation.

MATT SHENK: Okay.

MARK STENBERG: FERC license capacity amendments. There's a couple. There's two types of license amendments, and when I say license, I'm talking about the Bear River hydroelectric license. There's two types of amendments.

One covers noncapacity things, and we have to maintain a bunch of exhibits with FERC. One of them we call it Exhibit A, they call it Exhibit A, and it is a text description of all of our facilities. So it describes the year the generator was built, when it was rewound, what the capacity of it was.

If we, say, go in and change a generator -- right? -- we have to file a license amendment with FERC with an updated Exhibit A saying: Okay. Generator three at Grace was

rewound, the new capacity is this, et cetera. That's a simple license amendment. I've done them multiple times on the Bear River. There are boundaries, and mostly, like, facility upgrades and things like that within the plants.

So FERC also allows you to use an amendment for capacity increases, and the requirement for FERC is you have to apply for a capacity amendment if you're proposing to add more than fifteen percent to the hydraulic capacity. The total hydraulic capacity of the project and increase its nameplate capacity by at least two megawatts, and adding two hundred megawatts to the Bear River project requires license capacity amendment essentially. Okay?

So we follow the steps FERC tells us for license capacity amendments to follow the steps of the traditional licensing process to get our amendment put together, our amendment application put together.

We're following that process right now with this meeting, with our notice of this meeting, with our posting of the initial consultation document. So we propose an amendment, and then we ask the question, you know, is it capacity related?

Is it, you know, new dam, et cetera, new turbines? If it's no, you know, we consult with the agencies, interested parties, and we can file an application. That would be a simple exhibit update.

For this capacity amendment, we'll complete three-stage consultation following FERC regs. This is -- we're in the first part of this, and we'll look at this more in a second. We file a license application to amend the license. There will be a sixty-day -- there's another big review period that will come up with when we have the application drafted, hopefully late next year, early the following year.

There'll be public notice around that, around the modification. FERC takes care of NEPA, NEPA document which would be an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement will be prepared by FERC, and FERC makes the decision to approve or not approve the amendment.

We have other federal agencies involved like BLM on the BLM land there which will be plugged into that, the whole process. Okay. So here we are, three stages of consultation. This first one is grade a little bit here, licensee issues, initial consultation document, and it seems like probably

right now it's probably all Mark's talked about this morning is this document. But there it is.

We conduct joint agency public meetings and site visit, and we're doing that today. And then the interested parties can provide written comments and study requests to us, and they have sixty days after this meeting to do that. Okay?

So the timelines of this meeting, we're predicated by the filing of this, and then sixty days from this meeting is the deadline for comments, and Matt will talk about some of FERC's guidance on preparing comments to us.

In the license capacity process, comments can come directly to PacifiCorp. You can send them straight to us. If you want to file them on the FERC website, you're more than welcome to.

FERC isn't really involved in this up-front piece of licensed capacity amendments until we get to the third stage. Okay?

Second stage, we'll complete reasonable and necessary studies. One to two field seasons. We'll provide a draft capacity related license amendment application and study results to interested parties. That will be ongoing here.

Interested parties comment on draft

application -- and it's ninety days. I just misspoke. I said it was sixty. It's ninety days, and that will be once we have the application together, potentially like fourteen months from now.

Third stage, we file this capacity-related license amendment application with FERC, and we send copies to interested parties.

Consultation record, and I just bring that up, consultation record is required to be submitted with that, you know, and this is part of the consultation record we're working on. Plus just everything we've done to consult, you know, we'll keep track of that throughout, and that will be part of the consultation record that will go in here.

Questions?

(No audible response.)

MARK STENBERG: I'm either doing really good or --

(Laughter.)

MARK STENBERG: So amendment schedule, stuff that's grade here, kind of keeping in that theme, are things that were complete.

This first line. This was an ad hoc thing we did early this year which is we put a draft study plan -- and by ad hoc, I mean it's not part of

the FERC process, but we wanted to get out in front of it.

So we put a draft study plan document together early this year. We gave it to the Bear River environmental coordination committee. Had some informal talks around that.

We started some study work this year around water quality monitoring and recreation, habitat mapping, and noxious weeds, threatened and endangered species. It doesn't mean that we can't receive comments on those studies as they're in here. We just wanted to get ahead on them, and if we needed to change course, add things, adjust, we look forward to comments on those. Okay?

Filed and distributed the ICD September 18. We have the October 19 notification of this meeting day. We published the notice as required.

And today we're here having this meeting. Okay? And, like I said, this presentation will be posted so if you want to go back to it, look at the details, we'll put it up. It's a good summary.

I'm doing a time check. 9:38. Okay. Comments and ICD and study requests, no later than

sixty days, December 26. That's just where it lands following the FERC rules. Okay? We'll consult with people who give us comments as we get them. Okay?

Perform field studies, stage two. This is underway but will continue next year. Will circulate draft study reports and as we get them solicit comments. Yeah. Draft license amendment application, fall, winter, 2024.

We'll look for comments back from folks, you know, ninety days after we send that around to everyone. That's weird.

Stage three, once we give it to FERC, then FERC takes over. FERC will post the license amendment application. They'll ask for comments on it. They'll make additional information requests at PacifiCorp, if needed. FERC will solicit comments, motions to intervene, motions to protest.

FERC will issue an EA/EIS at some point and an amended order, if they get there. Okay? So that's it. Okay.

So any questions on what we went through this morning? And I also -- I talked -- the consultants and I talked. We have a lot to go through here this morning. It's really a distillation of this bigger document, so it's kind

of a -- we've got the executive summary here, but without being here for three hours listening to us talk, we're going to kind of roll with it, keep it kind of high level.

So raise your hand if you've got questions, identify yourself, and we'll take questions as we go and keep going along.

Yes, ma'am?

CHRISTINE MUELLER: Is that document available anywhere?

THE COURT REPORTER: I need a name.

MARK STENBERG: Yeah. So this is posted -- it's been posted since September 18th on PacifiCorp's website. It's posted on FERC's website, and there's a hard copy at the public library over there.

THE COURT REPORTER: I need your name.

CHRISTINE MUELLER: Christina Mueller. Sorry.

MARK STENBERG: Thank you.

MATT SHENK: We also have two hard copies there for everyone to look at.

MARK STENBERG: Yeah. If anyone wants to page through it, there's two copies here. Just don't take the one with my name on it.

If anybody -- I actually had one phone call since September 18th. All the notices that went out have my cell phone number in them, so if anybody had questions or has questions, you've got my cell phone number to call me.

The landowner Vincent Johnson called me: Mark, I can't get into the website. Help me walk through this. We took a few minutes, got him into -- so he could find it on PacifiCorp.com. And anyway, got him in. He's good. But that's the only reach-out I've had since September 18 was that one individual that was trying to get to the lay of the land.

LEE FRANKLIN: Mark, I have a significant number of questions and comments, and I don't know whether to interrupt you as we go along continually, or to wait until the end. Kind of give me some guidance. I don't have one question.

MARK STENBERG: Okay. We can -- we can talk any time and after the meeting between the meetings -- Lee is the owner of the private land up at the top of the hill, Lee and Michelle, and so --

LEE FRANKLIN: Let me say this: In appendix four it lists interested parties and adjacent landowners. Legally, I'm an adjacent

landowner, not listed, and I'm a very interested party.

MARK STENBERG: Yeah. And I think we corrected that, and I apologize for that. We had to fix a couple things in the document.

LEE FRANKLIN: It's not the one that I looked at this morning.

MARK STENBERG: On the website?

LEE FRANKLIN: It's not important.

MARK STENBERG: Okay.

LEE FRANKLIN: You and I have talked, but the document has generated a tremendous amount of questions I have --

MARK STENBERG: Yup.

LEE FRANKLIN: -- and very big concerns, and I don't want to continuously interrupt you, but I want to do it in a way that you want to do this meeting, too.

MARK STENBERG: Sure.

LEE FRANKLIN: So you have to kind of tell me.

MARK STENBERG: Honestly, Lee, if you have, like, you know, landowner PacifiCorp questions, comments, let's take those offline.

LEE FRANKLIN: Okay.

MARK STENBERG: And work with Buffy and, you know, myself, management.

LEE FRANKLIN: Mine are bigger than that.

MARK STENBERG: Yeah. If you have other natural resource issues questions, let's bring them up.

Matt?

MATT BURAK: So just to build off of that, also, like just for the public record because, you know, sometimes these side conversations, issues, kind of go one way versus the public record goes another.

During that comment period, you can write your comments down in written form and submit them to PacifiCorp, and they'll become part of the public record. Everybody has a chance to review and we'll offer that, too.

LEE FRANKLIN: What is WSP?

MATT BURAK: We're a large environmental Williams Sale Partnership. We've been around for over a hundred years.

My name is Matt Burak. I'm with WSP. I'm the project manager spearheading the FERC aspect of this project. We have our engineering side, too,

that are doing the designing and engineering for PacifiCorp for the project. The consultant that's with WSP, Cirrus Ecological and Certus.

I'll be taking the rest of the presentation, going through the existing environment, discussing the current resources that are in the project area. So getting back to the comments and questions that Mark was alluding to, most of those should focus around the effect of the proposed project so the operations and additional information that's needed to assess those operations on what FERC considers the existing environment.

Those are the resource areas that are listed here: Geology and soils, water, fish and aquatics, wildlife and wetlands, rare, threatened, and endangered species, rec -- recreation and land use, aesthetic and visual, cultural and tribal resources as well as socioeconomic.

So the next few slides are, you know, in the -- in this ICD document. It's quite detailed summarizing the existing condition of all of these resource areas. The next set of slides are going to be kind of the sentinel points from that preliminary analysis that we already did.

So first up is geology and soils. The

proposed project is located on alluvial fan deposits, sedimentary rock, quartzite, some landslide deposits, and some boulder gravels.

There's no mapped, active faults in the project footprint, so there's a negative -- negligible risk of surface fault rupture.

Relief, so elevation in kind of the vicinity ranges from forty-five hundred and nine thousand feet.

Soils, the most common soil type are Hondoho, stony surface-Ricrest complex, and Polumar-Ireland complex. These two soil types have low to moderate erosion potential. And what low and moderate erosion potential here means is what's termed sheet and real erosion.

Sheet is kind of just uniform water going over the plain or surface; whereas, real erosion is the water creates a gully and mobilizes soil particles in those gullies and takes them away.

So water resources kind of falls under two categories: Water quantity, so that's the amount of water that's in the area flowing through the river and quality.

This slide speaks to water quantity, so how much water is going through the Bear River

system right now. Monthly flows range from five thousand -- excuse me, not five thousand -- five hundred CFS, cubic feet per second, to about a thousand CFS instantaneous flow, so essentially flow in the river at any given moment can range from seventy to almost thirty-five hundred CFS.

Your typical high flows occur in July and low flows occur in fall and winter. Again, speaking to the lower reservoir, so the existing Oneida Reservoir, as Mark says, four hundred eighty acres. It's approximately five miles in length, has a normal pool elevation of 4,882.4 feet.

Its elevation fluctuates about one or two feet from month to month, and plus or minus four feet throughout the year, has a usable storage facility of 10,880 acre feet, and hydraulic retention time, so when a water particle enters from the upstream, it takes about six days for it to exit the reservoir.

It has an average depth of 28 feet, and maximum death of about 85 feet. The water in the areas used for hydropower generation, irrigation, it's used by cold water and warm water aquatic life, and for recreation: Fishing, boating, and swimming.

So for water quality, the water quality

of the existing waters are suitable for cold water salmonid spawning, primary contact recreation, industrial water use, agricultural water use. Idaho DEQ has two assessment units to set the kind of beneficial uses for the system. Once upstream, goes from Oneida Reservoir to Alexander Reservoir.

Downstream of Oneida is the second assessment unit. Both assessment units are classified as high quality waters, and current monitoring indicates -- past and current monitoring indicates the Oneida Reservoir is a sink for total suspended solids and total phosphorus.

Continuing with water quality, data is kind of currently limited for assessing water quality, and I'll speak to that a little later building off of some ongoing sites that we currently have going on. Water temperatures range from half a degree Celsius to twenty-five degrees Celsius.

The reservoir does undergo through a short-term stratification, so that's means there's a warm, less dense layer of water sitting on the top, and cooler more dense layer of water on the bottom, and that cold dense layer is referred to as the hypolimnion.

Turbidity near -- turbidity is

relatively higher in the inflow section and lower near the dam, and if you think about it, that makes sense because there's a suspended sediment particle, and it's floating water, it's mobilized, it hits the slow water of the reservoir as it settles out, so the water is more clear towards the dam versus the upper reservoir part.

LEE FRANKLIN: I'm Lee Franklin.

I hate to interrupt, but the turbidity thing, you guys are going to take a flow of water that probably averages maybe seven hundred cubic feet per second, and out of the Grace dam, I know it changes throughout the months and all that, but it's a fairly low number.

And then you're going to take two thousand and thirty cubic feet per second out of that. You're going to suck the water out of the lower reservoir. You're going to drain the Bear River.

The Bear River is going to staid up and make that water more turbid, isn't it? And then you're going to dump the water out of the upper reservoir into lower reservoir at twenty-five fifty cubic feet per second and just increase it that much more. What is the turbidity of the water going to

be like when it leaves, when it's in the Oneida Reservoir and when it leaves the dam?

MATT BURAK: Well, that gets to a point of --

MARK STENBERG: Yeah. Lee, one of the studies we're working on, so Eric and Justin are working on a sediment study, and also the imagery study.

LEE FRANKLIN: What study?

MARK STENBERG: Imagery. So it's the contours in the reservoir.

So we'll have knowledge about the sediments, especially up in the headwater, you know, where the river channel's going to be exposed potentially during draw down.

We're going to run a build and run a two-dimensional model to look at sediment transport and what will happen during this operational regime. So we don't have a good answer for that. It's a question that's been raised. What's going to happen, DEQ has raised it. You know, as you add a daily fluctuation to this, what's going to happen to accumulated sediments primarily in the headwater area.

All these reservoirs have what you call

a hinge point where the river comes in and then it makes a little spot like that, and the reservoir sits there. And as we draw down, you know, that point moves deeper in the reservoir, and you have this area that has exposed sediment, et cetera.

So, yeah, a perfect example of stuff we're working on to answer questions that we don't have the answers to yet.

LEE FRANKLIN: On page 44 in the document it talks about shorelines and how the water level varies seasonally but is consistent relatively, for a short time period is consistent, it's not changing a lot. And currently there are no erosive forces caused by fluctuating water levels.

So now we're going to drop it five or six feet every day, what -- what does that do, or is that part of the study to try to figure it out?

MATT BURAK: Yes. We do have an ongoing study on erosion site.

MARK STENBERG: If you want to talk to Brock in the back there about shoreline erosion. So Brock went out and has done the mapping. He's a geologist looking at the, you know, what's there, how stable is it, how it's going to interact with the fluctuation regime. We don't have the results

on that yet, though.

MATT BURAK: Because the type of erosional water levels is different than the sheet and real erosion that I spoke to. It's a little different. So that's what the purpose of this study is.

Okay. Let's see, so yeah. Bear River has, you know, temperatures range from 1.3 to 22 degrees Celsius. Currently, the temp -- the chronic temperature standards for salmonid fish is typically exceeded in the summer months. So the chronic temperature standard, so what does that mean? It has to do with being exposed to a certain environmental -- in this case a temperature threshold that would result in -- or could result in mortality or reduced reproduction or potential to the species of interest.

Dissolved oxygen, DO levels, are currently above the state standard, which is a good thing. And total phosphorus sometimes is not at the state standard.

So fish and aquatic resources, that speaks to the fish that are in the reservoir, fish that are in the river as well as other aquatic organisms like fresh water mussels is a typical one

as well as their habitats.

So in the reservoir the habitat includes talus slopes, boulders, mud flats. Downstream in the Bear River, you know, you have your complex riffles, glides, pools with cobble, gravel and boulder substrate.

Oneida Reservoir is primarily managed as a sport fishery which the dominant species is --

THE COURT REPORTER: Can you slow down?

MATT BURAK: Yeah, sorry. There's a lot to get through. Sorry.

-- with walleye, carp, smallmouth bass, and perch.

Downstream sections of the Bear River is managed as a sport fishery stocked with nonnative rainbow trout. Other dominant species include Utah sucker, smallmouth, and mountain white fish.

It's current, as Mark alluded to with the current settlement agreement, there's measures to promote Bonneville cutthroat trout populations. There's no diadromous fish present. Diadromous fish refers to migratory fish that go between and among the oceans in fresh water.

There's no designated essential fish habitat that refers to a habitat designated under

the Magnuson-Stevens Fish Conservation Management Act. There's benthic macroinvertebrates. The two primary ones are oligochaetes, so your worms, and your chironomids, midges. There's no fish entrainment or turbine mortality studies for the current Oneida development.

LEE FRANKLIN: So isn't that a concern? I mean, right now we don't know how many fish die, so we're going to make it tremendously more difficult.

How does a fish live in a situation where they're used to some current, and then they go to a current that is three times higher than what they're normally used to? And how does the fish spawn, typically in shallow water, more often, how do they spawn when the water level changes five to six feet a day?

MATT BURAK: Well, that's something that could be looked at; but, usually, fish adapt. They'll move deeper. And that fluctuation zone wouldn't be occupied by the fish.

LEE FRANKLIN: And what about fish being taken up in the two thousand cubic feet per second draw up to the upper reservoir, and they've been run through the turbines? This is going to -- the water

in here is going to run through that -- you've got about twenty thousand acre feet, I think.

CONLEY BALDWIN: Two thousand. Two thousand.

LEE FRANKLIN: No. The reservoir has about twenty thousand acre feet of water.

CONLEY BALDWIN: The lower reservoir?

LEE FRANKLIN: The lower reservoir.

CONLEY BALDWIN: Eleven -- ten thousand. Ten thousand acre feet on the lower. Ten thousand acre feet on the lower. They show it on the thing, ten thousand acre feet is the volume to the lower reservoir.

LEE FRANKLIN: Okay. I thought there was active and intermediately?

CONLEY BALDWIN: I think it was just a total.

THE COURT REPORTER: I need your name.

CONLEY BALDWIN: Conley Baldwin.

LEE FRANKLIN: So if it's ten thousand -- if it's ten thousand acre feet, and you're taking two thousand acre feet, you're taking twenty percent of that reservoir's water and running it through this cycle every day, or real close to it. I mean, how can any kind of aquatic species

live in that.

MATT SHENK: Well, there's lots of pumps that are sourced throughout the country, and fish and wildlife tend to sustain themselves.

LEE FRANKLIN: Are there a lot where it takes ten percent of the volume of -- sorry, twenty percent of the volume of the water and runs through this? I mean, I got it if you have a huge body of water and you suck out two thousand acre feet and let it back in, you haven't changed anything. The water level doesn't drop five or six feet. Maybe it drops an inch, if it is a large body of water.

This is a small body of water. This is going to make a huge difference, isn't it? Are there other projects like this with small bodies of water where twenty percent of the water is getting run through this cycle every day?

MATT BURAK: I can think of one. It's in Upstate New York. It's called Blenheim-Gilboa. It's a New York Power Authority project. It's on a creek, actually, and it's a lot smaller. Actually, it's a lot smaller than this and the capacity -- the generating capacity is larger.

BROCK FREYER: A lot of fluctuations --

THE COURT REPORTER: I can't hear you.

BROCK FREYER: Brock Freyer. I'm just noting that the fluctuation is five to six feet because of the topography in the site, so like a normal reservoir is flatter, take the same amount, it's going to drop less. So since we're in a canyon environment, that's why you get the higher fluctuation in the area.

LEE FRANKLIN: I understand pump storage. I know it's very efficient. It's a fantastic thing. I just don't see how it is good for a small body of water when you take twenty percent and mess around with it.

MARK STENBERG: One of the things we don't know yet is depending on where the intake is can have different effects on the fishery.

LEE FRANKLIN: The depth.

MARK STENBERG: Because fish are hanging out in their bands.

Where that intake is right now, the top of that intake, if we use just the intake that is there, is about thirty feet below full pool.

So that's just a question we've got to kind of work through. It's a good question. Yeah.

MATT BURAK: Because fish -- fish have different -- different species of fish have

different tolerances for their environment. Some fish won't go down that deep if the environmental conditions aren't suitable to their tolerance threshold, so....

LEE FRANKLIN: They better not.

MATT BURAK: So for wildlife mechanical resources, you know, typical, you've got your mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles that are present in the ecoregion.

You have seven Upland habitat types present. Most dominant is sagebrush steppe.

There's some noxious weeds that are present. Currently there's weed control measures in place. The project would be situated in Game Management Unit 77. There's no big game migration routes or stopovers known in the area.

There's land management and buffer plans in place.

For wetlands, riparian, and littoral resources, there's nine wetland and waterway classes that occur in the area. The most prevalent are lacustrine and riverine, and some palustrine classes.

For your rare, threatened, endangered species, the ones that have the potential to occur

in the area are wolverine, your Ute ladies' tresses, and the canyon species monarch butterfly.

There's no designated critical habitat in the area as of yet.

There's some state species that could occur. There's one mammal, the silver-haired bat; twenty-two birds, two amphibians, and six invertebrates.

Bald eagles have historically nested at the project site, and golden eagles have been observed. And there's also potential -- there's potential habitat for six BLM special plant species.

Yes.

CHRISTINA MUELLER: Christina Mueller.

What about the swans and they're migrating every year? And also, what about golden trout? Aren't they resident? Don't they live in that lake?

MATT BURAK: Justin, do we have any golden trout present?

JUSTIN BARKER: No golden trout. They're native to California. You're thinking of Bonneville cutthroat trout?

CHRISTINA MUELLER: No. There were golden trout at one point, probably twenty years

ago. It was one of the last places.
JUSTIN BARKER: They would be stocked. They're not native to the Bear River.
THE COURT REPORTER: I can't hear you.
JUSTIN BARKER: Oh, sorry. They're not native to the Bear River system.
THE COURT REPORTER: And I need your name.
JUSTIN BARKER: Justin Barker.
CHRISTINA MUELLER: So the swan migration will be --
MARK STENBERG: Hey, Christina, can you tell me -- so are you seeing swans on the reservoir or on the river?
CHRISTINA MUELLER: Reservoir and the river.
MARK STENBERG: And the river.
CHRISTINA MUELLER: Both.
MARK STENBERG: The interesting thing about the river is we didn't see them on the river until we really -- we changed all of our grazing and land management practices down there.
CHRISTINA MUELLER: How long ago?
MARK STENBERG: 2007, 2008, 2009, was the first time I saw when we started getting away

from everything being there.

CHRISTINA MUELLER: But you've only been here since 2006.

MARK STENBERG: What's that?

CHRISTINA MUELLER: You've only been here since 2006.

MARK STENBERG: I've been here since '05. All I'm saying is just observationally, because I was down in Oneida Canyon a lot then.

And I don't know about the reservoir, but below the dam, I saw the swans come in three or four years after we changed all our land management practices. And we had a lot more riparian down there, and even seeing them there all winter, wintering through the winter down there now on the river, which is pretty cool.

CHRISTINA MUELLER: They've been there for a long time. They've been coming for a long time, decades.

MARK STENBERG: Excellent.

MATT BURAK: So the project area is popular for camping, boating, fishing, hunting, picnicking, swimming, and bicycling.

There's five rec sites in the project area: Maple Grove, Oneida Day-Use Area, where we'll

meet for a site visit later on. Redpoint Campround, and Oneida Narrows Put-In and Oneida Narrows Take-Out.

Land use includes conservation land, project operations land, and developed recreation land.

For aesthetics and visual resources, the project area is characterized by forested hills, mountains, range lands, agricultural lands with some homes, ranches, and small towns.

Visual assessment was conducted in 2003. Some findings from that is partially developed landscape, low to moderate viewer sensitivity to development, class 3 scenic classification, the visual character of the landscape is partially retained and changes to the landscape do not dominate the view of the observer.

LEE FRANKLIN: I have some comments about the last three things, and I apologize for interrupting.

You're going to build a dam that's three hundred fifteen feet high, two hundred feet wide at the base --

MATT BURAK: Uh-huh.

LEE FRANKLIN: -- almost a half mile

width.

MALL BURAK: Uh-huh.

LEE FRANKLIN: It'll be visible from space. There's the Great Wall of China, and maybe Hoover Dam, and then this thing. This thing is going to be huge. It's going to significantly affect the aesthetic and visual resources.

Is the upper reservoir lined with concrete, or is it all subject of erosion as the water goes up and down also?

MATT BURAK: The engineering is not complete, so....

LEE FRANKLIN: So the dam, if it is like I said, it's about a million yards of concrete.

MATT BURAK: Uh-huh.

LEE FRANKLIN: So how does that material get to that site?

MARK STENBERG: So Lee --

LEE FRANKLIN: That's a hundred and twenty-five thousand concrete trucks.

MARK STENBERG: As I mentioned earlier, you know, when I asked Jack -- we're about one percent engineering, so we haven't done, you know, a road study, looking at construction routes, or staging routes, or material sources, operation

routes long term. We haven't done any of that yet.

We're working -- you know, here we're trying to identify issues, and obviously roads are an issue, access, getting through people's property, how we're going to do it, you know, at the simplest would be how are we going to get up there daily if it's built, right?

To your aesthetic question, so the road study, that's on Jack's plate over there, engineering, going down the road, working with landowners.

LEE FRANKLIN: We've got the Oneida Narrows that is maybe ten miles long. I don't know exactly how long it is. That is a two-lane road. That's a fine road. It's not going to be good if you put a hundred twenty-five thousand trucks on there.

MARK STENBERG: Right.

LEE FRANKLIN: And I'm guessing you're not going to truck the concrete in. You're going to truck the materials in, make the concrete, and take it -- how does that road survive, and how does anybody have any enjoyment recreation on that river with trucks going by for -- I don't know how long this project is, it's got to be a couple of years.

I mean, a hundred and twenty-five thousand worth of concrete trucks going up and down that road. That road will be destroyed, I would think.

Once you get it there, you got to go up twelve hundred feet in less than a -- about a mile, that's incredibly steep. I don't know how you're going to do it with vehicles.

If you get helicopters to do it, then the noise of a helicopters -- how long is this project supposed to take?

MARK STENBERG: Jack, what were your construction predictions?

JACK KOLKMAN: Three to four.

MARK STENBERG: Three to four years.

JACK KOLKMAN: Yeah.

MATT BURAK: How do we -- how do we accommodate recreation? You know, what happens, temporary project impacts? That's part of the analysis that has to happen, right?

Most of the concepts we've talked about are lined, so you know, to hold water infiltration down.

LEE FRANKLIN: So it's more than the yards of concrete.

MARK STENBERG: Our initial -- it

depends on the liner, but our initial visual simulations interestingly, and I was surprised by this, and these were our -- we'll look at this out in the field today from the sites, because I was fairly certain you're going to see that thing, right? You can't see the dam.

Interestingly, from our road system and our parks down, and you can see the penstocks that come down and they come down between the dam and the transmission lines, come down to the fence level. You can see those, and I'll have copies of those for people to look at.

LEE FRANKLIN: Penstocks are basically pipes.

MARK STENBERG: The pipes, yes. You'll be able to see it from space, but not from Oneida Canyon.

MATT BURAK: And we have some slides to speak to that later on.

In terms of cultural and tribal resources in the area, there's a rich prehistory and history of human occupation.

The indigenous groups that are associated with the area are the Northern Shoshone, and the Shoshone-Bannock, and the Northwestern Band

of the Shoshone Nation.

The Oneida dam was originally constructed and complete in 1923.

There's three archeological sites, six historical structures, and one linear site near the proposed facility.

Currently, those resources are managed under the Bear River project historical properties management plan which is overseen by FERC.

There's no specific tribal resources identified in the proposed facility as of yet and continuing coordination with Tribal Nations with ties to the area is ongoing.

It's kind of a standalone slide with socioeconomic resources, kind of just what's there in terms of ownership and employment and household income. Most of the land is federal. Most of the employment is in the private sector, and the medium household income is almost fifty-seven thousand.

So reviewing this, all the existing environment, speaking with stakeholders to date, we've identified various resource issues, and those are summarized in more detail in section 5.1 of this initial call document.

So for geology and soils, issues

identified were operation effects on shoreline erosion. So speaking to water level fluctuation and causing erosion of the Oneida Reservoir shoreline, and also some geotechnical investigations that we've done as part of engineering.

For water resources, operation effects on existing water quality. So speaking to the turbidity issue that was brought up.

For fish and aquatic resources, obviously the water level fluctuations on benthic macroinvertebrates, so the food resources for the fish that are in the reservoir, and operational effects on the existing fish community. So that would be spawning, habitat, and the water reservoir periphery.

Wildlife and botanical issues brought up would be construction effects on wildlife and their habitats, operational effects on wildlife, and introduction and spread of invasive plant species, mainly through construction vehicles.

In terms of wetland, riparian, and littoral habitat, habitat change from construction and operation, again alluding to the effects of water level fluctuations.

And in terms of the resource issues with

the RTE species, some displacement could occur and habitat lost from construction and habitation could also occur.

With recreation land use, again, speaking to water level fluctuations and, namely, access in existing boat ramps, and also effects of operations on boating, fishing, and hunting.

So with aesthetic and visual resources, temporary construction effects, noise, dust, construction vehicle effects. New infrastructure crossing the landscape and another one is exposed reservoir shoreline, speaking to more level fluctuations.

For cultural and tribal resources, none have been identified to date, but there's an ongoing study that will be looking into those potential issues.

And for socioecon, no socioeconomic resources have been identified.

So taking those resource issues that we've identified to date --

MARK STENBERG: Matt, can we pause right there for a second?

So we heard a few things, you know -- not a few, several from Lee, Christina in the back

were also on that list.

Is there other issues that we don't have identified on that list? I've got notes from Lee. A lot of things Lee brought up, we have on the list.

Is there any other items than we're missing here? You know, I'll throw maybe hot springs, you know, fluctuations in their pool. I'll throw that to the issue list.

What else have we got?

MATT BURAK: Fish entrainment.

MARK STENBERG: Fish entrainment, yes. Specifically entrainment. Uh-huh.

LEE FRANKLIN: They better be strong swimmers.

MATT BURAK: So right now we have ongoing wetlands waters mapping. The goal of that study to determine types, quantity, and distribution of the wetland types that are present.

Data collection occurred in September, so that's complete, but analysis is ongoing.

Some sentinel findings so far. High level temporary impacts to the wetlands are likely to occur along the lacustrine fringe of the upper reach of the lower reservoir, so Oneida Reservoir.

Potential impacts would occur as the

wetlands adjust to temporal and spatial variations in water levels.

And the effects of the proposed operating regime on the wetlands will be a focus of the ongoing study.

MARK STENBERG: Matt, would you just interpret for folks on that fourth bullet a little bit.

MATT SHENK: So wetlands would adapt to the new hydrologic regime. That's what that means.

MARK STENBERG: They're likely -- they're going to change in some respect because of the daily fluctuations on them. Likely still going to be wetlands there, but the vegetation components, how are they being used where they are could potentially shift.

BROCK FREYER: To build on that. The temporary impacts and anticipate impacts, but again, any systems, especially with the potential managed fluctuation, wetlands and riverine systems, they adjust to, like, a dynamic equilibrium, so that takes time and seasons, but through that seasonality and that adjustment to dynamic equilibrium, we can expect a certain number of things.

There's a lot of potential for a lot of -- I think a lot of benefit to the systems, but I think a lot of what these studies by --

THE COURT REPORTER: I can't hear you.

BROCK FREYER: Where should I start over?

THE COURT REPORTER: No. Just, "a lot of studies by..."

BROCK FREYER: I didn't hear that either.

THE COURT REPORTER: You said, "but I think a lot of studies by," and then I couldn't hear you.

BROCK FREYER: Oh, they will help inform that fifth bullet there so the effects on -- what we study we'll continue studying and interpreting, and will consider it in terms of, you know, what the expected operating regime will have effects on the wetland riverine systems present.

THE COURT REPORTER: Your name again?

BROCK FREYER: Brock Freyer.

LEE FRANKLIN: And the water fowl nesting is not a big deal when the ducks nest just close to the water, and the ducklings hatch and the water is suddenly a long ways off is no big deal.

MICHELLE FRANKLIN: Excuse me, you said there -- I'm sorry, whoever spoke -- there could be benefits or would be benefits.

What benefit to the water thing? I'm just curious.

BROCK FREYER: So one thing to consider is right now the wetlands present especially in the -- when we say lacustrine fringe, that's just the shoreline, the existing shoreline where it's static.

And then the upper reaches that kind of lacustrine, that lake, river, ring interface -- I forget the term Mark used -- but that nick point.

For moving and adjusting it, also we have variable depths of water including, you know, enclosing either different types of sediments or different topography.

So there's a potential that we have a static, like, kind of a mono-type of weapons, but you have the opportunity to kind of stagger it to more of an organic or like degraded one, so if you look downstream, you have, you know, your uplands, you have your wetland forests, and then they migrate down to a kind of weapons system, and then your lower --

THE COURT REPORTER: Can you -- wait, wait, wait. There's a truck going by.

System and then your lower --

BROCK FREYER: I kind of lost my train of thought.

I guess the case in point is there's potential or opportunity to have more of a diverse ecosystem with these fluctuations. Again, there's a lot to consider yet to determine, you know, if that's a potential or an opportunity, but in terms of, like you mentioned habitat or threats to nesting birds, there's a potential you actually would benefit that and also add, like, additional wetland function value by adding that diversity in either wetland or footland types.

MICHELLE FRANKLIN: When it fluctuates daily?

BROCK FREYER: Correct.

MATT BURAK: Also alluded to earlier, we're doing soil erosion mapping and the goal is to pretty much identify the existing areas of erosion along the Oneida Reservoir.

Field data collection is complete, but the analysis is ongoing.

In general, the established shoreline

appears to be stable and naturally armored. There's relic erosional features that were observed. They were generally isolated -- they were isolated and generally healed.

LEE FRANKLIN: What is relic? Does that mean historical?

MATT SHENK: Yup, yup.

And potential erosion below the established shoreline is likely to occur in areas with shallower slopes and recent depositional features associated with fine materials, and surface, subsurface water inputs meaning your seeps and springs.

There's ongoing water quality monitoring, and the purpose of that is to collect updated baseline water quality information in the area to support an analysis of project effects and evaluate consistency with Idaho DEQ water quality standards.

Data collection is ongoing and that includes water temperature, dissolved oxygen turbidity, total suspended solids, total phosphorus, and reservoir sediment. Samples actually collecting some sediment, and doing analysis on the actual physical sediment.

Moving forward, the reservoir does actually stratify in the summer, with a thermocline so that layer -- the intermittent layer between the warmer surface water and the colder bottom water is present around fifteen meters of depth.

Above that thermocline, DO is at or above the water quality standard, but below a thermocline. It typically decreases below the water quality standard.

Yes.

ANNA OWSIAK: Anna Owsiak, Fish and Game.

You mentioned this before, could you walk through again just visually the twenty-four-hour period when that five- to six-foot decrease in water level would occur and when it would be filled back up just sort of as to get the visual picture to help understand with what we could expect for changes in system.

MARK STENBERG: And, Matt, Conley, do you want to field that?

CONLEY BALDWIN: Sure. So you can imagine -- Conley Baldwin -- filling in for variable resources is going to be kind of variable, and so we don't anticipate five and six feet every single day.

That's very -- kind of more of a rare situation. So kind of using the current anticipated prices, to kind of very informally simulate. It's much more frequent that you'd have two to three four-hour exchanges rather than ten hours every single day. So that's relatively rare or not anticipated to be a frequent occurrence.

So and then it wouldn't be -- most likely would not be an immediate reversal from generation to pumping because obviously kind of imagine the load and the variation and solar and wind and the need for that storage is going to be you'll need generation for two to five hours, and then you could be kind of in stasis for five or six hours, and then have generation again or pumping for two to five hours when there's an excess kind of in the -- maybe in the evening hours when wind is strong in Wyoming.

So basically it's complicated, and it will be varied based on the actual resources available, and so the -- yeah, that's what we kind of informally currently anticipate.

LEE FRANKLIN: The document says -- I'm trying to find it, but thirty-five to forty-five percent and forty-five to fifty -- thirty-five to

forty-five percent producing electricity over that ten-hour-time period and generating power, and then it has forty-five to fifty percent pumping back up.

CONLEY BALDWIN: So that's just a function of -- of the -- no. That's just a function of -- all that's relating to is the generation also you have loss of efficiency when you're pumping to generation. That's just when it's operating. It is -- it will be pumping more frequent for a slightly longer period of time than it's generating just because of the efficiency of water.

So that's not a -- it wasn't intended to be the representation of the actual operations. It's just kind of indicating kind of that efficiency loss when you're pumping water.

LEE FRANKLIN: So when will PacifiCorp come up with this is the way it will be forever? By that I mean, we're not going to start off doing -- I can't remember what you just said -- four feet, and then, oh, well, in five years we're going to do five to six feet.

Will there be a time when we know this is the way it is going to be, or is it just depending on whatever is needed whenever?

CONLEY BALDWIN: We'll work through that, and that will be in the future documents. We'll have -- we don't have any -- any preconceptions on that.

MARK STENBERG: And, Lee, for these documents right now, we have to present kind of a full transparency. This is the worst case, full capacity, which is almost six feet, you know, in a twenty-four-hour period right where it's going to start full in the morning, glide down here during the day, and run it at night. And it would just be that's the worse case, you know, full capacity situation that we presented to the ICD.

And as Conley articulates, it's likely going to be something different, you know, run, run, fill, run, fill, run, you know, following energy needs, yeah.

LEE FRANKLIN: You're going to spend a lot of money to get your return on investment for this very efficient process, you're better off doing it every day, right?

CONLEY BALDWIN: No. It depends on the energy, the variable energy resource, because you have to -- you're just filling in the holes. So it's just a matter of when the energy is available,

and when it's in excess of the need, so it just fills in the hole.

LEE FRANKLIN: It's less expensive.

CONLEY BALDWIN: That's the metric, but for the power company, we actually need physical power. So if there is a need for physical power, then we release and we generate at the pump storage facility.

So it's all based on operations and the needs of our customers for energy.

MARK STENBERG: Lee, there's also a scenario, not to get into this too much, but there's a need to get rid of surplus power at times now because of variable renewable power, and this is a place where we've got surplus power from, say, when we've got a place to put it -- all right? -- versus, you know, is asking somebody to turn on a big furnace or something and using power.

LEE FRANKLIN: This is a water battery.

MARK STENBERG: Yeah. And it's a long-life one.

You know, our hydro facilities on the Bear is over a hundred years old. We still run them, and it's super efficient for our customers.

It provides a lot of benefit. Let's take a small side trip. Pump storage siting, you know, it is -- you've got to have certain factors to make it economic.

Topography, you've got to have large, you know, topography that's close so the water bodies aren't, you know, four miles apart, five miles apart, but you've got to have good topography so you can get things up and down.

We're looking for sites that have a thousand feet of head, thousand feed of elevation between upper and lower. Transmission is an issue. The cost of getting transmission into a facility like this, so sites like Oneida or Cutler, you've got transmission going coming in, going out. You've got two substations. We're already there. We've got our roads in and everything.

Water rights, topography, transmission, and proximity. You know, maybe if you need power, near your -- near your renewable storage, near somewhere. You know, we can't go a thousand miles away and build something. So it's a challenge. It's a challenge.

And the Oneida site has multiple things kind of that simple, you know, maybe over-simplistic

criteria. Got the elevation transmission right there. We have existing infrastructure that we can leverage that lower reservoir, and there's some things on there.

There's the second intake that was never used, smaller, but there's a lot of pieces there.

While I'm talking about this, where does this go is the question, too. If we haven't talked about it, and I don't think we will in the presentation, so where do we go with all of this?

So we study. We put study plans out on this. We provide study results to the stakeholders. You know, we consult on study results. Right? So, you know, it's always better to avoid impacts if you can. Is there ways we can design the project better to avoid impacts, right?

Well, let's go through that tree. When we've identified impacts from studies, right? How do we -- what are our pathways to avoid causing trouble, right?

And the second one is: How do we mitigate for impacts, right? Okay. We've identified impacts to this resource. How will we mitigate for it? Do we need to mitigate for it? What's the context around this water resource?

Wetlands is an example, right? We grind through this and we find there's some transformational change to the wetlands and requires us to look at some offset for waterfowl nesting we've looked at. If we can't avoid them completely, what are our options for mitigation of that, right?

And we start looking around lands, and, oh, we got twenty-two hundred acres across the hill. You know, maybe we actively manage that for waterfowl nesting for enhancements over the hill. Maybe there's stuff we can do there for mitigation.

Then the third piece is enhancements, things the project can support, the stakeholders are interested, you know, there might be benefits. There might be recreation enhancements, other types of enhancements maybe to the road, other types of things can happen.

So that whole package comes together and kind of slowly and somewhat organically as we move through until we end up with this basket of things in this potential application process.

EVE DAVIES: Mark?

MARK STENBERG: Yup.

EVE DAVIES: Eve Davies.

In the vein that you're going on, I

think it might be helpful to clarify that right now we're at the phase of just looking at the feasibility and what do we know at the beginning ICD tells us that all the data that we have right now, that helps us identify the places where there's gaps. That's what the studies are for to fill those gaps.

And then after the studies, and you know turn the crank on all that, then eventually the license application will actually have -- like, there'll been an entire exhibit that just deals with what's the proposed project's operation.

So your question about how you're going to run this, we don't know that yet because that's the stage that we're just gaining information about how should we hunt it? What would work the best? And what would mitigate for any impact?

So there will be an entire exhibit that is proposed project operations, and once that -- once that entire license application package goes in, everybody gets to review it, and then there's a full comment period associated with that.

So this isn't -- I just want to reassure you. Today's not the last day. Unfortunately, for all of us, this is a grind of a process. And so you

know, this is we're very, very early in the process, so that's why it's good to get all this input. But you'll have lots of opportunity even at a much later stage when we say: Here's our actual application. Here's what we think we want to do.

Then you still get to say: Well, here's an issue I think I'm seeing with that, or this looks better than I thought it would be. Whatever your comments are, you have that opportunity to make those comments throughout this process, and that's part of the process for us.

Like, we have to deal with this work process all the time. A lot of other people don't. It doesn't look very much like what I would consider typical, one-time response, like on an EA or something.

This is multiple years, and so we are here to help you to understand that process. You can always ask Mark: When's the next time I have to do something, right, to make sure you keep your foot in the door. We will always help you understand the process because it's a grind. There's just no two ways about it.

So that's something we can help with because we actually, sadly, understand all those

deadlines and the other -- all these things going to cross your desk.

MARK STENBERG: Well-spoken.

LEE FRANKLIN: I realize if you build a new lower reservoir to hold water, if you pump that water up and down, you would eliminate affecting the current reservoir and the river. I don't know if that's a closed system or whatever, you could add a little bit of water to it. It would increase your costs, but it would eliminate the non -- the non-construction environmental aspects.

But on page 12 it says there are three units currently, three power-generated turbines that the power is turbine limited. What does that mean? Those turbines are not functioning as good as they ought to, or what does that mean?

MARK STENBERG: Jack?

JACK KOLKMAN: That means the generators are bigger than the turbines themselves. The turbines only produce, let's say, ten megawatts, and the generators can handle twelve megawatts, so the turbines are the limiting factor on how much energy can come out of the project.

LEE FRANKLIN: I see. And you can't change those out.

JACK KOLKMAN: You can, and you can replace them, but there are limits on how much you can get out of it.

MATT BURAK: We're doing ongoing wildlife survey to determine kind of what wildlife species and special-status species are present in the area and what their habitats are.

Field data collection is complete, but like the others, the analysis is ongoing.

We did discover a new bald eagle nest near the powerhouse.

Wetlands upstream of the river have a high biodiversity with some sensitive species that have been observed there, and potential impacts may occur during breeding season from water fluctuations and sedimentation.

We currently are performing a T&E plant and noxious weed survey, looking at whether Ute-ladies' tresses is present. BLM sensitive species are present in the area, and what are the potential project effects on those species, and also whether or not some noxious and basic weeds are present.

Data collection is complete with that, but analysis is also ongoing.

We didn't observe any threatened, endangered species around the Oneida Reservoir or the proposed reservoir site, or the penstock alignment, but some noxious, invasive species are present.

We're doing a recreation assessment as well to assess potential impact of construction operation of the project. Field data collection is still ongoing. So far we've met the boating hazards in the lower reservoir and monitoring recreational use at the recreation sites.

We are doing also an aesthetic assessment. So basically determining the visibility and visual contrast of the proposed project across the -- on and across the landscape.

Data collection is complete. We're still working up those data.

The upper reservoir is likely not visible from observation points around the lower reservoir and access roads there. The penstocks are visible. Here the lower -- let's see, the lower -- well, first the upper picture is what it is now, what it looks like now -- wish this was bigger -- but the observation point right here.

And this is a simulation of what the two

penstocks will look like going across the landscape, right there. And we'll take a visit to the site later today.

And some portion of the new pumping and generation station would be visible from these observation points, but we still need to work out those details.

A cultural resources assessment is planned, but still kind of waiting for it to kick off and conduct some consultation with the Tribal Nations and determine what's called an area of potential effect to focus the study.

So we did talk about some additional studies that we anticipate performing in addition to the eight ones we just summarized, and those include doing a baseline fisheries survey, bathymetry survey, and a benthic macroinvertebrate survey.

So next steps. Okay. So this gets to the comments and/or study requests. Those are due within sixty days of today which, unfortunately, is December 26, so after the Christmas holiday there.

For study requests, FERC has their study request criteria, and they're -- if they're followed, it makes for really good study requests so that applicants and licensees can understand exactly

what is being requested, what the information is going to be, how is it going to potentially lead to a licensing condition, and how -- what Mark was speaking to, protection, mitigation, and enhancement measures.

If you have your phone, you can take a picture of this, and that link is a document that FERC produced to help study proponents, resource agencies, and the general public to craft these study requests, and that document defines all the particular lexicon and parlance, like nexus which basically means connection between the project and operations.

So because this is an amendment, FERC would only -- according to them, when they're reviewing proposed amendments to focus on proposed modification to determine its dam safety, environmental, safety, and other effects. So that gets to the point that comments and study really should be focused on the proposed project and the proposed license extension.

And we had comments and questions interjected throughout, but this is our dedicated time for that.

BLAINE NEWMAN: Blaine Newman of BLM.

That's one question that we've had with the last comment.

THE COURT REPORTER: Can you speak up or stand up?

BLAINE NEWMAN: Sure.

So the last comment there is of concern to us with the twenty-year timeline will be amended. We still have a similar opportunity like the settlement agreement for the existing facilities under the license now in addition to the amended term.

MATT SHENK: It's possible.

MARK STENBERG: Potentially, yeah. And so, Blaine, we're -- and this is kind of my two-bucket example I keep using. It's the best way I can kind of keep it straight for myself.

So the one bucket we've got the new facilities at Oneida, right? And we've got these study plans for that, you know, in getting the study results, consultation on them, objection, mitigation, and enhancement and options around Oneida. Okay?

There is some creep out from Oneida as in the recreation study, so right now we've got our recreation vehicle counters out at all of our rec

sites on the Bear River, and anticipation of that, you know, talking about recreation in a twenty-year extension request on the Bear. So that's that piece here, right?

And the other piece, which is the twenty-years license extension, FERC can issue licenses up to fifty years. We have a thirty-year license, so there's twenty years that FERC could allocate to the Bear River license.

Our license is largely governed by a settlement agreement that PacifiCorp put together back when it was finalized with the license around 2003. Sorry. That settlement agreement is signed -- the signatories of that settlement agreements are the ones, in my view, that would modify that so it could extend it another twenty years.

So anything that's in the settlement agreement, I would see that UCC group working on the settlement agreement, the extension, and the language that's in there.

At the same time we're working on mitigation, avoidance, enhancement, whatever, you know, terms you want to use at Oneida. Those two are going to come together next year in a package,

you know, as Eve was talking about. That's the package that's going to go in that application. Hopefully, we'll have an amendment to the Bear River settlement agreement that will modify terms in there to allow it to live for another twenty years, and then we'll have new stuff that's related to the Oneida pump storage project, and that will all come together in this draft license amendment application.

LEE FRANKLIN: What is the settlement agreement?

MARK STENBERG: So there's different licensing paths for hydro projects, right? So you could use a path where that FERC's preferred process right now -- and you just went through it at Cutler -- integrated licensing process.

So the schedule is set, timelines are set. FERC's very involved. They make decisions. And you go through very stepwise manner, people make study requests. FERC decides what gets studied. We study it, prepare reports, and it's just back and forth, back and forth between stakeholders and FERC and the licensee. And then you end up with the license at the end. That's one path.

Another path that was used on the Bear

River, the stakeholders all got together. I wasn't here working on that at the time. Eve worked on some of it, and they put a settlement agreement together which is a list of, you know, its operations, recreation, management of lands, management of cultural resources, and we settled with everything on this package of how we would run the project for thirty years.

That settlement agreement goes to FERC, and it's a settlement agreement solving all the issues around new licensing. FERC takes that, incorporates it in your license with other packaging of theirs, and away we go.

So what we're talking about is the settlement agreement that I think might be largely supported, what weeks we need to do for that to live for another twenty years.

Licensing on the Bear will start in 2027, you know, and we were talking about that at the ECC meeting the other day. That's only, you know, four years away, licensing of the project. Our license expires in 2023. And would there be a settlement agreement in that process? I don't know. It just depends on the process picked and how we would follow through that process to get to a new

Bear River license.

LEE FRANKLIN: I've got four more questions, if that's okay.

MARK STENBERG: Let's do it.

LEE FRANKLIN: What's the budget for this project?

MARK STENBERG: Jack?

LEE FRANKLIN: They're big numbers.

TIM HEMSTREET: We don't have a budget for this project because it's so early stage. As you've heard from Mark and Eve, we're really just trying to gather information about what are the impacts? Is it feasible, how it could be designed? That would all form --

THE COURT REPORTER: Speak up.

TIM HEMSTREET: That would all ultimately form its cost and ultimately what company would have to pay to implement a project like this for construction as well as over the term of the license.

LEE FRANKLIN: Generally, is it five hundred mill, a billion? Kind of general.

TIM HEMSTREET: Yeah. Generally, those type of numbers, yeah, we're seeing the cost of storage in the realm of fifteen to two thousand --

fifteen hundred to two thousand dollars a kilowatt.

Pump storage projects are more expensive than that, but twice the duration, typically. So, yeah, it's big numbers for sure.

THE COURT REPORTER: I need your name.

TIM HEMSTREET: Tim Hemstreet.

LEE FRANKLIN: And how much of the budget will be funded by the federal government taxes?

TIM HEMSTREET: We don't know at this time. I mean, none of the budget would be funded by federal government, but the projects would likely be more investment tax credit would likely be available to the project.

LEE FRANKLIN: It's subsidized by the government.

TIM HEMSTREET: In that manner, yes, it would be.

LEE FRANKLIN: Is it likely to be a third, a half, thirty percent?

TIM HEMSTREET: Thirty percent is currently what I see for storage projects.

LEE FRANKLIN: And my house is almost under the transmission lines coming out of the Oneida power station, and it leaves there. It

doesn't stop at my house. I get my power from Grace.

Where does this power go?

TIM HEMSTREET: It goes to the bulk, bulk grid. There's a line that runs, I think, back from the -- Bridgerton substation that 345 KV line. So anyway, it goes to the bulk energy system, PacifiCorp system.

LEE FRANKLIN: It's not staying locally at all.

TIM HEMSTREET: No. It's a lot of our lows in the local area, so the intent of this project would be to support grid reliability in the local community, in Utah.

LEE FRANKLIN: Okay. One last question. Mark, you said something about carbon footprint.

When does the construction carbon footprint break even with the saved carbon footprint of pump storage hydroelectric?

MARK STENBERG: That's a good question. I don't know the answer to that.

LEE FRANKLIN: It's got to be decades.

MARK STENBERG: I don't know. Anyone have thoughts on that? Greenhouse gas analysis?

TIM HEMSTREET: I mean, there is a study

from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory that I've heard of, I've not read, that talks about the low CO2 impact of pump storage relative to other storage technologies.

So I think that's just a feature of a pump storage, lower carbon footprint of this type of storage versus all of the environmental impacts of mining, those type of resources needed for that kind of a battery, pump storage is having a lower environmental impact.

LEE FRANKLIN: Once it's constructed, it's really low, isn't it?

TIM HEMSTREET: Yes.

LEE FRANKLIN: But getting from there to here, it's got to be really high.

TIM HEMSTREET: I think that's taken into consideration.

CONLEY BALDWIN: I'd also point out that these special projects allow complete closure to coal plants.

So you have to take into account the system-wide effects and not just the construction versus operations.

MATT BURAK: So kind of two last points, as shown before, but when the project's website

where all of the documents will be uploaded, so if you haven't taken a picture of this yet, take a picture.

MARK STENBERG: That's the same link that's been in both of our notices, and this presentation will be up on that link shortly.

JACK KOLKMAN: And if you Google PacifiCorp storage, you'll get right there.

MARK STENBERG: Okay.

MATT BURAK: All right. So next we're going to talk about the site visit. So it'll be a site visit to walk around the project area. That's going to occur from 1:00 to 4:00 today.

Everyone is going to meet at the Oneida Reservoir Day-Use Area. That will get you close to where we're going to meet, and the directions are kind of right there. So take a picture of this slide if you want to attend.

MARK STENBERG: We'll have packets -- I'll have packets when we get there that have hard copies of these initial visual simulations from the days area and the boater put-in below the dam.

Rough agenda, we're going to talk a little bit about the existing facilities, orient people to the existing facilities out there. We'll

talk about size of the reservoir, capacities, and power houses. We'll do a quick orientation there.

We'll look at visual simulations. We'll also do a safety group up to go to the upper site, which is in the packet. We're going to make kind of a clockwise loop from the days area, start at the Day-Use Area, and we're going to go back out to the intersection of Highway 34 and 36, and carpool up, for those that want to go up to the site, upper site.

We've got the owners here, Lee and Michelle Franklin with us. We're going to need to really carpool up tight and besides that again when we're up there.

We've got six gates to go through across two ranches on our way in. We'll lead with the PacifiCorp vehicle, follow with the PacifiCorp vehicle. There's livestock in there. We have to be aware of livestock, you know, narrowness of the gates, things around the road.

The road's generally in very good shape. We cleaned it up a bit yesterday to get the grass down so visibility is better on it. We'll go into a point that Buffy worked out with Lee in the agreement where we can stop under the transmission

lines, and have about a four thousand foot walk to look down into the potential reservoir site. Okay?

And we can see that. There's a better map of that close up in the packet when we get there.

And then the thing about going up there, that I'll stress with everybody, nobody can leave early. So if you come in with us, you've got to stay until we leave in the caravan. Because of the six gates, livestock, horses, et cetera, we've got to be super diligent for Kim Foster and the Franklins to be respectful of the activities on their land and their gates and everything.

So it's going to be kind of a control in. We'll go look. We'll group up, make sure everybody's got all of their passengers and leave as a group back to the highway with PacifiCorp folks opening and closing gates as we go through. Okay?

So if you get up there and you go, Hey, I want to head out early, you're stuck with us until we're ready to turn around. Okay?

And we'll do more safety talk at the day area when we get up there, but it's just, you know, think about, you know, the season, wildlife, vehicle traffic.

We're all going to be caravanning, we may have people we're not used to in our car, chatting with them, you're excited to have different passengers, but let's all just be super safe, and aware of our driving, parking, backing, turning. Help each other when we've got to turn around when we get up to the site, and a few spotters, get people turned around.

Blaine and I will take the lead on that. Okay. Any questions about site visit?

CONLEY BALDWIN: So just the day's area, are you meaning it's just the very first one off of the main road when you first see the reservoir?

MARK STENBERG: Yup, yup.

CONLEY BALDWIN: So it's right on the main road there.

MARK STENBERG: And there was cows up there when we went up there.

We had some trespassed cattle in Oneida. And they're there. The first people up there, just try to shoo them out of there. We're in contact with the owner. They're coming in from a different area in the canyon on us.

Okay. Thoughts before we wrap up?

(No audible response.)

MARK STENBERG: We'll wrap up.

I really appreciate on behalf of PacifiCorp everybody's time this morning coming in and meeting with us. We look forward to seeing you at 1:00.

(Whereupon, the proceedings concluded at 11:50 a.m.)

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

STATE OF IDAHO)
) ss.
COUNTY OF BONNEVILLE)

I, DiAnn Erdman Prock, CSR, CCR, a duly commissioned Notary Public in and for the State of Idaho, do hereby certify:

That I took down in Stenotype all of the proceedings had in the before-entitled matter at the time and place indicated, and that thereafter said Stenotype notes were transcribed into typewriting at and under my direction and supervision, and the foregoing transcript constitutes a full, true and accurate record of the proceedings had.

I further certify that I have no interest in the event of the action.

WITNESS my hand and seal this 4th day of November, 2023.

DiAnn Erdman Prock
Idaho CSR SRL 963, CCR
Notary Public in and for
the State of Idaho

My commission expires November 26, 2025.

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