KLAMATH HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT

State Water Resources Control Board Staff Presentation – Soliciting Comments on the Notice of Preparation

January, 2016

SCOPING MEETING OVERVIEW

- 1. Review Meeting Logistics and Ground Rules
- 2. Presentation by State Water Board Staff
- 3. Comments by Attendees
- 4. Adjourn Meeting

MEETING LOGISTICS

- Please sign-in on the attendance sheet
- If you wish to speak, please fill out a speaker card and provide it to a State Water Board staff person
- So that your comments may be correctly transcribed, please speak into microphone and provide your first and last name with spelling
- A handout is provided with information on submitting written comments or you can indicate "no oral comments" on the speaker card

GROUND RULES

- Please silence electronic devices
- Please respect all speakers and points of view
- One person speaks at a time all speakers must use a microphone
- Please hold questions/comments until end of presentation
- Recognize short time frame to receive oral comments, please respect time limits so we can hear from everybody
- Written comments are an alternative for those that would like to provide additional comments beyond the allotted time or those that do not wish to speak today

WHY WE ARE HERE

- PacifiCorp submitted a water quality certification application to relicense the Klamath Hydroelectric Project
- State Water Board conditions hydroelectric projects via water quality certifications to ensure protection of the state's waters (section 401 of Clean Water Act)
- California Environmental Quality Act requires an Environmental Impact Report to inform the State Water Board and the public about the project's significant environmental effects and ways to reduce them

KLAMATH HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT (KHP)

- Overview of KHP facilities
- Background on KHP Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) relicensing process
- Overview of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process
- Discussion of Notice of Preparation (NOP)

KLAMATH HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT FACILITY OVERVIEW

- KLAMATH RIVER BASIN Link UT NV. River Dam Keno 20 MILES Dam J.G. Boyle Dam OREGON Fall Creek Dam CALIFORNIA Iron Gate Dam 🟅 Copco Dams 82 Yreka KLAM Scott Riv. <lam Weed EGEND Orleans City Dam River River Klamath River Watershed
- East Side (O)
- West Side (O)
- Keno (O)
- JC Boyle (O)
- Copco No. 1 (CA)
- Copco No. 2 (CA)
- Iron Gate (CA)
- Fall Creek (CA)

BACKGROUND

- In 1956 FERC license the KHP
- In February 2004, PacifiCorp applied for a new license from FERC
- In March 2006 PacifiCorp filed a water quality certification (certification) application with the State Water Board
- In January 2007, the United States Departments of Interior and National Marine Fisheries Service provided FERC with the mandatory conditions
- In November 2007 FERC issued its final Environmental Impact Statement for National Environmental Policy Act compliance

BACKGROUND CONTINUED...

- In 2008, the State Water Board issued a Notice of Preparation for the KHP and held scoping meetings
- From May 2010 June 2013, at the request of settlement parties, the State Water Board held PacifiCorp's certification application in abeyance (on hold)
- During abeyance, State Water Board staff continued to participate in KHP related forums such as the Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement Agreement's (KHSA) Interim Measures Implementation Committee

BACKGROUND CONTINUED...

- In May 2013, Department of Interior and National Marine Fisheries Service issued a joint Biological Opinion to Bureau of Reclamation for the Klamath Project
- In July 2013, the abeyance lifted, and the KHP resumed the State Water Board's certification process
- On November 30, 2015, the State Water Board issued a new Notice of Preparation for an Environmental Impact Report for the KHP

CEQA PROCESS OVERVIEW

State Water Board determines an EIR is necessary State Water Board issues NOP and conducts Scoping Meetings

PUBLIC INPUT

(Nov 30, 2015 -Jan 29, 2016)



State Water Board prepares a Draft Environmental Impact Report



CEQA RESOURCE AREAS

Land Use and Mineral Resources	Public Services and Utilities
Geology, Geomorphology, and Soils	Hazards and Hazardous Materials
Water Resources	Air Quality
Water Quality	Noise
• Fisheries	Climate Change
• Vegetation, Wildlife, and Sensitive Biological Resources	Transportation and Traffic
Recreation	Cultural and Tribal Cultural Resources
Aesthetics	

CEQA PROCESS OVERVIEW CONT.

State Water Board issues Draft Environmental Impact Report

PUBLIC INPUT

State Water Board reviews and responds to comments and prepares a Final Environmental Impact Report



State Water Board certifies Final Environmental Impact Report, adopts findings and any Statement of Overriding Considerations (if necessary)

KLAMATH HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT RELICENSING

CEQA Proposed Project Objectives:

 Modify the KHP, as needed, to comply with California water quality standards, and in conformance with mandatory conditions established as part of the FERC relicensing process

 Continue to generate power from a renewable resource to serve KHP customers to the extent compatible with water quality standards and mandatory conditions established as part of the FERC licensing process

APPROACH TO CEQA ANALYSIS

- Focus on California portion of KHP
- Use FERC EIS and KHSA EIR/EIS in development of EIR
- Use information gathered by the scientific community, Settlement Agreements, Tribes, PacifiCorp, CEQA commenters, and other sources

PROJECT ALTERNATIVES

Project alternatives being considered for analysis in EIR include:

- PacifiCorp's Proposed Project of continued operations (with the addition of mandatory conditions)
- FERC staff alternatives (analyzed in FERC EIS) with mandatory conditions
- Partial KHP facility removal
- Implementation of Settlement Agreement measures
- Full removal of the three mainstream KHP facilities in California

KEY INFORMATION SOUGHT IN SCOPING COMMENTS

• Adequacy of FERC EIS and KHSA EIR/EIS. Do these documents address your comments/concerns?

• Range of alternatives, or specific alternatives

• Potential Impacts to evaluate

Potential mitigation measures

Other items

Submit Comments by 5:00 pm On January 29, 2016

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KHP Website:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/program s/water_quality_cert/klamath_ferc2082.shtml