

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20426
November 18, 2011

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

Project No. 2082-027 – California
and Oregon
Klamath Hydroelectric Project
PacifiCorp

Ms. Elizabeth Vasquez
Bureau of Reclamation
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825

Mr. Gordon Leppig
California Department of Fish and Game
619 Second Street
Eureka, CA 95501

RE: Comments on Klamath Facilities Removal Draft EIS/EIR

Dear Ms. Vasquez and Mr. Leppig:

I am writing to request correction of a mischaracterization contained in the Draft EIS/EIR regarding the status of the Commission's relicensing proceeding for the Klamath Hydroelectric Project (P-2082). Contrary to the assertion, first made on page 1-17 of the document, that "the relicensing proceeding is in abeyance," the relicensing of the Klamath Hydroelectric Project is an active Commission proceeding. Further, PacifiCorp cannot "re-enter the FERC process,"¹ because it has never left.

The Draft EIS/EIR correctly discloses that the Commission's Final EIS for the relicensing was issued in November 2007. At this time, four years later, we continue to wait for California and Oregon to take action on PacifiCorp's applications and either issue, deny, or waive Water Quality Certification for the project, pursuant to section 401 of the Clean Water Act. At such time, the Commission will be able to issue a licensing decision for this project.

¹ See Draft EIS/EIR at page ES-25 and elsewhere.

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If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact John Mudre at (202) 502-8902 or john.mudre@ferc.gov.

Sincerely,

Jeff C. Wright
Director
Office of Energy Projects

cc: Public Files
Mailing List