



Department of Energy

Official File

Bonneville Power Administration
P.O. Box 3621
Portland, Oregon 97208-3621

October 31, 2005

In reply refer to: KEC-4



Dear FCRPS Signatories, Concurring Parties, and Advisory Council on Historic Preservation:

In accordance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), the Bureau of Reclamation, Pacific Northwest Region (Reclamation), and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Northwestern Division (Corps), have drafted the enclosed Programmatic Agreement (PA) to address the adverse effects of multipurpose operations of the 14 Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS) Projects. In accordance with 36 C.F.R. § 800.14, with this letter we hereby initiate formal consultation on the draft FCRPS System-wide PA.


The draft PA defines procedures that BPA, Reclamation, and the Corps will utilize to address the impacts of the defined undertaking. It also defines the agencies' commitment to a system-wide framework for implementing the Section 106 compliance actions across the 14 Projects. Because of the diverse conditions and requirements at each Project, the draft FCRPS System-wide PA is formulated as an umbrella PA, intended to define system-wide commitments. Project-specific PAs will follow that will address the unique needs at each Project as well as define processes that should streamline Section 106 consultation.

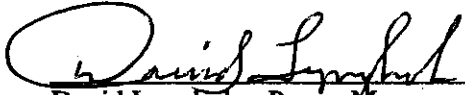
A preliminary draft of this FCRPS System-wide PA was informally circulated for comment among FCRPS participants earlier this year. We thank those who were able to find the time to review the preliminary draft. Your comments and suggestions were very useful. In response we have revised the preliminary draft to address comments offered, as described in the enclosed comment response spreadsheet.

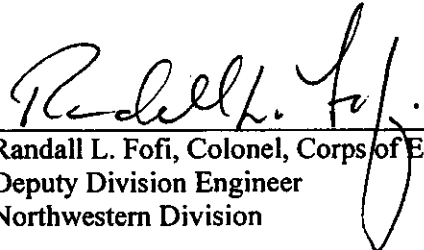
BPA, Reclamation, and the Corps request that you submit comments on the draft PA by December 15, 2005. Please provide written comments, in either hard copy or electronically, directly to Mr. Steve Tromly, Cultural Resource Manager, Bonneville Power Administration, P.O. Box 3621, Portland, Oregon 97208-3621, or sectromly@bpa.gov. Mr. Tromly will forward your comments to his counterparts in the Corps and Reclamation. Our ultimate goal remains to finalize the FCRPS System-wide PA by September 2006.

Again, we express our appreciation for comments provided earlier this year, and thank you in advance for your continued assistance.

Sincerely,


Stephen Oliver, Vice President
Generation Supply
Bonneville Power Administration


David Lyngholm, Power Manager
Grand Coulee Power Plant
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation


Randall L. Fofi, Colonel, Corps of Engineers
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Enclosures:
FCRPS PA
PA Comments Spreadsheet

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