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December 22, 2020

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Mail Code: DHAC, PJ-12
888 First Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20426

RE: Priest Rapids Hydroelectric Project No. 2114-204 License Compliance Filing – Article 410 – Wildlife Habitat Monitoring, Information, and Education Plan – 2020 Annual Report

Dear Secretary Bose:

Please find enclosed Public Utility District No. 2 of Grant County, Washington's (Grant PUD's) 2020 Wildlife Habitat Monitoring, Information, and Education annual report consistent with the requirements of Article 410 of the Priest Rapids Hydroelectric Project License.

On October 12, 2009, Grant PUD filed its Wildlife Habitat Monitoring, Information, and Education Plan (Plan) pursuant to Priest Rapids Project (P-2114) License Article 410¹, which was modified and approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on September 8, 2010². As identified in the Plan, Grant PUD is to: 1) monitor recreation effects on wildlife and sensitive wildlife habitats; 2) provide signage, educational outreach, etc. to educate the public about the potential adverse effects of dispersed recreation on sensitive habitats; and 3) identify and implement corrective actions to control recreation impacts and to rehabilitate wildlife habitats. The Plan also requires Grant PUD to file with FERC an annual report that describes the results of the habitat monitoring efforts and status of the information and education program by December 31 of each year following FERC approval of the Plan.

Grant PUD continued its Information and Education (I&E) Program in 2020 through maintenance of its website content and Grant PUD Visitor's Center. Grant PUD strives to help educate the public about responsible recreation practices and the potential adverse effects of irresponsible dispersed recreation on sensitive habitats. Due to Covid-19 restrictions the 2020 Archaeology Days celebration was canceled, however, Grant PUD biological staff plans to attend Archaeology Days in 2021 where they will be on site to illustrate the importance of responsible recreation. Prior to Covid-19 restrictions being implemented in March of 2020, the Visitors Center located in the Wanapum Hydro Operations Building (HOB) had hundreds of visitors come through and experience the interactive wildlife and wildlife habitat related

¹ 123 FERC ¶ 61,049 (2008)

² 132 FERC ¶ 62,154 (2010)

displays that are aimed at educating the public on the importance of maintaining a healthy ecosystem throughout the Project. Finally, in 2020 Grant PUD continued to review and select appropriate I&E Program media to be used, such as signs and kiosks (roadside and at key sites), brochures, pamphlets, audio tours, nature trails, newsletters, etc., as well as prioritizing sites where the media will be located, and review services to be provided, such as interpretive talks, and field trips.

FERC staff with questions or comments, please contact Tom Dresser, Grant PUD Fish, Wildlife and Water Quality Manager, at 509-754-5088, ext. 2312.

Respectfully,

Ross Hendrick

Ross Hendrick
Senior Manager – Environmental Affairs

Cc: Patrick Verhey – Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Steve Lewis – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Chris Parsons – Washington State Parks
Todd Welker - Washington Department of Natural Resources
Mike Beckwith – U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Rex Buck Jr. – Wanapum
Diane Priebe – U.S. Bureau of Land Management
Jim Eychner – Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
LeRoy Adams, Jr. – Yakama Nation