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April 23, 2020
PKWD-20-024

The Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Mail Code: DHAC, PJ-12.3
888 First Street, N.E.
Washington, DC 20426

Subject: PACKWOOD LAKE HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT
FERC DOCKET NO. P-2244
CONCURRENCE OF REQUEST FOR REVISED INCIDENTAL TAKE STATEMENT FILED BY NMFS FOR TERM AND CONDITION 5 PART 2.G ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT SCHEDULE

References: 1) Letter dated October 11, 2018; FERC to Energy Northwest; Order Issuing New License
2) Letter dated April 23, 2020; NMFS to FERC; Revised Incidental Take Statement for NMFS’ March 21, 2018, Endangered Species Act Section 7(a)(2) Biological Opinion, and Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Essential Fish Habitat for the Relicensing of the Packwood Lake Hydroelectric Project

On October 11, 2018 the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued a 40-year operating license to Energy Northwest (EN) for the continued operation of the Packwood Lake Hydroelectric Project P-2244 (Project). Incorporated into the license was the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Biological Opinion (BiOp) Term and Condition 5 (RPM #5, 2g) related to annual monitoring reporting being submitted to NMFS for review and comment by January of each year.

With respect to annual reporting requirements, EN collaborated with NMFS on an adjustment to their independent reporting schedule. EN requested an alignment of their annual reporting requirements with those of the global Resource Agencies Committee (RAC) process while at the same time acknowledging and respecting their independent authority. The result of those conversations was an agreement between EN and NMFS whereby all annual reporting content and schedule requirements documented in the NFMS BiOp would be incorporated into the annual Resource Coordination meeting and reporting process. As such, all reporting
content requirements from NMFS will be adhered to and incorporated into the annual Report and Work Plan (RWP) to be filed with FERC on or before May 15th, annually.

EN understands that the revised ITS filed by NMFS is mandatory and is supportive of the license being amended to incorporate the revised condition outlined in the filing. Further, EN appreciates NMFS’ willingness to collaborate on this condition and looks forward to a continued positive working relationship as we implement the license.

If you have any questions or require additional information regarding this matter, please contact me at 509.378.9755 or kvwilliams@energy-northwest.com.

Respectfully,

Ken Williams
Supervisor, Hydro & Wind Projects

cc: Amy Kocourek, NMFS
Cory Warnock, McMillen Jacobs Associates