



Ken Williams, Supervisor
Hydro & Wind Projects
P.O. Box 968, MD 1030
Richland, WA 99352-0968
509.377.8486 (O) ~ 509.378.9755 (C)
kvwilliams@energy-northwest.com

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April 30, 2020
PKWD-20-029

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-2244-045
NOTIFICATION OF NO DEVIATION FROM LAKE LEVEL REQUIREMENT**

References: 1) USFS Condition No. 4 Packwood Lake Elevations and Annual Project Maintenance
2) Letter Dated April 23, 2020; EN to FERC; Notification of Anticipated Deviation from Lake Level Requirement Partially Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic

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 USDA Forest Service (Forest Service) 4(e) Condition No. 4 Packwood Lake Elevations and Annual Project Maintenance.

A portion of Forest Service Condition No. 4 states, *"The Licensee must maintain a minimum Packwood Lake elevation of 2856.5 feet MSL between May 1 and September 15 of each year."* Under "typical" natural circumstances, EN is able to adhere to this operational standard on an annual basis.

On April 23, 2020, EN filed a letter alerting FERC of the potential for a deviation from the lake level requirement due to:

- Lower than normal temperatures at Packwood Lake
- Lack of spring rains and run-off into the lake
- Inability for EN to completely shut down the Project due to travel restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic

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At the time of the deviation filing, Packwood Lake elevation was at 2855.15 feet MSL, and given the predicted forecast it did not appear the conditions were suitable for reaching a lake level of 2856.5 feet MSL by May 1, 2020. EN is happy to report that over the past few days, rainfall has been much more significant than originally forecasted, temperatures have been increasing allowing additional snowpack melt, and inflows into the lake have picked up considerably. As such, the current lake elevation is in excess of 2858.0 feet MSL and EN will meet its annual May 1st lake level requirement. We formally ask that FERC disregard the requested potential deviation notification filed by EN on April 23, 2020.

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

Respectfully,



Ken Williams
Supervisor, Hydro & Wind Projects

cc: Dave Olson, USFS
Diane Hopster, USFS
JD Jones, USFS
Cory Warnock, McMillen Jacobs Associates
Resource Agencies Committee
Doug Johnson, FERC (2 hardcopies)