

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20426
September 28, 2006

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

Project No. 1971-079
Hells Canyon Hydroelectric Project
Idaho Power Company

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Ms. Colleen Fagan
Hydropower Coordinator, Northeast Region
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
107 20th Street
La Grande, OR 97850

Reference: Notification of Section 10(j) Meetings

Dear Addressee:

On July 25, 2006, we issued the draft environmental impact statement for the Hells Canyon Project. By letter August 2, 2006, we informed you of our determination that some of the agencies' recommended fish and wildlife measures, made pursuant to Section 10(j) of the Federal Power Act (FPA), may be

inconsistent with the public interest and comprehensive development standard of Sections 4(e) and 10(j) of the FPA or section 313(b) of the Federal Power Act.

In our August 2, 2006, letter, we indicated that we planned to conduct a meeting to help resolve some of the issues associated with the Hells Canyon Project relicensing. Consequently, we will hold a section 10(j) meeting from Tuesday, October 17 through Thursday, October 19, 2006, in Boise, Idaho, according to the enclosed schedule. The meeting will be held at the Boardroom at the Doubletree Hotel Boise Riverside, 2900 Chinden Blvd., starting on 8 am each day. We also plan to discuss issues related to the initiation of formal consultation under the Endangered Species Act.

If you have any questions, please contact Alan Mitchnick at (202)502-6074, alan.mitchnick@ferc.gov; or Allan Creamer at (502)502-8365, allan.creamer@ferc.gov.

Sincerely,

Timothy J. Welch, Chief
Hydro West Branch 2

Enclosure: Schedule for Hells Canyon Project 10(j) meeting

cc: Service List
Public Files

Schedule for Hells Canyon Project 10(j) Meeting

	NMFS	FWS	IDFG	ODFW	TOTAL
DAY 1 – Tuesday, October 17					
Anadromous fish restoration	3 ¹	7	1	12	23
Hells Canyon Operations	2	3	0	2	7
Hatcheries		1	1		2
Endangered Species Act follow-up on anadromous fish issues	X				32
DAY 2 – Wednesday, October 18					
Sturgeon		4	1	3	8
Water quality		3			3
Invertebrates		6			6
Oxbow bypassed reach		3			3
					20
DAY 3 – Thursday, October 19					
Terrestrial		2	2	2	6
Bull trout/tributary enhancement				1	1
Warmwater fish				1	1
Endangered Species Act follow-up on resident fish and terrestrial species		X			8

NMFS=National Marine Fisheries Service
 FWS=U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 IDFG=Idaho Department of Fish and Game
 ODFW=Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

¹ Numbers represent the numbers of recommendations agency made dealing with the issue.