

STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

N. 4601 Monrpe, Suite 100 • Spokane, Washington 99205-1295 '• (509) 456-2926

December 3, 1992

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Mr. Daniel E. Pfeiffer License Coordinator Washington Water Power P.O. Box 3727 Spokane, WA 99220 DEC 0 4 1992

LICENSING & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

Dear Mr. Pfeiffer:

Washington Water Power filed an application for a subsequent license for a minor water power project with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on December 27, 1991 under FERC No. 2544-001 for the Meyers Falls Hydroelectric Project.

A request for water quality certification was made to Ecology on December 4, 1991. Ecology acknowledged receipt of the request of certification by letter on December 9, 1991.

This agency certifies that the project described above complies with the applicable provisions of section 301, 302, 303, 306, and 307 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act. as amended. The certification is subject to the following conditions:

I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- This certification does not relieve the applicant from the responsibility of meeting applicable regulations of other agencies, such as an Hydraulic Project Approval from Washington Department of Wildlife.
- 2. Water quality monitoring will be required. Based on the data collected and subsequent evaluation, changes in the operation of hydroelectric project or other methods to protect water quality and characteristic uses may be required. This may include monitoring for impacts to fish populations. Additional monitoring may also be required.
- 3. The project shall comply with instream flow requirements. This flow is specified to be a minimum daily average instream flow of 25 cfs or natural flow conditions, whichever is less. Instream flow measurements must be taken once every day.
- 4. Instream flows shall be maintained in the bypass reach of the project, sufficient to meet water quality goals, characteristic uses, and standards for the waterway, as provided in WAC Chapters

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173-201A, 173-500, and Chapters 90.22 and 90.54 RCW.

5. Flow monitoring information obtained to validate the instream flow requirements shall be reported to the Department of Ecology, Eastern Regional Office, on a once per year basis. Data shall be submitted in the format of weekly average flows. Data shall be collected daily.

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- 6. A short term Water Quality Standards Modification shall be obtained from the Department of Ecology prior to the start of construction work in the waterway. The plan of work for the portion of the work within the waterway shall accompany the request. The request shall also include a copy of the hydraulic project application, and an explanation of SEPA compliance.
- 7. Work in or near the waterway shall be done so as to minimize turbidity, erosion, and other water quality impacts. An erosion control and sedimentation may also be required.

II. Water Quality Criteria

- 1. At the point of discharge and within the bypass reach, the water shall not exceed the following criteria:
 - a. All water quality criteria as specified in WAC 173-201A-030 for Class A waters shall remain in effect. Nothing in this certification shall be construed as to allow the project operator to violate Washington State Water Quality Laws (RCW 90.48, Chapter 173-201A WAC).
 - b. Toxic conditions from operational or construction activities at the project site resulting in dead and dying fish are not allowed. If these conditions exist, operation and/or construction shall cease immediately and the Department of Ecology. Eastern Regional Office shall be notified immediately by telephone at (509) 456-2926 (24 hour number).

2. Water Quality Monitoring and Reporting

a. Facility Operations

Representative water quality conditions shall be monitored at upstream and downstream sampling locations approved by Ecology, in accordance with the annual schedule and methods which follow:

for continuous water tamperature recorders (once hourly readings at minimum) shall be installed, one in a representative and accessible area downstream of the tailrace and the other immediately above the diversion pool backwater.

Temperature readings will also be taken in the bypass reach

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and the forebay. These readings will be taken from June 15 through November 30 for a period of three years.

- 2) Water quality monitoring results obtained shall be reported to the Department of Ecology, Eastern Regional Office, on a quarterly basis. Data shall be summarized and reported in a format approved by the Department of Ecology. The report shall be submitted no later than the 15th day of the month following the reporting period.
- 3) A more rigorous water quality sampling program for temperature or for additional parameters may be required by the Department of Ecology if necessary to protect water quality.

Sincerely,

Carl J. Nucchterlein Section Manager Water Quality Section Eastern Regional Office Department of Ecology

CJN:hjr