

September 23, 2013

Curt Fransen, Director
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
1410 North Hilton
Boise, ID 83706

Subject: Idaho Power Company, Hells Canyon Complex (HCC)
Application for Certification under Clean Water Act § 401

Dear Mr. Fransen:

On January 21, 2013, Idaho Power Company (IPC) submitted a § 401 application for its Hells Canyon Complex hydroelectric project. Since that January 2013 submittal, we have been working with the Fresh Water Trust and other contractors on the assessment of options for addressing the applicable water quality temperature standards and have also assembled additional data and information relative to other water quality parameters associated with the application. We have periodically kept IDEQ and ODEQ apprised of those efforts, the most recent status update taking place on June 11, 2013 at the NOAA office in Portland. This work continues as additional data and information is being gathered and analysis remains to be completed on the details of the application. As such, and given the administrative timelines that the respective DEQs must work within the processing of a § 401 application, IPC is withdrawing its January 21st application and concurrently submitting a new application. We would expect to have additional details available for presentation to the DEQs by December 2013.

Because of the interrelationship among water quality standards, the § 401 certification, and aquatic species, we have provided a courtesy copy of this letter to NOAA Fisheries, the USFWS, the BIA, and EPA.

IPC very much appreciates the input and cooperation of IDEQ and ODEQ staff with the development of this § 401 application. We look forward to continuing such efforts in the proceedings on the current § 401 application.

Please call if you have questions.

Sincerely,



Chris Randolph
Director, Environmental Affairs

cc: ODEQ, NOAA Fisheries, USFWS, BIA, EPA