



Public Utility District No. 1 of Douglas County

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March 28, 2017

Mr. Ritchie Graves
Branch Chief, Columbia Hydropower Branch
Interior Columbia Basin Office
NOAA Fisheries, West Coast Region
1201 NE Lloyd Blvd., Suite 1100
Portland, OR 97232

Subject: **Wells Hydroelectric Project – FERC Project No. 2149
2016 HCP Annual Report - Upper Columbia River Spring Chinook and
Steelhead Monitoring and Take Report**

Dear Mr. Graves:

Public Utility District No. 1 of Douglas County, Washington (Douglas PUD), licensee for the Wells Hydroelectric Project No. 2149 (Wells Project) respectfully submits the enclosed *Annual Report - Calendar Year 2016 of Activities under the Anadromous Fish Agreement and Habitat Conservation Plan* (2016 HCP Annual Report). This report is being filed with you in compliance with the reporting requirements found in the Biological Opinion for the Relicensing of the Wells Hydroelectric Project issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on March 7, 2012 and as found in Appendix D of the new Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license for the Wells Project.

Reasonable and Prudent Measures (RMP) No. 1 found in the Biological Opinion requires Douglas PUD to submit a report to the NMFS on all incidental take of Endangered Species Act Upper Columbia River spring Chinook and steelhead incurred during the implementation of the HCP. This report is to be provided to the NMFS, Hydropower Division, FERC and Water Diversions on or before March 31st during each year of the license. Toward compliance with this provision of the Biological Opinion, the FERC license and the HCP, Douglas PUD provided a draft and final of the *2016 HCP Annual Report* to the HCP parties, including representatives from the NMFS, for review on February 8, 2017. The final report was approved without comment by the HCP Coordinating Committee on March 10, 2017, and the final report was provided to the NMFS on March 28, 2017. Copies of the *2016 HCP Annual Report* were sent to Rob Jones, Scott Carlon and Dale Bambrick at the NMFS per the requirements of HCP and Appendix D of the new FERC license for the Wells Project.

If you have any questions or require further information related to the *2016 HCP Annual Report*, please feel free to contact me at (509) 881-2208 or sbickford@dcpud.org.

Sincerely,



Shane Bickford
Natural Resources Supervisor

Enclosed:

(1 CD) Annual Report - Calendar Year 2016 of Activities under the Anadromous Fish Agreement and Habitat Conservation Plan, Wells Hydroelectric Project, FERC License No. 2149.

Cc: Scott Carlon – NMFS, Portland
Rob Jones – NMFS, Portland
Dale Bambrick – NMFS, Ellensburg
Tom Kahler – Douglas PUD
Greg Mackey – Douglas PUD
Scott Kreiter – Douglas PUD
Wells Compliance