Message

**From**: Wu, Jennifer [Wu.Jennifer@epa.gov]
**Sent**: 10/17/2018 6:33:11 PM
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**CC**: tosm@yakamafish-nsn.gov; carj@critfc.org
**Subject**: Update on upcoming NPDES Permits for federal hydroelectric dams in WA

Hi, I'm writing to give everyone an update on the status of the upcoming NPDES permits for federal hydroelectric dams in Washington.

1. Tribal Consultation Request letters. We sent tribal consultation request letters on October 1, 2018 to Tribal Chairs of the Cowlitz Tribe, Grand Ronde Tribe, Warm Springs Tribe, Yakama Nation, Umatilla Tribe, and Nez Perce Tribe re: upcoming NPDES permits for the Lower Columbia and Lower Snake River Dams. On October 11, we sent tribal consultation request letters to Spokane Tribe and Kalispel Tribe on the Grand Coulee Dam NPDES permit.
2. Draft 401 certification updates.
    a. We sent letters to Ecology on September 18, September 19, and October 1 requesting draft 401 certifications on the pre-draft NPDES permits for the Lower Columbia River dams, Lower Snake River dams, and Grand Coulee Dam, respectively. They sent us a letter on October 12, 2018 saying they would need more than 30 days to complete a draft 401 certification. They requested a meeting. EPA is meeting with Ecology on Wednesday, October 24 to discuss further.
    b. We sent a letter to Colville Tribes on October 4 requesting draft 401 certifications on the pre-draft NPDES permit for the Grand Coulee Dam.
    c. On October 1, we sent a letter to Oregon DEQ re: 401(a)(2) downstream affected waters for the Lower Columbia River and Lower Snake River dams – they have the ability to object to the permits if they deem the permits to harm beneficial uses of Oregon waters.
3. Public comment date. Because of discussions with Ecology on the draft 401 certifications, the permits will likely not go out for public draft until mid-November at the earliest. There may be further delays pending discussions with Ecology. _

If you have questions, please feel free to contact me. – Jenny (206)553-6328

**From:** Wu, Jennifer
**Sent:** Thursday, September 20, 2018 11:31 AM
**To:** bard@critfc.org; keith@ucut-nsn.org; 'scott.hauser.usrt@gmail.com' <scott.hauser.usrt@gmail.com>; 'todd.thorn@colvilletribes.com' <Todd.Thorn@colvilletribes.com>; 'crossley@spokanetribe.com' <crossley@SpokaneTribe.com>; lindsay.belonga@grandronde.org; 'Blythe Monoian' <Blythe_Monoian@Yakama.com>; kenc@nezperce.org; kmerrill@knrd.org; 'taylor.a@cowlitz.org' <taylor.a@cowlitz.org>; 'Mike.McKay@ctwsbnr.org' <Mike.McKay@ctwsbnr.org>; 'BrentHall@ctuir.org' <BrentHall@ctuir.org>; 'wil_badonie@yakama.com' <wil_badonie@yakama.com>; Soscia, Mary Lou <Soscia.Marylou@epa.gov>; Merz, Martin <merz.martin@epa.gov>
**Cc:** tosm@yakamafish-nsn.gov; Julie Carter <carj@critfc.org>
**Subject:** Mtg Follow-up re: Upcoming NPDES Permits for federal hydroelectric dams in WA

Thank you for yesterday's phone call and my apologies for sending out the wrong link to the Adobe Connect line.

As we discussed, here are some materials on the draft Idaho general permit for hydroelectric generating facilities on which individual permits for Washington federal dams will be based. They are also attached above. To follow-up, I'll send out periodic updates on the permit for significant activities and also plan on offering a time to talk when EPA goes

out for public comment on the permits. Below are some key dates/timelines on the upcoming NPDES permits for the WA federal dams that I've modified since the presentation.

1. Request to Ecology for draft 401 certification.
    a. Bonneville Project, The Dalles Lock and Dam, John Day Project, McNary Lock and Dam – Mailed on September 19, 2018
    b. Ice Harbor Lock and Dam, Lower Monumental Lock and Dam, Little Goose Lock and Dam, Lower Granite Lock and Dam – Mailed on September 20, 2018
    c. Grand Coulee Dam – aiming for September 27, 2018 but may be delayed due to ongoing discussions with Bureau of Rec
2. Request to Oregon DEQ for 401(a)(2) certification on Lower Columbia River and Lower Snake River dams – impacts to downstream waters
3. When Grand Coulee pre-draft NPDES permit completed,
    a. Request to Colville Tribe for draft 401 certification – late September 2018
    b. Request to Ecology for draft 401 certification – late September 2018
4. Public comment anticipated date for Lower Columbia River and Lower Snake River dams – Mid-Late October 2018, pending 401 certification;
5. Public comment anticipated date for Grand Coulee dams – End of October/Early November 2018, pending 401 certifications
6. 30-day public comment period
7. Issuance dates: Late December 2018
8. Effective dates: January 2019

Please don't hesitate to contact me with questions. – Jenny (206) 553-6328