UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 155
Seattle, WA 98101-3123

OFFICE OF
WATER AND WATERSHEDS

OCT - 4 2010

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

OCT 11 2010

WATER QUALITY PROGRAM

Reply to
Attn of: OWW-191

Mr. Vince McGowan
Program Development Services Manager
Washington Department of Ecology
300 Desmond Drive SE
Lacey, Washington 98503

Re: Request for Preliminary Clean Water Act Section 401 Certification of NPDES Draft Permit for Grand Coulee Dam, NPDES Permit No. WA0026867

Dear Mr. McGowan:

Enclosed is a preliminary draft of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit plus a fact sheet for the Grand Coulee Dam.

We are asking for the Washington Department of Ecology to review and provide a preliminary Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 Certification for this permit action. If we receive the certification prior to public notice of the permit, we will include a reference to the State's certification in the public notice along with a copy of the certification in the fact sheet. The public notice of the permit may also fulfill Ecology's public notice requirements for certification under CWA Section 401(a)(1). If possible, we would appreciate a response within 30 days.

Since this preliminary draft is not intended for review outside of Ecology, we appreciate your discretion in retaining it within the department.

If you have any questions, please contact Jenny Wu at 206-553-6328 or 1-800-424-4372 ext. 6328, or Wu.Jennifer@epa.gov. We look forward to your comments on this draft permit.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Lidgard, Manager
NPDES Permits Unit

Enclosures

cc: Ellie Key, Washington Department of Ecology (via email)