UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10
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OFFICE OF
WATER AND WATERSHEDS

Ken Duncan
Portland District Environmental Compliance Coordinator
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
333 SW 1st Avenue
Portland, OR 97204

Re: Progress on permit applications for Bonneville Project (WA0026778), The Dalles Lock and Dam (WA0026701), and John Day Project (WA0026832)

Dear Mr. Duncan:

This letter is in response to your letter sent on September 4, 2018 requesting a status update on the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit applications for Bonneville Project (WA0026778), The Dalles Lock and Dam (WA0026701), and John Day Project (WA0026832).

We are currently in the process of writing the NPDES permits for these facilities based on information from the NPDES permit applications submitted in 2015 and from additional information received from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The EPA is awaiting responses to our request for preliminary draft Clean Water Act Section 401 certifications from the Clean Water Act Section 401 certifying authorities. In addition, two Tribal Governments have indicated an interest in possible government-to-government tribal consultation on these permits. As a result, we cannot specify when the draft permits will be available for public comment and when final permits will be issued. However, we are working to complete these NPDES permits as expediently as possible given these additional processes.

The EPA will continue to keep you up to date on the progress of these permits as we develop them. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (206) 553-1855, or contact Jenny Wu of my staff at (206) 553-6328 or by email at [HYPERLINK "mailto:Wu.Jennifer@epa.gov"].

Sincerely,

Michael Lidgard
NPDES Permits Unit Manager
U.S. EPA Region 10

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