

CHRISTINE O. GREGOIRE  
Director



Hydro/SWRO / Yelm  
# 10703  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY  
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STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

7272 Cleanwater Lane, LU-11 • Olympia, Washington 98504-6811 • (206) 753-2353

February 11, 1991

Mr. William C. Cummings  
City of Centralia Light Department  
1100 North Tower Avenue  
Centralia, Washington 98531

Dear Mr. Cummings:

The City of Centralia Light Department filed an application for a license for a major water project with the Federal Regulatory Commission (FERC) in September 1989, under FERC No. 10703-000 for the Yelm Hydroelectric Project.

An initial request for water quality certification was made to Ecology on September 6, 1989. The request was denied September 6, 1990, and a second request was made on September 17, 1990. Ecology acknowledged receipt of the request for certification by letter on November 21, 1990. Notice of intent to obtain the certification was published on November 28 and December 4, 1990.

Ecology finds that adequate information, necessary to make an informed decision on the merits of the request for water quality certification, has been provided.

This agency certifies that the project described above complies with the applicable provisions of Sections 301, 302, 303, 306, and 307 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended. The certification is subject to the following conditions. Additional requirements may also be established in Short-Term Water Quality Standard Modifications, as described below.

I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- A. An Oil Spill Prevention, Containment, and Countermeasure Plan must be prepared that covers all oil-filled equipment to be installed at the site. This equipment includes the turbine/generator set and all oil-filled transformers and capacitors to be installed at the dam to serve this project.
- B. Care shall be taken to prevent any petroleum products, paint, chemicals, or other harmful materials from entering the water.
- C. All construction debris shall be properly disposed of on land so that it cannot enter state water.
- D. Work in the waterway shall be done so as to minimize turbidity.
- E. All lumber treated with creosote or other protective material shall be completely dry before use in or near the waterway.
- F. Concrete shall be cured a minimum of seven (7) days before any contact with water.
- G. Mobile equipment that enters the water shall be maintained such that a visible sheen from petroleum products does not appear.
- H. Five (5) days advance notice shall be given to Ecology before dredging or other work in the waterway commences.

- I. A Short-Term Water Quality Standards Modification shall be obtained from Ecology prior to the start of work in the waterway. The plan of work for the portion of the project within the waterway shall accompany the request. The request shall also include a copy of the Hydraulics Project Approval secured from the Department of Fisheries or Wildlife for the project, and an explanation of how SEPA has been addressed for the project. Wastewater containing cement, such as washwater from concrete trucks, shall not be discharged to state ground or surface waters.
- J. Discharge of process wastewater to waters of the state without a permit is prohibited. A plan for the treatment and disposal of process wastewater generated by the facility shall be approved by Ecology prior to the operation of the final facility.
- K. The construction activities must comply with all conditions of the Washington Department of Wildlife (or Fisheries) Project Approval.
- L. Improvements to fish habitat (e.g., placement of boulders and gravel), must be done in a manner to minimize turbidity.
- M. A State Water Right Permit (RCW 90.03.250 and Chapter 508-12 WAC) must be applied for prior to commencing construction of the project.
- N. The project shall comply with the instream flow requirements as set forth below. Instream flows shall be maintained in any bypass reach or downstream of the project, sufficient to meet water quality goals and standards for the waterway, as provided in Chapters 173-201 WAC, 173-500 WAC, and 90.54 RCW.

A minimum flow or natural flow, shall remain in the bypassed reach, as measured at USGS gage location #12089500, Nisqually River at McKenna, as follows:

October 1 - December 15	550 cfs
December 16 - May 31	600 cfs
June 1 - July 31	500 cfs
August 1 - September 30	370 cfs

## II. WATER QUALITY CRITERIA

- A. At the point of discharge, the water shall not exceed the following criteria:

All water quality criteria and action requirements for Class A waters (WAC 173-201-045(2)(c)) shall remain in effect.

Total Suspended Solids (TSS): Maximum for any one day shall not exceed 45 mg/l; average of daily values for any calendar month shall not exceed 25 mg/l.

Toxic conditions resulting in distressed or dying fish are prohibited. If these conditions exist, construction shall cease immediately and Ecology shall be notified immediately by telephone at (206) 753-2353 (24 hour number).

- B. Water Quality Monitoring and Reporting

Water quality monitoring shall be conducted during construction and operation of the facilities as follows:

- 1. Long-Term Facility Operations

Effective immediately, representative water samples shall be taken at least once per week, at a downstream sampling point approved by Ecology. Parameters to be monitored shall include temperature, pH, dissolved

oxygen, and turbidity at a minimum. Total Suspended Solids (TSS) shall be monitored at least once per month.

2. Construction Activities

More rigorous monitoring will be required during project construction. These monitoring requirements will be defined in the Short-Term Water Quality Modification(s) issued by Ecology, after a review of the plan and schedule for construction activities.

Monitoring results obtained during the previous calendar month shall be summarized and reported on a form approved by Ecology. The report shall be submitted no later than the 15th day of the month following the completed report period. The report shall be sent to the Southwest Regional Office, Department of Ecology, Mail Stop LU-11, 7272 Cleanwater Lane, Olympia, Washington 98504.

III. OIL SPILL PREVENTION AND CONTROL

Care shall be taken to prevent discharges of oil from equipment or facilities into state waters or onto adjacent land.

Visible floating oils released from construction area shall be contained and removed from water immediately.

All land-based oil storage tanks shall be diked or located so as to prevent oil spills from escaping to the water. The petroleum storage area shall be impervious to prevent oil from seeping through the ground.

Fuel hoses, oil drums, etc., shall be checked regularly for drips or leaks, and shall be maintained and stored properly to prevent discharges. Proper security shall be maintained to discourage vandalism.

In the event of a discharge of oil, fuel or chemicals into state waters, or onto land with a potential for entry into state waters, containment and clean-up efforts shall begin immediately and be completed as soon as possible, taking precedence over normal work. Cleanup shall include proper disposal of any spilled material and used cleanup materials.

No emulsifiers or dispersants are to be used in waters of the state without approval from the Water Quality Section, Southwest Regional Office, Department of Ecology.

In the event of any petroleum product or other chemical spill into state ground or surface waters or onto land with a potential for entry into state ground or surface water, Ecology shall be notified immediately by telephone at (206) 753-2353 (24 hour number).

IV. CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

- A. The construction contractor shall use all reasonable measures to prevent or minimize the impacts of construction activities on state ground and surface waters. These measures include Best Management Practices to control erosion and sedimentation, proper use of chemicals, oil and chemical spill prevention and control, clean-up of surplus construction supplies and other solid wastes, adequate operation and maintenance of sedimentation ponds, and separation of construction areas from state surface waters by dikes, cofferdams, or similar structures.
- B. All sedimentation ponds shall be cleaned out and the settled sediment shall be removed from the pond area or otherwise stabilized before the ponds

are decommissioned. Settled sediments shall not be allowed to enter state ground or surface waters.

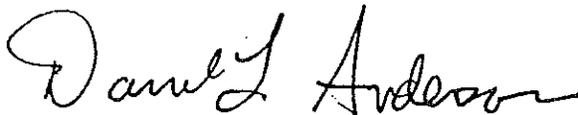
1. All construction debris shall be properly disposed of on land in such a manner that it cannot enter into the waterway or cause water quality degradation to state waters.
  2. Work in or near the waterway shall be done so as to minimize turbidity, erosion, other water quality impacts, and stream bed deformation.
  3. All areas disturbed or newly created by the project construction will be seeded, riprapped with clean, durable riprap or given some other equivalent type of protection against erosion.
  4. Extreme care shall be taken to prevent any petroleum products, fresh cement, lime or concrete, chemicals, or other toxic or deleterious materials from entering the water in any manner.
  5. Fresh, uncured concrete in direct contact with the water is toxic to aquatic life. All concrete shall be cured in the dry and shall be allowed to cure a minimum of seven (7) days before contact with water.
  6. All lumber treated with creosote or other protective material shall be completely dry before use in or near the waterway.
  7. Dredge spoils shall be transported and disposed of in a manner that prevents the spoils from entering state waters and prevents leachates or drainage from the spoils from degrading water quality.
- C. Ecology may establish additional requirements in any short-term Water Quality Modifications it issues for work in the waterway.

V. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Ramping requirements shall be as follows:

Flow reduction rates in the bypass reach shall not exceed 100 cfs per hour or two inches per hour, whichever is less, based on the current gate rating curve. This requirement shall apply during all months of the year, except that scheduled reductions shall be avoided during the daytime between February 1 and May 31 and at night between June 1 and September 30.

Sincerely,



Darrel L. Anderson, Acting Supervisor  
Water Quality Programs  
Southwest Regional Office

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cc: The Honorable Lois Cashell, FERC, Wash., D.C.  
Arthur C. Martin, FERC, Portland OR  
✓ Rodney Sakrison, Water Resources Program, Olympia  
Corps 404 Coordinator, Central Programs, Olympia  
Jerry Jewett, Planning and Management Section, Water Quality, Olympia  
Gail Blomstrom, Water Resources Section Head, Southwest Regional Office