



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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BRAD LITTLE
Governor

GARY SPACKMAN
Director

February 4, 2021

ROCK CREEK HYDRO LLC
ATTN GORDON FULTON
5907 HWY 93
MACKAY ID 83251

RE: Field Examination Information for Permit 34-14339

Dear Fulton:

In order for a permit to be licensed, a water use authorized by that permit must have a field examination performed to verify the water use. I have been asked to perform the field examination for your power permit 34-14339.

It is my understanding that the best time to perform this field examination will be in the spring. It also appears as though the water used in your power system is also used in your irrigation system, so I am assuming the system may not be up and running until March or April of this year.

I would appreciate your suggestions on when it would be the best time to meet you at the property to allow me to verify the water use of this power facility when it is operating under maximum operating conditions. Verifying the water use includes verifying the point of diversion, place of use, the rate and volume of water being used, and power being produced.

Prior to visiting your property, I would like to connect with you to gather some of the documents that will be requested during the field examination. By attaining as many of these documents as possible now, it will allow me time to review the data, and have a better understanding of your hydropower facility when I visit the property in a few months.

The following is a list of information I will be requesting during the field examination. I know that you may not have all of the information requested below, but I would appreciate it if you could provide me with as much of the information as possible or direct me to someone who would have this information such as the person who designed, installed, and/or operates the system. I want to ensure my recommendations for licensing will accurately depict your water use, so the more information I can attain from you will assist me in that effort.

Some of the documentation that will be needed are as follows:

- 1.) If you have been able to set up a sells agreement with PacifiCorp, d/b/a Rocky Mountain Power Company, we will need a copy of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission order and Purchase Sales Agreement that authorizes the sale of the power generated by this facility to PacifiCorp, d/b/a Rocky Mountain Power Company.
- 2.) You supplied a Purchase Sales Agreement from Salmon River Electric Cooperative, Inc. that authorized the sale of the power for a period of one year from July 22, 2019 to July 22, 2020. If you are continuing to sell the power to Salmon River Electric Cooperative, we will need a copy of the most current sales agreement. I would also appreciate it if you could give me a bit more insight into duration of these agreements. Are they year to year, or are you working towards a multi-year agreement?
- 3.) We will need a Turbine Characteristics Curve that provides the amount of power produced compared to the flow of water diverted through the power generation system. You should be able to attain one of these curves from the company you purchased the generator from if you don't have one already in your records.
- 4.) Up to the last 5 years of power generation data. This is the daily or monthly records submitted to the power company for the power you sent them through your system. If you don't have these records at your disposal, Salmon River Electric Cooperative should be able to provide you with this information during the time you have been selling them power. If you have only been generating power for a couple of years, please send me what records you do have.
- 5.) Any records that you may have that shows the maximum diversion rate, and the total volume of water diverted each year. This could be daily measurement records, or watermaster records for your diversion.
- 6.) Any documentation that you can provide on your power generation system that you feel will be useful to help provide a good understanding of the amount of power produced compared to the amount of water used to produce that power.

- 7.) It is my understanding that your power generation system is connected to your irrigation system. I would appreciate any information you can give me concerning the operation of your system during the non-irrigation season.
- 8.) Any information you can provide about the nozzles used to operate the system, and if the nozzles are replaced throughout the season to address lower or higher water flows.
- 9.) I would also appreciate any information you give me on the pressure of the water when it enters the generator. This could also be recorded as head in feet.

As I stated earlier, these are some of the information and documents I will be requesting when I have the opportunity to visit your property if I haven't received them already. I know that you may not be able to provide everything that is requested above, but the more information you can provide will help tremendously with licensing your hydropower permit accurately and smoothly.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Daniel Nelson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Daniel Nelson
Water Right Analyst 3
Idaho Department of Water Resources
Telephone (208) 287-4856
Fax (208) 287-6700 (attn: Dan Nelson)