



April 19, 2021

Director Gary Spackman
Idaho Department of Water Resources
322 E. Front St., Ste 648
Boise, Idaho 83702
gary.spackman@idwr.idaho.gov

Re: Cat Creek Energy, LLC, Applications for Permit Nos. 63-34403, 63-34652, 63-34897, and 63-34900

Dear Director Spackman:

At the pre-hearing conference held February 12, 2021, Cat Creek Energy, LLC (“CCE”) reported that the scope of fisheries studies and the time required to complete them had not been finalized. Since then CCE has been in communication with the Idaho Department of Fish & Game (“IDFG”) to identify the studies needed to address impacts of the CCE hydropower project on fisheries in the South Fork of the Boise River, and to coordinate work to be performed by CCE and IDFG. CCE is pleased to report that those discussions have been successful and that IDFG has identified the studies that it intends to perform at Anderson Ranch Reservoir this summer, which has enabled CCE to adjust and refine the technical work that its experts will be performing.

CCE has also performed an extensive investigation of existing fisheries and water quality studies for the South Fork of the Boise River and has unearthed a significant amount of baseline data. This data is being incorporated into CCE’s Pre-Application Document for filing in the FERC proceeding related to CCE’s pumped-storage project, and is also being used to adjust and refine the statements of work for studies to be performed by CCE consultants in connection with the IDWR proceeding.

At the February pre-hearing conference you directed CCE to schedule a meeting with the other parties to develop a hearing schedule and identify a suitable date for a pre-hearing conference in August. CCE anticipated that this meeting could be held by April 19; however, the work described above has taken longer than anticipated to complete. CCE expects to know within the next month the amount of time required for its consultants to complete their studies and prepare expert reports. CCE will then meet with the parties to develop a hearing schedule that accommodates that timeline.

CCE plans to meet with the parties in June to develop the hearing schedule. All parties will be notified of the meeting no less than two weeks in advance and invited to participate by phone or video. Following the meeting CCE will submit for your consideration the hearing schedule developed by the parties along with multiple dates in August for a pre-hearing conference.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Randall C. Budge'.

RANDALL C. BUDGE

cc: Parties per service list