

From: [Susco, Jeremy](#)
To: [Logan, Dennis](#)
Cc: [Balsam, Briana](#)
Subject: FW: Columbia email
Date: Thursday, May 17, 2012 9:39:35 AM
Attachments: [Email to NMFS for Columbia \(JJS edited\).docx](#)

Dennis,

I have added my two cents to the attached version. What do you think? Please edit away. I like how Briana worded the end..."NRC's issuance of the renewed operating license will not affect the NRC's authority to implement such modifications."

Jeremy

From: Balsam, Briana
Sent: Thursday, May 17, 2012 9:23 AM
To: Susco, Jeremy; Logan, Dennis
Subject: Columbia email

Here's what I came up with. Jeremy—did you tell Paula that we are doing an email instead of a letter?

Email to: Rich Domingue

From: Dennis Logan

Subject: Columbia Generating Station Section 7 Consultation (NMFS Consultation No. F/NWR/2011/05286)

Rich,

I would like to update you on several items regarding our ongoing Endangered Species Act section 7 consultation for Columbia Generating Station (CGS).

Status of NRC's Renewed Operating License Decision

NRC received copies of the May 12, 2012, letters that NMFS sent to the EPA and the State of Washington regarding the CGS pending application for a NPDES permit renewal. These letters reference the NRC's renewed operating license decision as occurring in June 2012. However, the NRC staff has completed its review of the CGS license renewal application several weeks ahead of that schedule, so the NRC intends to grant Energy Northwest (the licensee) a renewed operating license on May 22, 2012.

Status of Section 7 Consultation between NRC and NMFS

On May 9, 2012, I provided you with partial answers to your February 10, 2012, additional information requests that you identified as needing in order to make a determination on the potential effects of CGS operation on Upper Columbia River spring Chinook (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) and the Upper Columbia River steelhead (*O. mykiss*). NRC is currently coordinating with Energy Northwest to obtain the last piece of outstanding information, which I will forward to you as soon as I receive it.

Continued Coordination under Section 7 of the ESA

Though the NRC intends to grant Energy Northwest a renewed license for CGS on May 22, please know we fully intend to continue to consult with the you regarding the two Federally listed species until the NMFS has made its effect conclusions and determined that section 7 consultation can be concluded. Should NMFS suggest, as a result of consultation, modifications that the NRC and Energy Northwest could implement to avoid the likelihood of adverse effects to listed species, the NRC's issuance of the renewed operating license will not affect the NRC's authority to implement such modifications.

Comment [BAB1]: FYI--This language is from 50 CFR 402.13(b) where it discusses the outcome of informal consultation.

Please let me know if you have any questions about this information, and I will continue to keep in touch regarding the additional information requests.

Dennis