



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Department of Environmental Quality
Headquarters/Portland Administrative Offices
700 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 600
Portland, OR 97232
503-229-5696
TTY 711

September 23, 2026

VIA EMAIL, CERTIFIED MAIL, and U.S. FIRST CLASS MAIL

Todd Olson
Director, Licensing and Compliance
PacifiCorp - Renewable Resources
825 NE Multnomah St., Suite 1800
Portland, OR 97232

Re: PacifiCorp North Umpqua Hydroelectric Project, FERC Project No. 1927;
DEQ Certification Modification Pursuant to Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act

Mr. Olson:

PacifiCorp filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) an application for a non-capacity amendment to its existing license for the North Umpqua Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1927) in March of 2025 (Project). The proposed amendment would remove the terms and conditions of the license authorizing the construction and operation of the proposed pumped storage project connecting the Fish Creek and Toketee developments of the Project.

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) received a request from PacifiCorp to modify the water quality certification for the Project on March 31, 2025. PacifiCorp requested that all conditions associated with the construction, operation, and maintenance of previously proposed pumped storage facilities be removed from the water quality certification for the Project.

DEQ has completed review of PacifiCorp's request and an evaluation of water-quality impacts associated with the proposed change to the Project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act and ORS 468B.045. Based on our evaluation of the proposed changes to the Project and after providing opportunity for public comment,¹ DEQ approves the certification for operations under an amended FERC license as providing reasonable assurance of compliance with the applicable provisions of the Clean Water Act Sections 301, 302, 303, 306, and 307, state water quality standards, and other appropriate requirements of state law related to water quality as determined by the Director, provided that PacifiCorp complies with the conditions of the original water quality certificate issued in 2002 and as modified in 2005, both attached.² The Section

¹ No public comment was received.

² In effect, if FERC approves PacifiCorp's proposed license amendment, no 401 conditions contained in the modification issued in 2022 for the pumped storage project must be incorporated into that license.

401 certification is valid for PacifiCorp only and is not transferable without written approval from DEQ, in accordance with OAR 340-048-0042(6).

In accordance with the Oregon Administrative Procedures Act (Oregon Revised Statute, Chapter 183) and OAR 340-048-0045(2), PacifiCorp may request a contested case hearing if dissatisfied with the Section 401 certification decision, including any conditions to an approved certification. Your request for a hearing must be made in writing to DEQ within 20 days of the date of mailing of this certification and comply with OAR 340-011-0530(2) and OAR 340-048-0045(2). You may mail your request for a hearing to:

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
Attn: Vanessa Rose
400 East Scenic Drive, Suite 307,
The Dalles, OR 97058

If a request for hearing is not received within this 20-day period, your right to a hearing shall be considered waived. If you request a hearing, you will be notified of the time and place of the hearing and provided information on the procedures by which contested cases are heard, your rights, the import and effect of such a hearing, and your rights and remedies. As a corporation, you must be represented by legal counsel at this hearing, if any.

Sincerely,

Ruth Hyde

[Ruth Hyde \(Sep 23, 2026 08:09:16 PDT\)](#)

Ruth Hyde
Western Region Administrator

Enclosures: 2026 Evaluation and Findings Report
2002 CWA Section 401 Certification Conditions for P-1927
2005 CWA Section 401 Certification Modification for P-1927

EC: Summer Payne, PacifiCorp
Chris Clark, OWRD
Jason Brandt, ODFW
Valerie Thompson, DEQ