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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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May 6, 2015

FERC Project #P-12966-003
Lake Powell Pipeline Project
Utah Board of Water Resources

Hon. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 1st Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20426

Subject: Six-Month Progress Report
The Lake Powell Pipeline Project, FERC Project No. P-12966-003

Dear Secretary,

On May 14, 2014, the Utah Board of Water Resources was granted an extension of term for Preliminary Permit by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Project No. P-12966-003, for a period of two years to study and investigate the feasibility of the proposed project to be located between Lake Powell on the Colorado River and Sand Hollow Reservoir, through Kane and Washington Counties, Utah and through Coconino and Mohave Counties, Arizona. Article 4 of the Preliminary Permit requires that the six-month progress report be filed electronically with the FERC at the end of each six-month period. The required progress report for the eighth six-month period from November 1, 2014 through April 30, 2015, is attached for electronic filing.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact me at (801) 538-7230. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Eric L. Millis, P.E.
Director

ELM/bdl
Attachment



Intervener's List – FERC Project 12966-003 Six-Month Progress Report

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-- Utah Board of Water Resources --

Eighth Six-Month Progress Report
for the Preliminary Permit

on the

Lake Powell Pipeline Project
FERC No. 12966-003

submitted to the

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

November 1, 2014 to April 30, 2015

(4) Progress Report:

During the eighth six-month permit period: the Permittee received additional comments on the updated Draft Class III Archaeological and Historic-Era Resources Study Report from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and a representative of three Native American tribes; further revised the draft Class III report incorporating received comments to prepare the Lake Powell Pipeline Final Draft Class III Report for review and concurrence by the Utah and Arizona State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPOs); submitted the Lake Powell Pipeline Final Draft Class III Report to the Utah and Arizona SHPOs for review and concurrence; received Arizona and Utah SHPO review comments on the Lake Powell Pipeline Final Draft Class III Report; prepared a Plan of Work requested by BLM to perform requested field work to address SHPO comments; continued preparing portions of the draft Historic Properties Management Plan (HPMP); continued updating the Water Needs Assessment model to incorporate the GOPB 2012 population projections, revised Utah 25 percent water use reduction goal by 2025 (previously 2050), and Virgin River Climate Change Analysis prepared by the Bureau of Reclamation for UDWR; continued preparing future water supply and demand analyses to update the Water Needs Assessment; continued updating the Virgin River Daily Simulation Model for incorporation of results into final study reports; continued preparing portions of the draft Preliminary Licensing Proposal; and continued consultations with federal and state resource and regulatory agencies and Indian tribes. The Permittee continues to incorporate responses to comments on the Initial Study Report and Modified Study Report into the final study reports, based on the responses filed with the Commission by the UWDR on behalf of the Utah Board of Water Resources (UBWR).

During this period, the Permittee coordinated with the Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, and Bureau of Reclamation on the Final Draft Class III report and other project-related documents. Some of the activities related to environmental studies included:

- Coordination with Bureau of Land Management representatives to discuss their comments on the preliminary Final Draft Cultural Resources Class III Report, needs for submitting the Final Draft Class III report to the Utah and Arizona SHPOs, and the Arizona and Utah SHPOs review comments on the Final Draft Cultural Resources Class III Report;
- Correspondence with the Utah SHPO to clarify their review comments on the Final Draft Cultural Resources Class III Report;
- Continued follow-on consultation regarding results of cultural resource investigations;
- Continued discussion with the Bureau of Land Management regarding LPP impacts on resources;
- Continued discussion with the Bureau of Reclamation regarding the updated Colorado River System Simulation (CRSS) and LPP impacts on resources ; and

- Continued coordination with Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Bureau of Reclamation to discuss LPP project updates and agency activities.

This period included continued preparation of the preliminary draft biological assessment on listed threatened, endangered and candidate species that could be affected by construction and operation of the LPP Project.

During the ninth six-month period under the Successive Permit, the Permittee will: complete the updated final Water Needs Assessment, Socioeconomics and Water Resource Economics, Land Use Plans and Conflicts, and other associated study reports incorporating the GOPB’s 2012 final population projections released in January 2013, Utah Governor’s revised 25 percent reduction goal by 2025, and the Bureau of Reclamation’s Virgin River Climate Change Analysis study; incorporate the Bureau of Reclamation’s pending updated CRSS model results into the Surface Water Resources, Surface Water Quality, and Socioeconomics and Water Resource Economics final study reports; complete the Final Class III Report incorporating all Bureau of Land Management and Department of the Interior comments and addressing Arizona and Utah SHPO review comments; submit the Final Class III Report to the Utah and Arizona SHPOs for concurrence; incorporate the natural gas pipeline alternative into all applicable study reports; provide further study results to involved agencies for review and comment; coordinate with the involved agencies on mitigation measures; incorporate pending results of the updated CRSS model and Virgin River Daily Simulation Model into the preliminary draft biological assessment and complete the preliminary draft biological assessment for submittal and review by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; complete all other final study reports; and undertake other consultations as appropriate. The Permittee expects to continue adhering to the ILP with an overall schedule as follows:

File Preliminary Licensing Proposal:	October 2015
Prepare and File License Application:	October 2015 through March 2016

Please contact our Project Manager, Mr. Bill Leeflang, at (801) 538-7293, if you require additional information.

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