

Department of Energy

Official File

Bonneville Power Administration P.O. Box 3621 Portland, Oregon 97208-3621

ENVIRONMENT, FISH AND WILDLIFE

April 15, 2016

In reply refer to: ECF-4

To: Parties interested in the Columbia Estuary Ecosystem Restoration Program

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Portland District (Corps) have prepared a draft environmental assessment (EA) for the Columbia Estuary Ecosystem Restoration Program (estuary restoration program). The EA describes the estuary restoration program, discusses the environmental impacts of actions and projects implemented under the program, and lists mitigation measures that help lessen those impacts.

Currently projects implemented under the estuary restoration program are reviewed under the National Environmental Policy Act on an individual basis. Through the development of this EA, BPA and the Corps have assessed the impacts of the program as a whole and plan to tier future environmental review for individual projects to this EA. Comments submitted during the public scoping period last fall informed the environmental analysis in this document. This letter requests your comment on the draft EA and outlines the next steps.

How to Comment: Please submit your comments by **May 16, 2016** and reference the Columbia Estuary Ecosystem Restoration Program. Choose the way you would like to comment:

Mail:	Bonneville Power Administration	Toll-free:	800-622-4519
	Public Affairs – DKE-7	Online:	www.bpa.gov/comment
	P.O. Box 14428	FAX:	503-230-4019
	Portland, OR 97291-4428		

The draft EA is available at the project website: *www.bpa.gov/goto/EstuaryRestorationProgram*. All comments received can be viewed at the project website and will be addressed in the final EA. If you would like to request a hard copy (about 170 pages), please call our toll-free line listed above.

Schedule: The schedule for the EA is as follows:				
Draft EA available for public comment	April 15, 2016 to May 16, 2016			
Final EA	Summer 2016			
Finding of No Significant Impact (if warranted)	Summer 2016 and all comments received			

For More Information: If you have questions regarding the environmental process, please contact me toll-free at 800-622-4519, directly at 503-230-4454, or by e-mail at *kgcannell@bpa.gov* or Rob Shull, Contract Environmental Protection Specialist, FirstTekDOS, LLC., toll-free at 800-622-4519, directly at 503-230-3962, or by e-mail at *rwshull@bpa.gov*.

Thank you for your interest in our work.

Sincerely,

/s/ Kevin Cannell

Kevin Cannell Acting, Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist

Enclosures: Draft EA (if requested) Comment Form Return Envelope