

Grand Coulee Left and Right Powerhouse Crane Replacement

This proposed project will completely replace the four bridge cranes in the left and right powerhouses. The replacement includes all mechanical, structural and electrical components. The cranes have been in operation for about 70 years, well beyond the typical design life for machinery of this type. The cranes present numerous maintenance issues given their age and lack of spare parts. There are operational challenges with positioning and control of the cranes. One of the right powerhouse cranes has been down-rated, leaving the right powerhouse cranes unable to perform a turbine removal. Crane malfunctions could result in damage to components during lifting and present unsafe conditions for workers.

While the bridge cranes have been maintained in a reasonably operable condition, upcoming generator overhauls make it prudent to upgrade the cranes now so they can support that work. That work will require frequent crane use, many near capacity lifts and will require more precision control than the antiquated cranes can offer. Lack of availability, poor reliability or performance would result in work delays and costly slippage of schedules. In addition, the heavier lifts cannot currently be completed in the right powerhouse due to the downgraded condition of those cranes.