

## **SIX-MONTH PROGRESS REPORT**

**For the Period March, 2009 through August, 2009**

### **TAKATZ LAKE HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT**

FERC No. 13234-000

**City and Borough of Sitka Electric Department**

**September, 2009**

This report documents licensing activities for the Takatz Lake Hydroelectric Project (“Project”) during the Period March, 2009 through August, 2009. Biannual progress reports are required by a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) letter issuing a Preliminary Permit (“Permit”) for the Project, dated September 19, 2008.

#### **PROJECT BACKGROUND and CONTACT INFORMATION.**

The Project would be an approximately 27 megawatt (MW) installation located on the east shore of Baranof Island, near Sitka, Alaska. Details of the proposal are in the Permit Application, filed with the Commission on June 3, 2008.

The exact name, business address and contact numbers of the person authorized to act as agent for the Licensee is:

City & Borough of Sitka, Electric Department  
Attn: Christopher Brewton, Utility Director  
105 Jarvis Street  
Sitka, Alaska 99835  
Phone: 907-747-1870  
Fax: 907-747-3208

#### **PROGRESS DURING THE SECOND REPORTING PERIOD**

Progress during this reporting period related primarily to meeting Commission requirements for early consultation and Scoping. Actions in the next reporting period will include study planning and continuing engineering and economic feasibility studies.

#### **APPLICATION TO USE ALP**

On March 20, 2009, the City filed three documents with the Commission:

- A Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare a development license application;

- A Pre-Application Document (PAD), describing, among other features, the proposed project and potentially affected resources;
- A Request to Utilize Alternative Licensing Procedures (ALP), accompanied by signed letters of approval of a Draft Communications Protocol (CP) from various Alaska state and federal resource agencies.

The City is in receipt of letters from US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Forest Service and Sitka Conservation Society supporting the CP and use of the ALP.

## **SCOPING DOCUMENT 1 (SD1) AND SCOPING MEETINGS**

The City distributed SD1 to the Project Stakeholder mailing list on August 27, 2009. In SD1 were announcements for two public meetings to be held in Juneau and Sitka, Alaska, respectively, on October 7 and 8, 2009. Also in the SD1 was announcement for a site visit to be held on October 8, 2009.

## **ITEMS to be COMPLETED DURING NEXT 6-MONTH REPORTING PERIOD**

- **Preparation of Scoping Document 2 (SD2)**

Comments on SD1, the Scoping meetings and the site visit will be reviewed and incorporated, to the extent possible, in SD2. SD2 will serve as the reference for resource issues and impact analyses in the Environmental Assessment component of the Draft License Application (DLA) expected in late 2010.

- **Hydrologic Studies**

The City will coordinate with the Juneau office of the United States Geological Survey (USGS) to jointly visit the site and determine how best to install hydrologic monitoring equipment for Takatz Creek and, if felt necessary, certain Takatz Lake inflow tributaries. USGS personnel visited the Project site during the week of July 13, 2009, and installed telemetry to access stream gage data at an existing USGS gage on Takatz Creek.

- **LIDAR and Other Mapping Surveys**

The City will conduct a LIDAR overflight in late summer, 2009, to provide a ground-level base map for more detailed engineering design and feasibility studies.

- **Ongoing Engineering Feasibility Evaluations**

The City will use hydrologic and LIDAR survey data to assess project feasibility from energy production and constructability standpoints. Design and feasibility assessments from these efforts will be utilized in the DLA.

- **Resource Reconnaissance Surveys**

The City will conduct reconnaissance studies during the late summer and early fall, 2009, to gain insights into access and logistics conditions into the Project area to assist the resource study planning process described below. Of particular interest during these reconnaissance visits will be conditions relating to fisheries, wildlife, botanical water resources and cultural resources studies.

- **Study Planning**

Based on comments on the PAD and SD1, the City will initiate formal study planning. The City will prepare draft study plans for all resources requested in the comments, and for others necessary for preparation of the DLA. Study planning will continue throughout the fall and winter of 2009-2010, with the objective of beginning certain studies as early as April, 2010.

If you have questions or comments, don't hesitate to contact me at 907-747-1870, or via email at [chrisb@cityofsitka.com](mailto:chrisb@cityofsitka.com).

Thanks for your participation in and continued guidance on the Takatz Lake hydro project development.

Sincerely,



Christopher Brewton, Director  
City and Borough of Sitka Electric Department

Cc:

Takatz Project Stakeholder list.  
Joe Adamson, FERC staff