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Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Acting Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20426

**Subject: Pioneer Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 2722)
Draft Joint Conduit Exemption and License Surrender Application for
Review**

Dear Acting Secretary Reese:

PacifiCorp is preparing to jointly apply to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for a conduit exemption for the Pioneer Hydroelectric Project (Pioneer Project or Project) (FERC Project No. 2722) from certain provisions of Part I of the Federal Power Act (FPA) and for an administrative surrender of the existing FERC Project license. PacifiCorp is the owner, operator, and licensee of the Project located partially within Ogden Canyon, and partially within the city of Ogden, in Weber, Utah. The current FERC Project license was issued on May 26, 2000, with an effective date of September 1, 2000; it expires on August 31, 2030 (88 FERC ¶ 62,300).

Pursuant to Title 18 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 4.38(a)(6)(ii), PacifiCorp formally initiated the first stage of consultation with the filing of an Initial Consultation Document (ICD) on January 31, 2024, and subsequently hosted a Joint Agency and Public Meeting in Ogden, Utah on March 20, 2024. Since beginning consultation with interested parties regarding the proposed project, PacifiCorp has received letters of support from the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Utah Department of Wildlife Resources (UDWR), and the Utah Department of Environmental Quality (UDEQ) for the proposed action. No comments were received on PacifiCorp's ICD following its publication and the PacifiCorp-hosted Joint Agency and Public Meeting. Pursuant to 18 CFR 4.30 and 4.90, PacifiCorp is now initiating the second stage of consultation by circulating this draft Joint Conduit Exemption and License Surrender Application (Joint Application) for a 90-day review and comment period. Given the administrative nature of the Proposed Action, PacifiCorp is not proposing studies nor anticipating study requests, and therefore aims to file a Final Joint Application by early fall 2024.

The Project operates as a 5.0-megawatt run-of-river facility and generates utilizing a 5.5-mile flowline (Ogden Canyon Conduit) shared with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's (Reclamation) Ogden River Project. Flows are diverted directly at Reclamation's Pineview Dam and into the shared Project intake structure, where they travel 5.5-miles through the Ogden Canyon Conduit before entering a surge tank, penstock, and powerhouse. Flows released into the Project's tailrace canal are diverted into a system of canals which supply irrigation for multiple agricultural interests. Flows that are not consumed (if any) return to the Ogden River. The Ogden River Project operates irrespective of the Pioneer Project and PacifiCorp has no control over the distribution of water from Pineview Dam to PacifiCorp or other water users upstream of the Pioneer Project.

Pursuant to 18 CFR 4.30(b)(30), the Pioneer Project is used for electric power generation, has an installed capacity of 5 megawatts (MW) (less than the 40-MW threshold), is not an integral part of a dam, does not rely on the construction of a dam, is located on a conduit with the primary purpose of agricultural water use, and discharges directly to a point of agricultural consumption by a network of irrigation interests. The Pioneer Project was originally constructed for the generation of hydroelectric power; however, as agricultural development expanded west of the Project area, the primary function of Project facilities, namely the flowline, surge tank, penstock, and tailrace canal, were altered. Development of the Reclamation's Ogden River Project inherently modified the primary purpose of the Project, as well as the Pioneer intake, flowline, penstock, and tailrace canal, to become integral components of the Ogden River Project irrigation water supply system for agricultural use, thus qualifying it under Section 30(a)(2) of the Federal Power Act as a conduit exempt facility.

In accordance with 18 CFR 4.32, all interested parties may obtain a copy of the Draft Joint Application through FERC's eLibrary website at <https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/search> by searching the docket number (P-2722) or on PacifiCorp's public website at <https://www.pacificorp.com/energy/hydro/pioneer.html>. Parties on the attached distribution list have been provided with either an electronic or hard copy of this cover letter. This letter and its enclosures have been filed electronically. The security classification of each component in this packet is shown in the enclosure table below. If you have any questions concerning these documents, please contact Eve Davies, Pioneer Exemption Project Manager, at 801-232-1704 or eve.davies@pacificorp.com.

Sincerely,



William C. Shallenberger
Vice President, Renewable Resources

WCS:ED:EW:TH:DS

Encl:	Cover Letter – Public
	Interested Party Distribution List – Public
	Draft Joint Conduit Exemption and License Surrender Application – Public

eFile:	Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Acting Secretary via eFile at www.ferc.gov
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**DRAFT JOINT CONDUIT EXEMPTION AND
LICENSE SURRENDER APPLICATION – PUBLIC**