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VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

May 28, 2024

DEBBIE-ANNE A. REESE
ACTING SECRETARY
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
888 FIRST STREET, NE
WASHINGTON, DC 20426

Re: Newhalem Creek Hydroelectric Project, FERC Project No. 2705-037 – Response to
Comments on Environmental Assessment

Dear Acting Secretary Reese:

On March 29, 2024, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) staff issued an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed license surrender and decommissioning of the Newhalem Creek Hydroelectric Project No. 2705 (Project). The Commission established a deadline of May 13, 2024 for comments on the EA. The Commission received eleven sets of comments on the EA, including comments filed by the Project licensee, Seattle City Light (City Light). While the Commission's notice did not establish a deadline for reply comments, FERC's regulations provide that answers to pleadings must be filed within 30 days.¹ Due to the myriad of issues and new information presented in the stakeholder comments on the EA, City Light will require additional time to review and respond. For that reason, City Light is notifying the Commission that it intends to submit its reply comments within 60 days of the EA comment deadline, by Friday July 12, 2024. To the extent necessary, City Light requests that Commission staff grant waiver of its regulation to accommodate this filing deadline.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at (206) 684-3117.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Shelly Adams".

Shelly Adams
Decommissioning Project Manager
Newhalem Creek Hydroelectric Project
Seattle City Light

¹ 18 C.F.R. § 385.213(d)(2)(ii).

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