

Dam Removal Updates as of July 2021

The Klamath River dams have now been transferred from Warren Buffet's Pacific Power to the Klamath River Renewal Corporation (KRRRC) for the purpose of dam removal. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) is now taking comments for the scoping process under public input laws (NEPA) for an analysis of dam removal. Klamath dam removal has been intensely studied - including through a full FERC analysis - for over 15 years. Numerous studies and all analyses prove dam removal is safe and will greatly benefit salmon, Tribes, and water quality - without harming water supply for farmers.

During these 15 years, Klamath salmon numbers have declined dramatically and the river has experienced multiple juvenile fish kills. Water quality has declined to the point that it is often not safe to touch the Klamath River due to toxic algae. Both the fish kills and toxic algae have been linked to the dams.

Please tell FERC to rely on past studies and analyses and to quickly approve dam removal. Our salmon cannot wait.

FERC Meetings July 20, 21, 22, 6-9pm:

- A brief introduction by FERC staff and the Klamath River Renewal Corporation will begin promptly at the start of each meeting.
- These are specifically scoping meetings, meaning that FERC is soliciting input about what should be within the scope of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR). These are not meetings for folks to express general support for dam removal. They are looking for specific suggestions for the EIR.
- FERC already intends to analyze: geology and soils; water quantity; water quality; aquatic resources; terrestrial resources; threatened and endangered species; recreation; land use; aesthetic resources; socioeconomics; cultural resources; air quality, noise, and greenhouse gas emissions; developmental resources.
- ***Our message:*** There are already decades worth of research, reports, comments, and testimonies. Sufficient environmental review has already been completed. FERC already knows what they need to analyze and has the resources available to do so. This is a time sensitive issue and they should expedite the process. FERC should finalize the final Environmental Impact Statement as soon as possible. We cannot withstand any more delays.

Points to Emphasize:

- Numerous studies have demonstrated that dam removal would restore river flows (cite?), enable salmon to migrate to the upper basin (cite?), and would benefit habitat conditions downstream (cite).
- By improving river conditions and supporting healthy fish populations, dam removal will directly benefit Tribal cultures, as well as fishing and food economies throughout the region and state.
- Dam removal is the only way to combat toxic algal blooms that plague the river and river communities each summer.
- Dam removal is more economical than retrofitting the dams to include fish ladders. In its 2007 Environmental Impact Report, FERC found that PacifiCorp would lose \$20 million per year if the dams were relicensed (FERC FEIS, Nov. 2007, Table 4-3 on pg. 4-2).
- No farms, ranches, or municipalities would have their water supply impacted by dam removal. Most agricultural water supply comes from Upper Klamath Lake, which is not impacted by dam removal.
- California and Oregon have already approved dam removal permits and the costs of dam removal to PacifiCorp customers (\$200 million) has already been collected.

What to Expect:

Submitting Oral Comments:

Call in number: 888-604-9359 Participant passcode: 8998724

- If you intend to submit comments at the virtual/oral scoping session, individual oral comments will be taken on a one-on-one basis with a court reporter on the line.
- You may call any time during the 6-9pm period. You will initially be placed on mute and hold. Calls will be answered in the order they are received. Once answered, you will have the opportunity to provide your comments directly to a court reporter. FERC staff or a representative may also be present on the line.
- A time limit of three minutes will be implemented for each commenter.
- The reporter will transcribe what you say. You will not be able to hear or observe other people's comments, but transcripts of all comments received during the scoping sessions will be publicly available on FERC's eLibrary system.

Submitting Written Comments:

There are three ways to submit written comments. **Written comments must be received by August 19, 2021.**

[Step-by-step instructions for submitting comments can also be found here](#)

1. [Click here to submit brief, text-only comments.](#) After you fill in this form, you will receive an email from ferc.gov with a link to the comment system. Please create your

comments in a Word or Text file (up to 6,000 characters) before you begin, then copy/paste them in the eComment Text Box to avoid time-out limits.

2. Choose this option if you want to submit longer comments, or upload documents such as Word Docs or PDFs. To do this, you must first make a FERC Online Account ([click here to create an account](#)). After creating an account, [log in here](#) to submit your documents.
3. Mail in physical paper comments/documents. Reference the project docket number: Project No. 14803-001 and P-2082-063.

If using USPS:

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission,
888 First Street NE, Room 1A,
Washington, DC 20426

Filing Instructions from Reconnect Klamath:

To file a short written comment (less than 6,000 characters long) as a citizen representing only yourself, use FERC's eComment system.

STEP 1: Type up your comments in your favorite word processing application and make sure what you've written is less than 6,000 characters long (about 2 pages or less). To help get you started there is a draft comment letter at reconnectklamath.org

STEP 2: Click on ferconline.ferc.gov/QuickComment. Fill in the online form with your contact information.

STEP 3: Check your inbox for an email from FERC. Click the link in that email to go back to FERC. Now you can add the project number you are commenting on. The Klamath Dam removal project has two numbers: P-2082-062 and P-14803-000. Enter these one at a time into the appropriate "search" field. Tell it to search. When it presents the project number, click it to add to your comment. Then in the comment field copy and paste your comment.

STEP 4 Hit submit. You're all set! Thanks!

To file on behalf of a company, agency, organization, association, or other non-individual OR if you are an individual with comments over 6,000 characters long, you must use the Commission's eFiling system at ferconline.ferc.gov/eRegistration.aspx

The eFiling system requires that you have an unrestricted eRegister account. Follow the link and directions to file your comment.

Note: It makes no difference which system – eComments or eFiling – you use to submit comments. All comments submitted under either option are placed in the official record for the specified docket or project number(s).

Mail in physical paper comments/documents. Reference the project docket number: Project No. 14803-001 and P-2082-063.

If using USPS: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426