

June 13, 2002

The Honorable Magalie R. Salas  
Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street NE  
Washington, DC 20426

Via US Express Mail: EL826316375US

**Re: Cooper Lake Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2170):**  
**(1) Communications Protocol;**  
**(2) Meeting notes from May 16 and 17 meetings to discuss potential relicensing studies and 2002 data collection efforts**

### **Communications Protocol**

At the March 19 public meeting on the Cooper Lake Project relicensing process, meeting participants suggested that it would be helpful to have a communications protocol to establish standards and procedures for Chugach's communications with relicensing participants. Based on these suggestions, Chugach has prepared the attached Communications Protocol. Communications throughout the relicensing process will include meetings, documents, and correspondence. The protocol is intended to facilitate such communications and enhance cooperation among Chugach and the relicensing participants. Chugach will implement this protocol and follow its provisions from this point forward through the relicensing process.

### **May 16 and 17 Meetings on 2002 Data Collection**

Also enclosed are the meeting notes and attendance lists from the May 16–17 meeting to discuss data-collection efforts for 2002 to support relicensing studies in 2003. The meeting was held at Chugach's main office in Anchorage and was attended by representatives of several of the agencies participating in the relicensing process, and by members of the Chugach relicensing team and HDR Alaska, Inc., Chugach's environmental studies contractor for the relicensing.

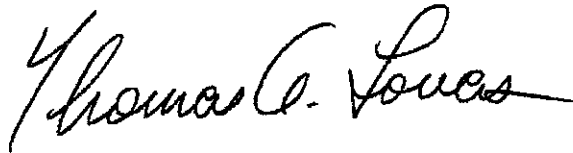
The meeting notes are in the table format that was used with the group during the meeting to capture input regarding potential relicensing studies and specific near-term data collection efforts. Notes on efforts for 2002 suggested by agency representatives were recorded during the meeting in the right-hand column of the tables, which were subsequently edited for clarity and completeness by HDR and Long View Associates. Chugach will use this input to make its final decisions regarding efforts to be conducted in 2002. The 2002 work will be focused on developing baseline-type information needed to characterize the existing Project environment and to support impact assessment studies in 2003. Chugach will determine the scope of the 2003 studies based on the input to date, formal study requests submitted this fall in response to the Initial Consultation Package, and planned further discussions with participants in late 2002 and early 2003, as well as other considerations, such as budgetary constraints.

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We truly appreciate the time and effort given by those who participated in the May 16-17 work sessions. These discussions have helped us in getting a fuller picture of relicensing issues and information needs so that we can plan the next two years' field efforts to make the most effective use of the available study time. We look forward to additional opportunities over the next several months to interact with relicensing participants and continue discussions on relicensing studies.

Sincerely,

CHUGACH ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas A. Lovas". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'T'.

Thomas A. Lovas, Manager  
System Development & Corporate Planning  
Cooper Lake Relicensing Project Manager

Enclosures