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January 14, 2019

Elizabeth L. O'Neal
External Affairs Program Lead
Environmental and Legal Affairs Section
Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Via Email: Elizabeth.oneal@dnr.wa.gov

RE: Northwest Pipeline LLC (Northwest), Wenatchee Line Pipe Exposure – MP 131
SEPA DNS 18-072

Dear Ms. O'Neal,

I have received your comments on the above-referenced project through the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) SEPA Center. I have prepared the below responses to your comments.

Comment:

A. Background

4. The date should be 2018.
6. February construction date may be difficult to meet due to permitting needed.
8. DNR will need to review each of these (engineering analysis report, cultural resources survey and report.
10. A DNR license will be required for construction outside of the R/W and a DNR Easement may be required if the structure extends beyond the existing R/W (87' structure all within 75' R/W?).
11. DNR will need to see the draft design.

Response:

The SEPA checklists did have a typo and it should show that the checklist was prepared November 20, 2018 and not November 20, 2019.

The construction date is flexible with a target date in February. Northwest would like to complete construction prior to anticipated spring runoff in order to mitigate impacts associated with large storm flows and mobilized debris to the infrastructure. Spring runoff could also affect the ability of Northwest to construct efficiently and safely. However, this is largely dependent on permit approvals and land agreements. Northwest acknowledges that starting construction in February may not be feasible.

A copy of the engineering analysis and permit level draft design is included with this response. A copy of the cultural resources report will be provided to the DNR when it is completed.

Northwest's land representative will work with DNR to obtain the necessary licenses and easement agreements.

Comment:

B. Environmental Elements

4. d. Plants. Equipment needs to be cleaned before and after construction, and DNR needs to approve the revegetation mix.

13. a. Historical and cultural preservation. DNR will need to review this report. A permit for these studies should be requested from DNR and issued prior to engaging in the activities on state land.

Response:

Equipment will be cleaned and inspected before and after construction to ensure it is clean and free of weeds to reduce the potential for invasion or spread of undesirable exotic vegetation.

Northwest will work with Matt Fromherz, DNR Southeast Region, to develop an appropriate seed mix for the project location.

A copy of the cultural resources report will be provided to DNR once it is completed. Northwest will work with Matt regarding the survey permit.

Sincerely,



Halli Harris
Senior Environmental Specialist
Northwest Pipeline LLC

cc: Matt Fromherz, WDNR Southeast Region
Lisa Wood, WDFW SEPA Coordinator
Eric Pentico, WDFW Habitat Biologist
Tammy Moore, Williams Project Manager
Audie Neuson, Williams Land Representative

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