

Questions and Answers

Definite Plan for the Lower Klamath Project

Updated July 2019

Q. What is the Definite Plan for the Lower Klamath Project?

A. The Definite Plan for the Lower Klamath Project (the “Definite Plan”), filed by the Klamath River Renewal Corporation (KRRRC), is a comprehensive document that provides extensive detail on the project design, deconstruction, and post-deconstruction restoration activities for the removal of the J.C. Boyle, Copco 1, Copco 2, and Iron Gate dams on the Klamath River in California and Oregon.

The purpose of the plan is to provide the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) with the information it requires to review and make decisions on KRRRC and PacifiCorp’s joint application for license transfer. FERC will subsequently use the Definite Plan to review KRRRC’s application for surrender of the license for the four dams.

The information provided will also facilitate FERC’s environmental review and fulfills a requirement of the amended Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement Agreement (KHSA) (Sections 7.2.1 and 7.2.2).

Q. When and where was the Definite Plan filed?

A. KRRRC filed the Definite Plan with FERC on June 28, 2018 as part of its application to transfer the license for the four dams. The full plan is available at www.klamathrenewal.org/definite-plan.

Q. What is in the Definite Plan?

A. The approximately 2,300-page Definite Plan provides specific details about the multi-year process of reservoir drawdown, dam removal, and restoration activities associated with decommissioning the J.C. Boyle, Copco 1, Copco 2, and Iron Gate dams. It includes technical, financial, environmental, and planning information across:

- A 317-page narrative,
- 46 tables,
- 136 figures, and
- 17 technical appendices.

Among the many topics addressed in the document are KRRC's plans to: manage construction impacts, manage impacts to groundwater wells, perform flood-proofing, improve roads and bridges, provide recreation opportunities, replace the City of Yreka water line, protect aquatic resources, and provide for ongoing fish hatchery operations. The plan also provides updated information on project costs and risk management.

Q. Why is the Definite Plan necessary?

A. The Definite Plan provides the information required by FERC to process the transfer application, and later the surrender application, associated with the lower Klamath project which involves both dam removal and site restoration. The Definite Plan also fulfills one of KRRC's duties under the KHSA. Finally, the Definite Plan is part of the proper due diligence and planning necessary for KRRC to undertake the project of dam removal and site restoration.

Q. Who wrote the Definite Plan?

A. The Definite Plan was developed by KRRC, an independent non-profit created by the amended Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement Agreement (KHSA). KRRC's technical representative, [AECOM Technical Services Inc.](#), was the primary author of the plan, under the direction of KRRC's Executive Director and Board, and with support from KRRC's legal, technical, and outreach teams.

Q. Does the Definite Plan reflect what will happen during the dam removal process?

A. The Definite Plan represents KRRC's plan for implementing the dam removal and site restoration project. However, as KRRC receives feedback from the Independent Board of Consultants (BOC) and from FERC, and as it continues to perform additional analyses and due diligence, some elements of the Definite Plan may be modified.

Q. What happens once the Definite Plan is submitted?

A. FERC will review the Definite Plan to evaluate the technical, legal, and fiscal capacities of KRRC to become licensee for the Lower Klamath Project. The BOC will provide an independent review. FERC may return to KRRC with further questions, information requests, or recommendations on the plan. KRRC will incorporate guidance from the BOC to modify the Definite Plan. KRRC expects a decision on the transfer application by mid-2019. If FERC approves the transfer application, FERC will then undertake a hearing on the surrender application, and the Definite Plan will be the basis for FERC's review of engineering feasibility, public safety, and environmental protections associated with dam removal.

Q. Is FERC required to approve the Definite Plan?

A. For KRRC to implement the dam removal project, FERC must approve both the license transfer and the license surrender applications. While FERC will not approve the Definite Plan specifically, the information in the Definite Plan, as well as any guidance or recommendations from the BOC or information provided in response to additional information requests from FERC, will greatly inform FERC's decisions on the transfer and surrender applications.

Q. When will dam removal occur?

A. The project must undergo thorough regulatory analyses and technical studies before dam removal may begin. At this time, KRRC anticipates a 2022 drawdown and removal, but that date is subject to change pending FERC and other regulatory agency actions. KRRC and its contractors stand ready to commence expeditiously once FERC provides the required approvals.