



# FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

**Date:** April 17, 2008  
**Public Utility District No. 2 of Grant County**  
**Docket No.** P-2114-116

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## **FERC Issues License For Priest Rapids Project**

**The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) today issued a new license to the Public Utility District No. 2 of Grant County, Washington (Grant PUD) for the continued operation of the Priest Rapids Hydroelectric Project on the mid-Columbia River in Washington.**

### **Background**

The original license for the Priest Rapids Project was issued on Nov. 4, 1955, and expired on Oct. 31, 2005. Since then the project has operated under annual licenses. FERC staff conducted a thorough environmental review of Grant PUD's license proposal and all reasonable alternatives, issuing a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in February 2006. A final EIS, which considered all the comments received on the draft EIS, was issued in November 2006.

### **The Order**

The Order issued today grants Grant PUD a 44-year license for the continued operation of the project. The license requires a number of measures to protect and enhance salmon, steelhead, bull trout, Pacific lamprey, white sturgeon, and resident fish; protect and enhance wildlife and associated habitat; enhance recreation opportunities; protect the scenic quality of the mid-Columbia River; and protect historic resources, as well as provide a dependable, renewable source of electric energy for the region.

The project, which has an authorized capacity of 1,893 megawatts (MW), will generate an average of 9,039,634 megawatt hours of electricity per year. It serves millions of customers in seven western states: Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, California and Utah.