DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY



MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DIVISION, CORPS OF ENGINEERS P.O. BOX 80 VICKSBURG, MISSISSIPPI 39181-0080

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF:

CEMVD-PD-N

1 1 AUG 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, Northwestern Division ATTN: (David Ponganis, CENWD-PDD)

SUBJECT: Howard Hanson Dam, Washington Additional Water Storage Project, Post Authorization Change, Engineering Documentation Report - Ecosystem Planning Center of Expertise Recommendation for Approval of Peer Review Plan (PRP)

1. References:

- a. EC 1105-2-408, Peer Review of Decision documents, 31 May 2005.
- b. CECW-CP Memorandum and attachment, 30 March 2007, subject: Peer Review Process.
- 2. The purpose of this Engineering Documentation Report (EDR) is to recommend an increase in the maximum amount the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is authorized to spend to complete the authorized Howard Hanson Dam Additional Water Supply Project (HHD AWSP) and to document the reasons for the recommendation. The changes in costs are mainly a result of design changes and contract modifications. The cost increases are not associated with changes in project purpose, local cooperation requirements, or the location of project, or as a result of modifications required by law.
- 3. The proposed PRP (encl) has been coordinated with the National Ecosystem Planning Center of Expertise (ECO-PCX) and concurred in by the ECO-PCX. Given the limited scope of this investigation, this PRP provides the appropriate level and review independence, establishes the procedures, and assigns responsibilities for conducting the peer review of the EDR to ensure the quality and credibility of all conclusions and recommendations and decisions presented in the EDR. The ECO-PCX concurs in the conclusion that external peer review of this project is not necessary since the EDR is not formulating or recommending a modification to the authorized plan, is not likely to develop or contain influential scientific information, and is not expected to be an influential scientific assessment. Non-substantive changes to this PRP do not require further approval.

CEMVD-PD-N

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- 4. The district should post the PRP to its web site and provide a link to the ECO-PCX for posting on their web page, as well as providing a copy of the final approved PRP to the ECO-PCX for their use. Before posting to the web site, the names of Corps/Army employees should be removed in accordance with reference 1.b. above.
- 5. Conclusion. The ECO-PCX recommends the PRP for approval by NWD.

Encl

Rayford Wilbanks

Director, National Ecosystem Planning

Center of Expertise

CF:

CEMVD-RB-T (D. Vigh)

CEMVR-PM-F (C. Knollenberg)

CENWD-PDD (J. Fredericks)

CENWS-PM-PL (M. Thomason)

CENWS-PM-CP-CJ (M. Brouwer)