Dworshak Stator and Cooler

This project will replace the generator stator winding, core and surface air coolers for Dworshak Unit 3. Unit 3 is a 220 MW unit installed in 1973 that provides over half of the plant's generation capacity. While Unit 3 provides significant financial value, it is also critical to successful environmental operations. An outage during the wrong time of year would pose serious environmental risk. If the unit is out of service for a prolonged period, the operators would need to spill the excess flow, risking total dissolved gas super-saturation downstream of Dworshak. The unit is also critical for temperature control operations to support fish survival in the Lower Snake River.

The near term critical work to improve Unit 3 reliability is the stator replacement. The stator is original equipment and has exceeded its typical design life. In August 2014, the unit tripped off-line due to a ground fault and remained off-line for 38 days for winding repairs. A detailed inspection of the core during that outage uncovered a number of areas of concern that led to the recommendation to replace the core as well as the winding. The risk of more frequent and severe failures will increase as the winding and core continue to degrade.