

Chronology of Relicensing of the Bear River Projects

- April 1996 – initiation of traditional relicensing process for the Soda, Grace-Cove, and Oneida Projects (FSCD issued).
- Relicensing studies were scoped with stakeholders; which included aquatics, terrestrial, recreation, cultural, land use, and aesthetics resources; and were conducted 1996-1998.
- January 1997 through March 1998 – “Delphi Approach” was utilized in an attempt to reach agreement with agency stakeholders on key issues, primarily flows related to project operations.
- November 1998 – Draft license applications issued for comments by stakeholders.
- June 1999 – PacifiCorp presented a draft settlement agreement to stakeholders in an attempt to resolve outstanding issues, but agreement was not reached.
- September 27, 1999 – License applications submitted to the FERC
- 2000 – Scoping meetings resulted in requests from stakeholders of more than 30 additional studies.
- June 2000 and January 2001 – FERC issued Additional Study Requests for information to complete their environmental analysis.
- August 2001 – AIR requests, communications with stakeholders, and results of consultant interview process indicated that agencies with prescriptive authorities under the FPA would prescribe costly mandatory measures that the FERC must include in the new licenses.
- November 2001 – PacifiCorp approached agency stakeholders and proposed settlement negotiations.
- December 2001 to April 2002 – Settlement discussions lead to an Agreement in Principle; draft Settlement Agreement was prepared and reviewed in subsequent meetings.
- August 28, 2002 – Final Settlement Agreement was signed by all stakeholders; formal Offer of Settlement was submitted to the FERC in September.
- November 1, 2002 – Draft EIS issued by the FERC; stakeholders coordinated comments were submitted to the FERC in December to ensure consistency with the Settlement Agreement.
- March 2003 – Draft 401 water quality certification expected to be issued consistent with Agreement; Final EIS expected.