

# CWA 401 Water Quality Certification Request

version 2.13

(Submission #: HQ8-F1NM-H0G94, version 1)

Digitally signed by:  
dec.alaska.gov  
Date: 2024.12.12 12:30:12 -09:00  
Reason: Submission Data  
Location: State of Alaska

## Details

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**Site:** Green Lake Hydroelectric Project Relicensing

**Submission ID** HQ8-F1NM-H0G94

## Form Input

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### Form Instructions

#### Form Instructions

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Instructions for filling out the 401 Prefiling Meeting Request Form are located on the Alaska DEC website at the link below.

[401 Prefiling Meeting Request Form Instructions](#)

**Agents:** For Delegation of Authority to act on behalf of the applicant in processing the application, use the following form, have signed, and upload with application.

- [Delegation of Authority - 401 Application](#)

### Contact Information (1 of 3)

#### Required Contacts

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The following **Contact Roles are REQUIRED**. Please select the appropriate role(s) for each contact and complete the contact details. Multiple role(s) may be assigned to each unique individual.

- **Applicant** (Responsible Party)
- **Billing Contact**

#### Contact Role(s)

Consultant

## Contact

### Prefix

NONE PROVIDED

### First Name Last Name

Elizabeth Lack

### Title

Regulatory Specialist

### Organization Name

McMillen for City and Borough of Sitka

### Phone Type Number Extension

Business 3072219984

### Email

lack@mcmillen.com

### Mailing Address

518 W. 27th St.

Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001

## Contact Information (2 of 3)

### Required Contacts

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The following **Contact Roles are REQUIRED**. Please select the appropriate role(s) for each contact and complete the contact details. Multiple role(s) may be assigned to each unique individual.

- **Applicant** (Responsible Party)
- **Billing Contact**

### Contact Role(s)

Applicant

## Contact

### Prefix

NONE PROVIDED

### First Name Last Name

Kord Christianson

### Title

Electric Department

### Organization Name

City and Borough of Sitka

### Phone Type Number Extension

Business 907-747-1886

### Email

kord.christianson@cityofsitka.org

### Mailing Address

105 Jarvis Street

Sitka, AK 99835

## Contact Information (3 of 3)

### Required Contacts

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The following **Contact Roles are REQUIRED**. Please select the appropriate role(s) for each contact and complete the contact details. Multiple role(s) may be assigned to each unique individual.

- **Applicant** (Responsible Party)
- **Billing Contact**

**Contact Role(s)**

Billing Contact

**Contact**

**Prefix**

NONE PROVIDED

**First Name      Last Name**

Kord                      Christianson

**Title**

Electric Department

**Organization Name**

City and Borough of Sitka

**Phone Type    Number                      Extension**

Business            907-747-1886

**Email**

kord.christianson@cityofsitka.org

**Mailing Address**

105 Jarvis Street

Sitka, AK 99835

**Project / Facility Site Info**

**Identify the applicable federal license or permit**

A copy of the federal permit or license application is required to be submitted with the request for the water quality certification. (18 AAC 15.130, 18 AAC 15.180)

**Federal Agency**

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)

**Permit License Number (ex. USACE: POA-XXXX-XXXX; FERC: FERC-xxxx-xxxx; EPA: AK#####)**

FERC Project P-2818

**Project Name or Title**

Green Lake Hydroelectric Project Relicensing

**Primary Receiving Waterbody Name**

Vodopad River

**Estimated Project Dates (+/- 30 days)**

Project Estimated Start Date	Project Estimated End/Completion Date
03/31/2029	03/31/2079

**Approximate date(s) when any Discharge(s) may commence (+/- 30 days)**

Description	Discharge Estimated Start Date	Discharge Estimated End Date
Ongoing operation of hydro project	10/23/2024	03/31/2079

**Project Description (Nature of Activity, include all features)**

The project is the relicensing by FERC for the Green Lake Hydroelectric Project near Sitka. The project was originally licensed in 1979 and the current license expires in 2029. The City and Borough of Sitka (CBS) is applying to FERC for a new license to continue operation of the project. CBS is not changing any project facilities or operation under a new license.

**Project Purpose (Describe the reason(s) for discharge)**

The project purpose is to continue operate the Green Lake Hydro project and does not involve any new construction or discharge of pollutants into waters of the U.S.

**Is any portion of the work already complete?**

Yes

**Please describe the completed work**

The project was constructed in the early 1980's and has been in continued operation since then.

**Description of current activity site conditions**

A description of the project facilities, operation, and existing environmental conditions is provided in the attached Pre-Application Document (PAD) that was submitted to FERC in March 2024 to kick off the relicensing process. Please refer to the PAD for a description of current site conditions. Note that the project includes an access road and transmission line that follows the access road from the powerplant to the substation for a distance of approximately 10 miles, therefore I clicked "yes" for "linear project".

**Relevant Site Data, Photographs that Represent Current Site Conditions, or other Relevant Documentation**

[Green Lake \(P-2818\) PAD.pdf - 11/27/2024 09:00 AM](#)

**Comment**

NONE PROVIDED

**Is this a linear project? (i.e., utility line, road, etc.)**

Yes

**Linear Feet**

52,000

**Project Address**

105 Jarvis Street  
Sitka, AK 99835

Visit the link below to help with conversion between DMS and Latitude/Longitude

[DSM - Lat/Long converter](#)

**Project Location**

56.987,-135.114

Visit the following link if you need to convert the lat/long to get the PLSS information

[Converter for Section, Township, and Range](#)

**PLSS Location (Public Land Survey System)**

State Tax Parcel ID	Borough/Municipality	Meridian	Section	Township	Range
NONE PROVIDED	City and Borough of Sitka	Copper River	29	56S	65E

**Directions to Site**

Starting in Sitka, follow Sawmill Creek road to Green Lake access road, which follows along the eastern shore of Silver Bay. Green Lake access road goes to Green Lake dam and the powerhouse on Silver Bay. Note that there is a locked gate on Green Lake access road that prevents public vehicular use. Contact the CBS Electric Department for access.

**Federal Agency Contact (1 of 1)**

**Have you been working with anyone in the Federal Agency?**

Yes

**Federal Contact Role**

FERC

## Federal Agency Contact

**First Name**    **Last Name**  
Jeff              Ackley

**Title**  
NONE PROVIDED

**Organization Name**  
FERC

**Phone Type**    **Number**            **Extension**  
Mobile            8064606778

**Email**  
jeffrey.ackley@ferc.gov

## Dredge Material to be Discharged

**Is dredging involved?**  
No

## Tier Analysis

A tier analysis is comprised of a layered approach to determine the need for testing the dredge material to aid in generating physical, chemical, toxicity and bioaccumulation information, but not more information than is necessary to make factual determinations. The tier analysis is a series of tiers (I - IV) or levels of intensity (and cost) of investigation. It is necessary to proceed through the tiers only until information is sufficient to make factual determinations, no further testing is required.

- **Tier I - Site Evaluation and History.** The initial tier (Tier I) uses readily available, existing information (including all previous testing). For certain dredge materials with readily apparent potential for environmental impact (or lack thereof), information collected in Tier I may be sufficient for making factual determinations.
- **Tier II - Chemical Testing** is concerned solely with sediment and water chemistry.
- **Tier III - Biological Testing (bioassay and/or bioaccumulation testing)** is concerned with well-defined, nationally accepted toxicity and bioaccumulation testing procedures.
- **Tier IV - Special Studies** allows for case-specific laboratory and field testing, and is intended to for use in unusual circumstances.

For more information regarding a Tier analysis, see below references

- [EPA Inland Testing Manual](#)
- [USACE Seattle District Civil Works DMMP User Manual](#)

## Fill Material to be Discharged

**Will Fill Material be Discharged?**  
No

**Surface area in (acres or linear feet) of wetlands or other waters filled**

Surface Area	Units
0.0	Linear Feet

## Discharge Location Information (1 of 1)

**Identify the location and nature of any potential discharge that may result from the proposed project and the location of receiving waters**

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**Discharge Location ID (001, 002, 003, - increment by one)**

001

NOTE: if you have a receiving water that is Wetlands, just enter the generic term "Wetlands". Do not enter "Wetlands of Tanana River", for example.

Please select 'Other' if your waterbody is not in the list below.  
You can start typing the name of the waterbody to filter the list.

**Receiving Waterbody / Wetlands Name**

Vodopad River

**Discharge Location**

56.987,-135.114

**Other Pollutant Sources**

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**Contaminated Site Information**

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Determine if your project is **within 1,500 feet** of a known Alaska DEC Contaminated Site. See the *Alaska DEC Contaminated Web Map* below. This will help you to identify if any potential pollutants/parameters of concern may be present on your project site., see DEC's website:

- [Contaminated Sites Web Map](#)
- [Contaminated Sites Database Search website](#)

**Is the project within 1,500 feet of a known contaminated site?**

Yes

**Contaminated Sites**

Hazard ID#	Contaminated Site Name	Contaminant Type	Latitude	Longitude	In soil or groundwater?	CS Staff Contact
24655	Green Lake Hydro Plant	Petroleum - LUST	56.975334	-135.079863	Soil	Kristen Thompson

**Describe the identified contaminated site(s) or groundwater plume within 1,500 feet**

This site was addressed in 2002 and administratively closed in 2016.

**Parameters of Concern that may be present in discharge**

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**Parameter(s) of Concern**

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Identify the parameters of concern that may be present in your discharge from the dredge and/or fill material.

Note, **TURBIDITY** and **SEDIMENT** are routine parameters associated with dredge and/or fill activities.

Consider if other parameters may be present from past activities in the area such as contaminated site data, impaired waters or other relevant water quality data, or other parameters of concern identified during the application process.

**Parameter(s)**

Other: No parameters of concern

**If known, describe respective concentrations, persistence, and potential impacts to the receiving water and data on parameters that may alter the effects of the discharge to the receiving water**

Green Lake water quality data is provided in the attached PAD

**Impaired Waters**

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An **impaired waterbody** are those listed as a **Category 4 [304(b)] or Category 5 [303(d)]** in the current EPA approved **Alaska's Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report**.

For the most recently *Approved Integrated Water Quality Monitoring And Assessment Report (Integrated Report)*, see DEC's website:

- **Integrated Water Quality Monitoring And Assessment Report** <https://dec.alaska.gov/water/water-quality/integrated-report>

**Does a discharge of any parameter identified above occur to an impaired waterbody?**

No

If determined necessary and requested by the Department, submit sufficient and credible baseline water quality information for the receiving water which meets the requirements of 18 AAC 70.016(a)(6)(A-C).

**Avoidance & Minimization BMPs and Mitigation Measures**

**Describe how impacts are being avoided and minimized on the project site. Include best management practices (BMPs) for sediment and erosion controls that will be implemented to minimize environmental impacts, and any methods and means proposed to monitor the discharge and the equipment or measures planned to treat, control, or manage the discharge.**

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**Include a description of any methods and means proposed to monitor the discharge and the equipment or measures planned to treat, control, or manage the discharge**

Since the project does not involve any new construction or discharge of pollutants into waters of the U.S., no monitoring or management of discharge is proposed.

**Avoidance Measures**

Since the project does not involve any new construction or discharge of pollutants into waters of the U.S., no avoidance measures are proposed.

**Minimization Measures**

Since the project does not involve any new construction or discharge of pollutants into waters of the U.S., no minimization measures are proposed.

**Mitigation Measures**

Since the project does not involve any new construction or discharge of pollutants into waters of the U.S., no mitigation measures are proposed.

**Social / Economic Importance**

**Social or Economic Importance**

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(18 AAC 70.016(c)(5): Provide information that demonstrates the accommodation of important social or economic development. The applicant shall complete either a social OR economic importance analysis (or both) for each affected community in the area where the receiving water for the proposed discharge is located.

### Social Importance Analysis

Community services provided  
Recreational opportunities

### Economic Importance Analysis

NONE PROVIDED

### Describe Social and/or Economic Importance of the project

CBS owns and operates 2 hydroelectric plants (Green Lake and Blue Lake), which provide 100% clean, renewable power to the community of Sitka, an essential service for the community. The Green Lake access road and Green Lake itself also provide recreational opportunities including hiking, biking, boating, and fishing. Additional information can be found in the attached PAD.

### Description of Social or Economic Importance, if needed

NONE PROVIDED

#### Comment

NONE PROVIDED

### List of Other Permits or Certificates

\*Would include but is not restricted to zoning, building, and flood plain permits.

Include a list of all other federal, interstate, tribal, state, territorial, or local agency authorizations required for the proposed project, including all approvals or denials already received.

Agency	Type of Approval*	Identification Number	Date Applied	Date Approved	Date Denied
FERC	Major License	P-2818	09/19/1977	04/05/1979	NONE PROVIDED

### Other Agency or Local Contacts (1 of 1)

#### Contact Role

OTHER\_REG\_CNTCT

#### Other Agency and or Local Contacts

##### First Name Last Name

Troy Tydingco

##### Title

Area Manager

##### Organization Name

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

##### Phone Type Number Extension

Business 9077475379

##### Email

troy.tydingco@alaska.gov

### Attachments

#### Copy of Federal Application (USACE, EPA, or FERC, etc.)

[1979.04.05 Green Lake License.pdf - 12/12/2024 12:07 PM](#)

#### Comment

The anticipated date to submit the application for a new license to FERC is 2027. The application process is a multi-year process that was begun in March 2024 with submittal of the Notice of Intent and PAD to FERC. The PAD was previously uploaded. For your reference, the current license (issued in 1979) is attached.



**Figures and/or Drawings/Plan Sets. To include a map or diagram of the proposed activity site, including the proposed activity boundaries in relation to local streets, roads, and highways.**

[GL Application for License September 1977 - Long pages of drawings.pdf - 12/12/2024 12:14 PM](#)

[GL Application for License September 1977.pdf - 12/12/2024 12:14 PM](#)

[GL Application for License - Exhibit W Environmental Report - September 1977.pdf - 12/12/2024 12:14 PM](#)

**Comment**

The previously uploaded PAD includes current maps and the FERC project boundary. The 1977 FERC application (uploaded here) for the project includes maps and drawings.

**Document Attachments**

NONE PROVIDED

**Comment**

NONE PROVIDED

**Delegation of Authority for Submission of Application**

NONE PROVIDED

**Comment**

NONE PROVIDED

As per 18 AAC 15.030 signing of applications, all permit or approval applications must be signed as follows:

- 1) in the case of corporations, by a principal executive officer of at least the level of vice president or his duly authorized representative, if the representative is responsible for the overall management of the project or operation;
- 2) in the case of a partnership, by a general partner;
- 3) in the case of a sole proprietorship, by the proprietor; and
- 4) in the case of a municipal, state, federal or other public facility, by either a principal executive officer, ranking elected official, or other duly authorized employee.

The project proponent hereby certifies that all information contained herein is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. The project proponent hereby requests that the certifying authority review and take action on this CWA 401 certification request within the applicable reasonable period of time.