

Meeting Summary

To:	Jennie Holstrom, KPU	Date:	10/8/2025
From:	Samantha Owen, McMillen	Job no:	24-124
cc:	Cory Warnock, McMillen		
Project:	Ketchikan Lakes Relicensing		
Subject:	PSP Meeting		

1.0 Background

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of the Proposed Study Plan (PSP) meeting was to go over KPU's PSP which was filed on September 9th, 2025. The PSP meeting was held in accordance with 18 CFR § 5.11(e). The meeting started at 1:00 pm AKT and was adjourned at approximately 1:52 pm AKT.

1.2 Agenda

Time	Description	Lead
1:00-1:05	Introduction and Meeting Agenda	McMillen
1:05-1:20	Project Overview	KPU
1:20-1:40	Project Relicensing Overview	McMillen
1:40-1:50	Stakeholder Engagement	McMillen
1:50-2:05	Cultural Resources Study	CRC
2:05-2:10	Questions	All Meeting Participants
2:10-2:30	Ketchikan Creek Fish Use and Instream Barrier Assessment	BioAnalysts
2:30-2:35	Questions	All Meeting Participants
2:35-2:50	Ketchikan Creek Hydrology Assessment	McMillen
2:50-2:55	Questions	All Meeting Participants
2:55-3:00	Study Timeline	McMillen
3:00	Adjourn	All Meeting Participants

*Alaska Time Zone

1.3 Attendance

The following people attended the meeting:

Name	Role/Organization	Present
Jennie Holstrom	KPU Electric Division	☒
Cory Warnock	McMillen	☒
Jeanette Ayala	McMillen	☒
Chuck Sauvageau	McMillen	☒
Audrey Thompson	McMillen	☒
John Stevenson	BioAnalysts	☒
Mike Yarborough	CRC	☒
Aubrey Morrison	CRC	☒
Clint Gundelfinger	ADNR	☒
McKenzie Herring	ADNR	☒
Willow Weimer	ADEC	☒
Ann Marie Larquier	ADFG	☒
Mark Minnillo	ADFG	☒
Jason Hass	ADFG	☒
Rebecca Brodeur	FERC	☒
Cathy Tighe	USFS	☒

2.0 Meeting Summary

2.1 Project Overview

Jennie Holstrom provided an overview of the Project, including a layout of the Project facilities. The Project is a 4.2 MW hydroelectric plant with 3 Francis turbines with a total rated capacity of 4,200 kW. It is owned and operated by City of Ketchikan, Alaska Ketchikan Public Utilities. The Hydroelectric project is interconnected with the City's Water Supply and there is a feasibility project (aside from this relicensing) to construct a separate water supply pipeline. Due to water quality concerns public access to the lake or Project area is not allowed. The existing license issued in 2000, has the Project operate with ramping rate limits on a Daylight and Night, Time-of-Year schedule.

2.2 FERC Relicensing Overview

Cory Warnock presented an overview of the relicensing process to date, which has included filing of the PAD, FERC's issuance of Scoping Document 1, notice Scoping Document 2 not warranted, site visits and scoping meetings, and filing of study requests and the PSP. More information about the FERC relicensing process to date can be obtained by searching the FERC eLibrary under the Project's docket number, P-420.

2.3 Stakeholder Engagement

Cory Warnock presented an overview of the stakeholder engagement that has been conducted by KPU to date, which has included one-on-one meetings with potential licensing participants prior to PAD filing. To be added to the general Project email list please contact Jeanette Ayala at ayala@mcmillen.com.

2.4 Proposed Studies

2.4.1 Cultural Resources Study

Section 106 requires FERC to take into consideration historically significant properties. There was a previous Cultural Resources Study done in 1997 for the last license, there were 5 sites identified. The Proposed APE is the existing FERC Project Boundary.

Methodology: Use background research to guide field survey and if deemed necessary during consultation, collect physical and architectural information. Determine eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and finally an assessment of Project impacts. If any historic properties are identified FERC and KPU will develop a Historic Properties Management Plan (HPMP).

2.4.2 Ketchikan Creek Fish Use and Instream Barrier Assessment

Project Nexus: to update the Anadromous Waters Catalog, currently there are inconsistencies related to anadromous use of waters within the project boundary. Understanding anadromous fish use of Ketchikan Reach 3 may also be relevant to evaluating the potential effect on anadromous species of installing a low-level outlet in Ketchikan Lakes to limit uncontrolled spill into the portion of Ketchikan Creek upstream of the tailrace.

This study's goal is to evaluate the status of existing (permanent or temporary) barriers to upstream anadromous fish passage in Ketchikan Creek that may affect both fish access to habitats between the Five-foot Falls and Rainbow Falls by resident and anadromous salmonid species.

Methodology: Will attempt to collect juvenile fish through various methods and do adult spawning surveys in Spring 2026.

Question: (ADFG) – Are there concessions for Federal Employees who were unable to attend the meeting due to government shutdowns.

McMillen: We will still be responding to study requests. We had USFWS and NMFS both show interest.

FERC: FERC will need agencies under government shutdown to file any requests on the record including an extension of time request for when they are back on duty.

2.4.3 Ketchikan Creek Hydrology Assessment

Project nexus: proposed changes to infrastructure and operations could affect hydrology of Ketchikan Creek. Changes include the addition of Low-Level Outlet to allow M&O on penstocks as the Water Supply and Hydropower infrastructure are currently intertied and elimination of upramping restrictions.

Methodology: Assess all available spill data since last relicensing and analyze theoretical release options (approximately 300 cfs) from the proposed low-level outlet would have mitigated uncontrolled spill events. Assess the effect of these changes on fish habitat in Ketchikan Creek at two locations: upstream of the tailrace between the Five-Foot Falls and Rainbow Falls and downstream of the tailrace to Thomas Basin.

2.4.4 Studies Timeline

Single Study Season – Most to begin Spring 2026 and to be completed by Spring 2027(including final study reporting).

2.5 Discussion Questions

No additional questions at this time.

3.0 Action Items

Action items from the meeting are listed below.

- Deadline for comments on PSP: December 8, 2025
- The relicensing team will send out email reminders in advance of PSP comment deadline

