

Project Name	SA Article 10: Gravel Augmentation 2023 Augmentation Plan Supplement
Date Proposal Summited	6/6/2023
Date of Requested Decision	8/1/2023
Requested By	Melora Shelton
Date of Decision¹	8/8/2023

FTC Decision and Justification
<p>Tacoma Power consulted with the FTC on the development of the Gravel Augmentation Plan, 2023 Supplement as described in this decision document and supplement itself. The FTC supports accepting the Decision Document and 2023 Supplement.</p> <p>The following FTC members were present at the FTC meeting: WDFW, Ecology, and Tacoma Power. This decision document was circulated to FTC voting members not present.¹</p>

Proposed Decision for Consideration
<p>Tacoma Power proposes adopting Gravel Augmentation Plan, 2023 Supplement (“Plan supplement”, attached). This document formalizes the intended approach and provides additional details on implementing Article 10 described in FTC DD 2021-01. It addresses temporary (through 2023) and long-term (by 2024) strategies for gravel placement. It also addresses making up the deficit from gravel not placed in 2017-2020. This supplement will be submitted to FERC.</p>

Background
<p>The Plan supplement includes background on Article 10. There is a summary of all decision documents addressing gravel augmentation since 2017 and a running account of gravel requirements and placement actions through 2022. A copy of DD 2021-01 (February 2021, includes all previous related decision documents) and a copy of the original Plan are included in the Plan supplement appendices. The Plan supplement is attached to this decision document.</p> <p>Tacoma Power worked with the FTC to develop the Plan supplement. In April 2021, a cross-walk document comparing the 2004 original plan to the proposed update was distributed for FTC review. Comments were received and an early draft was sent to the FTC in March 2022. Additional input was received and addressed by Tacoma by working directly with WDFW. In May 2023, Tacoma Power distributed the draft “Gravel Augmentation Plan, 2023 Supplement” for FTC 30-day review. Comments and responses have been included in the Plan supplement appendices.</p> <p>Since 2021 Tacoma Power has been implementing the temporary strategy described in DD 2021-01 and the Plan supplement, placing 1,987 cubic yards (to date) of gravel on the island near the left bank immediately downstream from the Barrier Dam. Tacoma Power emailed the</p>

¹ Decision will become final if committee members who were not present at this meeting do not oppose this proposed decision within 7 days

FTC annual updates on implementation in December 2021 and December 2022. As of December 2022 (and June 2023), there are 1,013 cubic yards to make up, in addition to regular annual placement of 500 cubic yards. Tacoma Power is on track to make up that deficit by 2025.

Coordination Need

Tacoma Power will provide the FTC with an annual written report of the previous year’s gravel augmentation activities, including a running account of gravel quantity requirements and placements as well as representative photos. Tacoma Power will continue updating the FTC on implementation at regular meetings.

Once any remaining deficit is placed, Tacoma Power may coordinate with the FTC to place more than 500 cubic yards of gravel annually. This approach could allow for less frequent placement, minimizing both impacts and logistics. Tacoma Power will seek permits that allow for this flexibility.

The plan supplement may be revised to reflect changes, including but not limited to adding gravel placement locations or changes to monitoring, evaluating, and reporting. Changes will be subject to approval by the FTC.

Summary of Potential Changes

The FTC concurred that the strategies described in DD 2021-01 were a good path forward to implement gravel augmentation under Article 10. The “Gravel Augmentation Plan, 2023 Supplement” formalizes the approach, defines the general area, one specific location for gravel augmentation, and provides specific details on implementation through the end of the license. Filing the plan with FERC will memorialize the history of gravel augmentation in the record, including planning and implementation after placement was suspended in 2017. It will also provide a foundation for meeting the Article 10 obligations going forward.