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RECLAMATION

Kachess Dam Safety of Dams Modification Project

Public Scoping and Q&A Virtual Public Meeting
August 10th and 12th, 2021

Agenda

- Ground Rules and Zoom Guide – 5 minutes
- Introduction and Opening Remarks – 5 minutes
- Presentation – 15 minutes
 - ✓ Project Background
 - ✓ Purpose and Need
 - ✓ Proposed Action
 - ✓ Public Scoping Process
- Question and Answer – 30 minutes
- Comments – 30 minutes
- Closing – 5 minutes



Ground Rules/Zoom Technical Guide

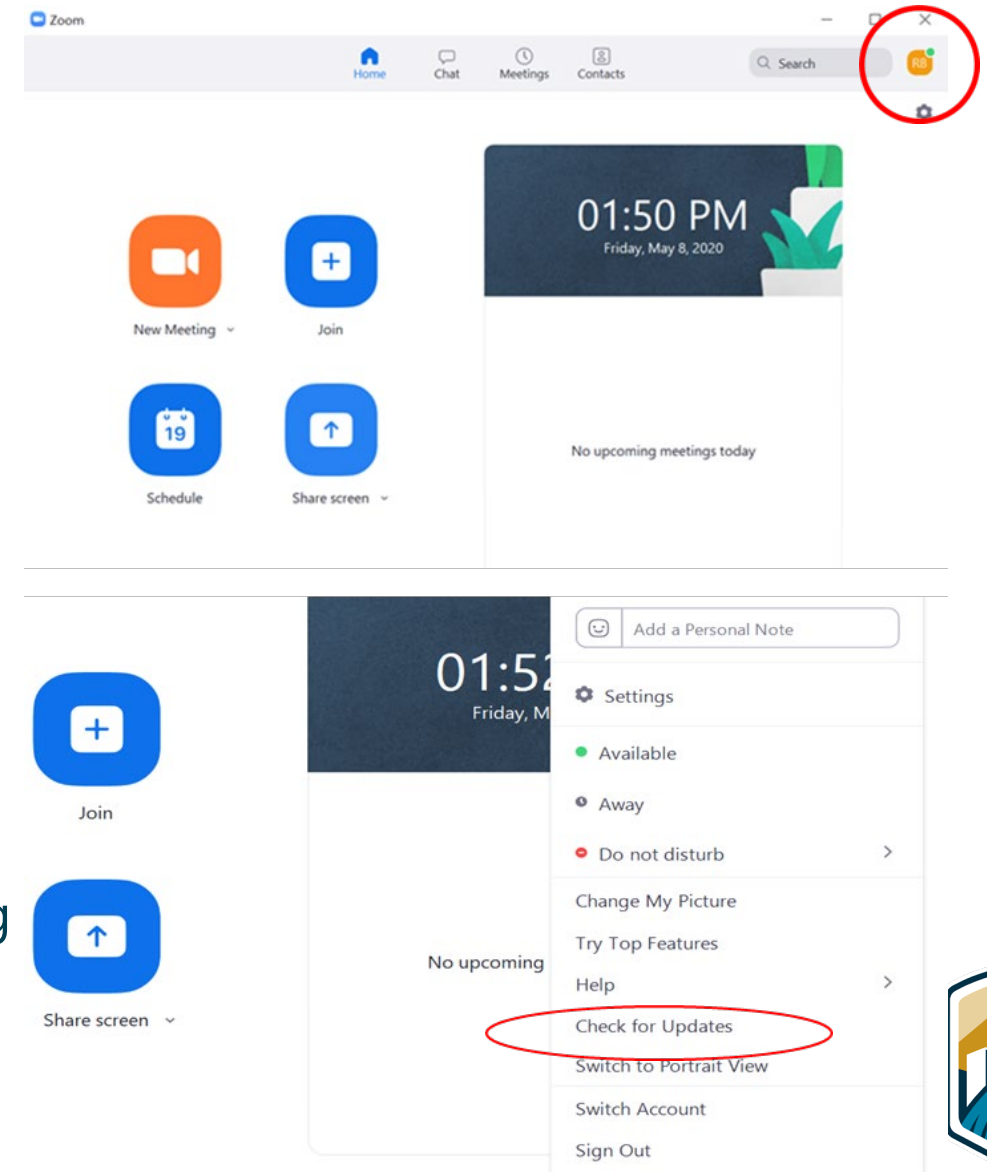
- Camera and mic controls will be restricted to meeting hosts only until we reach the question-and-answer session and the official comment session.
- Questions can be submitted during the presentation by using the Q&A icon in the bottom of your zoom screen. Questions will be answered either in the Q&A window or live at the end of the presentation.
- Official comments will be accepted following the question-and-answer session. Comments can also be submitted after the meeting through project email or postal address, which we'll cover at the end.
- This video teleconference will also be recorded and posted on our website:

<https://www.usbr.gov/pn/programs/sod/kachess/index.html>



Ground Rules/Zoom Technical Guide, cont'd

- Zoom works best from the application itself rather than using the web browser. Zoom can be downloaded here: <https://zoom.us/download>
- Next, if you already have Zoom, ensure that it is up to date. You can do so by opening your Zoom application and accessing your control panel, clicking the user icon, and clicking "check for updates."
- Once Zoom is downloaded and up to date, you can optimize your viewing by doing the following things:
- Disable your video
- Avoid bandwidth-intensive activities like uploading and downloading, streaming, etc.
- For further assistance, contact the following email: Theresa.Ancell@empsi.com





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Introduction and Opening Remarks

Introduction and Background

- About 14 miles northwest of Cle Elum, Wash.
- Constructed from 1910 to 1912.
- 115-foot-high, earth-filled dam.
- Reservoir with an actively managed capacity of 239,000 acre-feet.
- Seepage and internal erosion issues through the dam embankment along the outlet works conduit.
- “Internal erosion” creates a risk of potential dam failure.
- Reclamation is proposing this project to control the seepage and prevent eroded soils from exiting the dam.



Photograph of upstream face of dam, gatehouse, tower, and inlet channel below buried conduit section, looking south at Kachess Dam taken by Thomas J. Wilson, 1992.



Purpose and Need

- The purpose and need of the proposed project include:
 1. Implement cost-effective measures to reduce risks per Reclamation's Public Protection Guidelines.
 2. Maintain water deliveries to irrigation districts, Tribes, and others throughout the Yakima basin.
 3. Minimize impacts to the environment.
 4. Maintain water flows for endangered species.
- As part of its Safety of Dams program mission, Reclamation is committed to ensuring its dams do not present unacceptable risk levels to people, property, and the environment. These requirements result in a need for Reclamation to implement corrective action to bring static and hydrologic risks at Kachess Dam below public protection guidelines while minimizing impacts to the environment.



Proposed Action

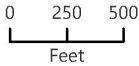
- Reclamation proposes to reduce the risk by performing the following improvements:
 - Construct an access road, prepare the site, develop staging areas to support construction and long-term maintenance
 - Extend and line the conduit, install filter and stabilization berm.
- Reservoir level restrictions are not anticipated to occur, and construction of the extension and lining of the outlet works would be timed to avoid major issues with water deliveries.
- Reclamation conducted extensive field surveys to identify any sensitive cultural resources, wildlife habitat, and wetlands located in the proposed project area. The results of these surveys will inform the project designs to avoid, minimize, or mitigate resource impacts.



Proposed Action



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**Kachess Dam Safety of Dams
Modification Project
Environmental Assessment**

- Project area
- Kachess Dam



Source: Reclamation GIS 2021, July 26, 2021
U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation
Columbia-Pacific Northwest Region
KachessSOD_Rpts_scoping_projectarea.pdf. No warranty is made by
Reclamation as to the accuracy, reliability or completeness of the data
herein. The project area is estimated and not meant to go outside the
Reclamation boundary zone. This product was compiled from the best
available data and is presented as visual aide only and does not represent
actual survey data.



Proposed Action (cont.)



<https://www.virtualpublicmeeting.com/kachess-dam-safety-ea-scoping>



Scoping period

Scoping Period Start:

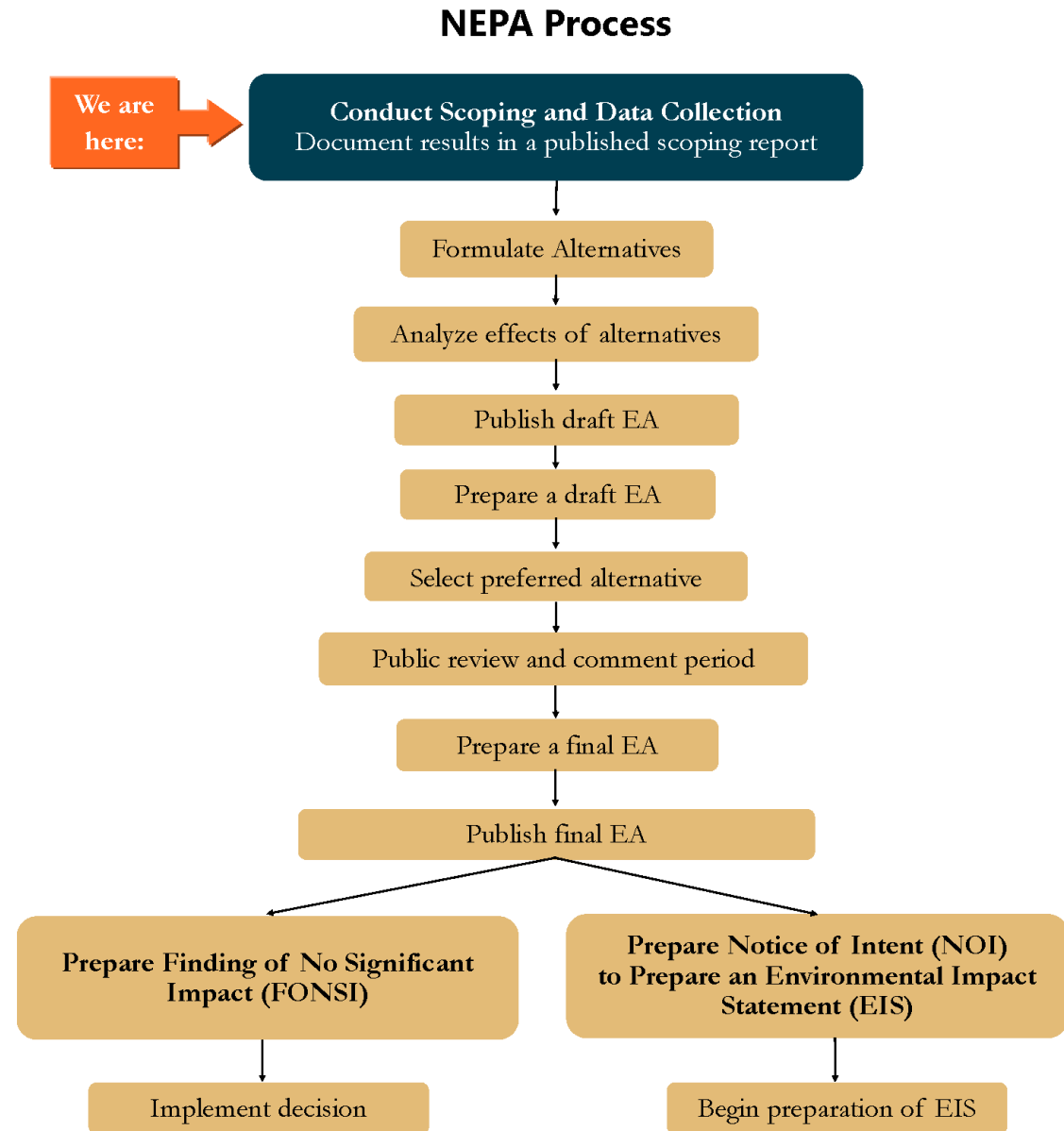
- 7/26/2021

Virtual Public Scoping Meetings:

- 8/10/2021
- 8/12/2021

Virtual Public Meeting Room:

- 7/26/2021 – 8/25/2021



Public Scoping Comments

Scoping comments are due by **August 25, 2021**

Virtual Public Meeting Room:

<https://www.virtualpublicmeeting.com/kachess-dam-safety-ea-scoping>

Email comments to:

BOR-SHA-KSODNEPA@usbr.gov

Submit written comments to:

Jonathan Penman-Brotzman, Environmental Protection Specialist
Bureau of Reclamation, Columbia–Cascades Office
1917 Marsh Rd.
Yakima, WA 98901

Bureau of Reclamation Project Website:

<https://www.usbr.gov/pn/programs/sod/kachess/index.html>





What's Next

Public Scoping

Summer 2021

Develop Draft EA

Fall 2021/Winter 2022

Publish Draft EA

Spring 2022

Public Review of Draft EA

Spring 2022

Publish Final EA

Summer 2022

Make Determination on
Finding of No Significant
Impact

Summer 2022

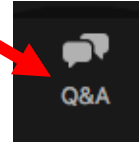
<https://www.virtualpublicmeeting.com/kachess-dam-safety-ea-scoping>



Kachess Dam Safety of Dams Modification Project EA

Question and Answer Session

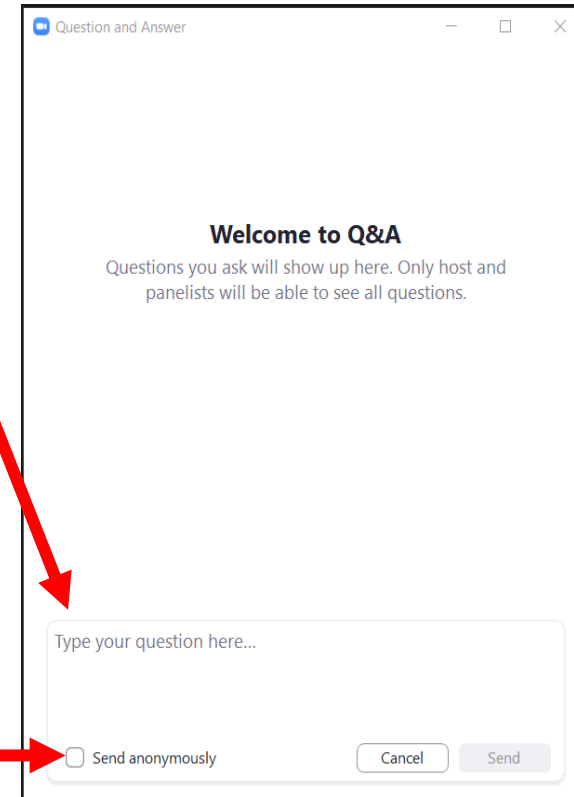
Step 1:
Click the
Q&A Icon



Step 2:
Type your
question
and click
send

Phone callers can
press *9 to raise their
hands and provide a
verbal comment and
*6 to unmute once
they are called on.

*Please note that you can ask
questions anonymously*

A screenshot of a web application window titled 'Question and Answer'. The window has a white background and a thin black border. At the top, there's a header bar with the title and window controls. Below the header, the text 'Welcome to Q&A' is displayed, followed by a note: 'Questions you ask will show up here. Only host and panelists will be able to see all questions.' In the center, there's a large text input field with the placeholder text 'Type your question here...'. Below the input field, there's a checkbox labeled 'Send anonymously' and two buttons: 'Cancel' and 'Send'. A red arrow points from the text 'Type your question and click send' to the input field, and another red arrow points from the text 'Please note that you can ask questions anonymously' to the 'Send anonymously' checkbox.

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Kachess Dam Safety of Dams Modification Project EA

Formal Comment Session

Thank you!

- We will now move to the formal comment session.
- Your phones will continue to be muted until it is your turn to comment, and you are invited to unmute.

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Commenting Guidelines

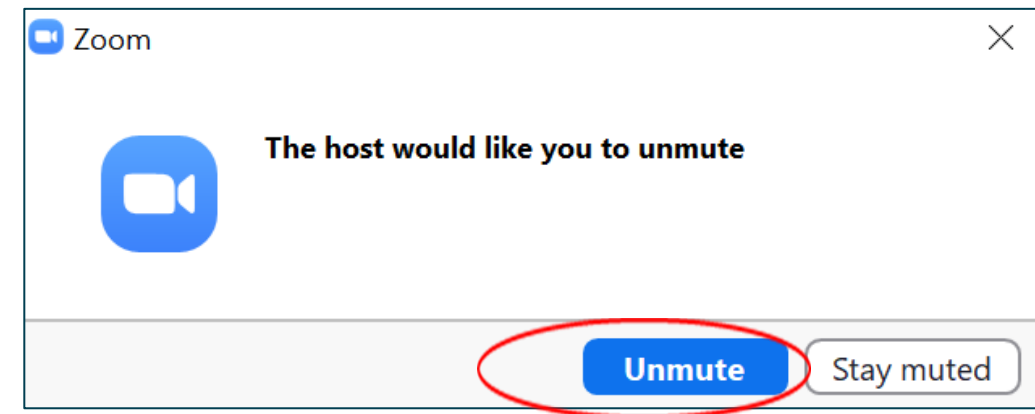
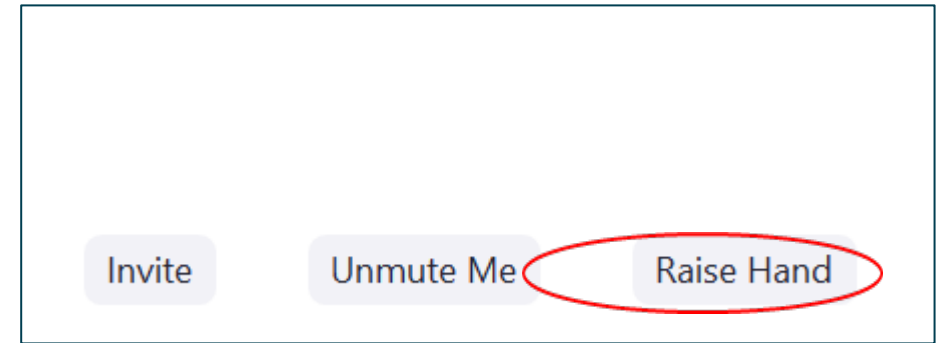
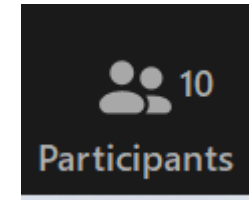
Provide your comment.

1. Via Zoom application:

- Click the “Participants” icon at the bottom of the Zoom window.
- At the bottom left corner of the participants list, click the “raise hand” button. This will let the moderator know you would like to provide a comment.
- When it is your turn, the moderator will send an invitation for you to unmute. Click the blue “unmute” button to do so.
- The moderator will perform a sound check, and then you can provide your comment.
- You will be muted again after your comment is provide.

2. Via phone:

- Press *9 to raise your hand.
- You will be called on to unmute.
- Press *6 to unmute your phone.



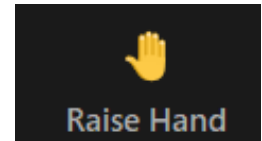
Public Comment Session

Reclamation wants to hear from all members of the public. Out of respect for everyone's participation and input, we will be using the following guidelines:

- Stay within your allotted time so that everyone can speak.
- Please be respectful of others
- Refrain from profanity.

If guidelines are not followed, your microphone will be muted, and we will move to the next person.

3:00



Next 10 commenters

- 1) TBD
- 2) TBD
- 3) TBD
- 4) TBD
- 5) TBD
- 6) TBD
- 7) TBD
- 8) TBD
- 9) TBD
- 10) TBD

If you did not get to comment or want to provide additional comments, you can do so at the following website:

<https://www.virtualpublicmeeting.com/kachess-dam-safety-ea-scoping>



Kachess Dam Safety of Dams Modification Project EA

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