

2026 Annual Water Sustainability Fund Report for Project 10083

North Platte Hydropower Generation Facility Bypass Analysis

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Project Progress

This is the second annual report. NPPD issued a Request for Proposal in April 2025 enlisting a consultant to perform the analysis. The NPPD Board of Directors awarded the contract to Olsson in December 2025.

Bypass options of open channel and closed conduit were paired with two flow rates resulting in four alternatives for consideration. These were advanced to approximately 10% design. From among these options, open channel with maximum discharge of 1800 cfs was selected. This will be advanced to 30% engineering design and cost estimate.

Next steps

Design of the preferred alternative will be refined by geotechnical field investigation and updates to hydraulic modeling. Reviews of expected environmental permitting requirements and FERC licensure considerations will be conducted. These will culminate in 30% design and report including the OPCC (opinion of probable construction cost). Project is approximately on schedule for completion by July 31, 2026, but geotechnical laboratory work and right-of-way surveying could lead to short delays.

It is expected that final deliverables of 30% design drawings, OPCC, and design memorandum will be made available to Water Sustainability Fund by September 1, 2026. The final deliverables are valuable if NPPD seeks additional local, state, or federal funding for final design and construction of the project.

Project Costs

We expect the final cost to be within the amount submitted in the application, which was \$197,000 (WSF portion \$ 118,200).

Project Benefits

At this time, we anticipate that the benefits in the application will be realized. These include a better understanding of scope and type of conveyance.