

September 4, 2014



One year from today...

In exactly one year, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes will make history, by becoming the sole owner of the large hydroelectric facility called the Kerr Project.

It will be the culmination of many years of dedication, and sacrifice, by the Tribes. Built against the wishes of many Tribal Members, now the dam is set to become an important tool for ongoing management of important natural resources of the Flathead Reservation--in addition to playing a substantial role in a sustainable economic future for many generations to come.

As we countdown the days, Energy Keepers, Inc., continues to move forward on all the work that is still needed before the Tribes are ready to sign the dotted line and purchase the Kerr Project on **September 5, 2015**.

Looking back, here are some of the historic highlights in the long journey to acquire Kerr Dam:

- Time Immemorial: Salish, Pend d'Oreille and Kootenai Tribes inhabit aboriginal territory, including parts of Alberta, British Columbia, Idaho, Montana, Washington, and Wyoming.
- July 16, 1855: The Treaty of Hellgate establishes the Flathead Indian Reservation.
- February 8, 1887: The Dawes Act opens up Indian reservations for non-Indian settlement.
- June 10, 1920: Congress enacts the Federal Power Act.
- 1921: Applications are filed with the Federal Power Commission for licenses to develop five power sites on the Flathead River within the Flathead Reservation.
- 1930: The Federal Power Commission issues the first 50-year license to the Rocky Mountain Power Company for the Kerr Project site. Rocky Mountain Power begins construction.

- 1931: A lack of funding, due to the Great Depression, causes construction to halt for five years.
- June 18, 1934: The Indian Reorganization Act allows tribes to exercise sovereign authority through the creation of constitutions that establish tribal governments.
- October 4, 1935: Tribal members of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT) ratify their constitution.
- 1936: Montana Power Company (MPC) resumes construction on the Kerr Project.
- 1936-1938: During construction, many CSKT members work as manual laborers, often in the most dangerous and physically intensive jobs. In February 1937, a rockslide near the right abutment of the dam claims the lives of several Tribal workers.
- 1938: Construction is completed, and the dam begins operation.
- 1939: The dam is dedicated and named after Frank Kerr, then president of MPC.
- 1976: CSKT files a competing application with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for relicensure of the Kerr Project.
- 1980: The first license expires and FERC issues a series of one-year licenses to MPC.

- 1985: CSKT successfully negotiates co-licensee status with MPC and the option to acquire Kerr Project as the sole owner in 2015. A new license is issued to MPC and CSKT for a 50-year term through 2035.
- 1999: PPL Montana acquires the Kerr Project from MPC, and FERC transfers MPC's license interest to PPL Montana.
- 2010: CSKT prepares to exercise its exclusive and unilateral right to acquire the Kerr Project and create its energy enterprise.
- September 4, 2012: SX^wNQEQELS L SUWEČM / KSUKĚĚMUMAĚ 'A·KAĚMUKWA'ITS Inc., doing business as Energy Keepers, Inc. (EKI), is established by CSKT.
- CSKT/EKI attempt negotiations with PPL Montana regarding the conveyance price of the Kerr Project. Agreement is not reached, and the parties move to an arbitration process.
- March 3, 2014: The final award, issued by an arbitration panel majority, sets the price for CSKT's acquisition of the Kerr Project at \$18,289,798.
- March 5, 2014: CSKT gives formal notice establishing a conveyance date for the Kerr Project as September 5, 2015.

- **September 5, 2015: CSKT and EKI will take over the Kerr Project, becoming the first tribes in the nation to own and operate a major hydroelectric generation facility.**

