

108 FERC ¶ 62,218
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Placer County Water Agency

Project No. 2079-052

ORDER AMENDING LICENSE, REVISING ANNUAL CHARGES, AND
APPROVING A REVISED EXHIBIT M

(Issued September 08, 2004)

On June 15, 2004, Placer County Water Agency (Placer), licensee for the Middle Fork American River Project, FERC No. 2079, filed a revised exhibit M for approval with the Commission. Placer is proposing to revise the installed capacity at the Middle Fork Powerhouse. The project is located on the Middle Fork American and Rubicon Rivers in Placer County, California.

BACKGROUND

The Middle Fork American River Project consists of the following five developments: Ralston; Middle Fork; Oxbow; French Meadows; and Hell Hole. The license, as last amended in 1999,¹ authorized the Middle Fork Powerhouse to contain two 82,000-horsepower (hp) impulse turbines, one connected to a 61,200-kilowatt (kW) generator, and the other connected to a 54,900-kW generator (Unit No. 2), for a total installed capacity of 116,100 kW. The total installed capacity of the Middle Fork American River Project was revised from 211,153 kW to 217,453 kW.

REVIEW

In its filing, Placer reports that Unit No. 2 at the Middle Fork Powerhouse was rewound during the last fall and winter seasons. The installation of the new winding was completed, and the unit returned to service on February 12, 2004. The new winding on the unit resulted in an increased capacity of Unit No. 2 from 54,900 kW to 61,200 kW. The new winding of the unit was necessary due to normal wear and tear over the past 39 years of operation. The installation of the new winding did not affect the authorized hydraulic capacity of the powerhouse, nor changed the project's operation.

¹ See, Order Amending License and Revising Annual Charges, issued September 13, 1999.

Project No. 2079-052

2

According to 18 CFR §11.1 (2) (i), the authorized installed capacity means the lesser of the ratings of the generator or turbine units. Staff review of the revised Exhibit M determined that the authorized installed capacity of the project is limited by the generator nameplate at each power plant, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1

Power Plant	Turbine Nameplate		Generator Nameplate (kW)	Authorized Capacity (kW)
	HP	kW		
French Meadows	24,000	18,000	15,300	15,300
Hell Hole	1,086	814	725	725
Oxbow	8,800	6,600	6,128	6,128
Ralston	106,000	79,500	79,200	79,200
Middle Fork	82,000	61,500	61,200	61,200
	82,000	61,500	61,200	61,200
Total				223,753

Accordingly, the total authorized installed capacity for the Middle Fork Development will be revised from 116,100 kW to 122,400 kW. This order will amend the project description in the license to reflect the as-built capacity of the Middle Fork Powerhouse. This order will also revise article 41(i) of the license, regarding the annual charges for the purpose of reimbursement to the United States Government for the costs of administration of Part I of the Federal Power Act. The annual charges for the Middle Fork American River Project will be revised from 217,453 kW to 223,753 kW, effective as of February 12, 2004, which is the date that the increased capacity went on-line. The licensee will be required to install a new nameplate on Unit No. 2 at the Middle Fork Powerhouse, as directed in ordering paragraph (C) of this order.

The Director orders:

(A) The license for the Middle Fork American River Project, FERC No. 2079, is amended as provided in this order, effective the first day of the month in which this order is issued.

(B) The revised exhibit M, describing the major equipment at the Middle Fork American River Project, filed on June 14, 2004, conforms to the Commission's rules and regulations, and is approved and made part of the license. The revised exhibit M supersedes, in part, the existing exhibit M.

Project No. 2079-052

3

(C) The project description in ordering paragraph (B)(ii) of the license is revised, in part, as follows:

(ii) All project works consisting principally of the following described development: "...Middle Fork Powerhouse, containing two 82,000-horsepower (hp) impulse turbines, connected to two 61,200-kilowatt (kW) generators, for a total installed capacity of 122,400 kW;....."

(D) Article 41(i) of the license is revised to read:

(i) For the purpose of reimbursing the United States for the Commission costs, pursuant to the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1986, a reasonable amount as determined in accordance with the provisions of the Commission's regulations in effect from time to time. The authorized existing installed capacity for that purpose is 223,753 kW, effective as of February 12, 2004, which is the date the unit with the revised capacity went on-line.

(E) Within 60 days of the issuance of this order, the licensee shall affix a new generator nameplate with a rating of 61,200 kW to Unit No. 2 at the Middle Fork Powerhouse, and provide a photograph of the nameplate to the Commission, with a copy to the Commission's San Francisco Regional Office, for verification.

(F) The licensee shall report to the Commission any future/proposed changes to the project prior to implementing them.

(G) This order constitutes final agency action. Requests for a rehearing by the Commission may be filed within 30 days of the date of issuance of this order, pursuant to 18 C.F.R. § 385.713.

Mohamad Fayyad
Engineering Team Lead
Division of Hydropower Administration
and Compliance