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September 27, 2010 File No. 01030A

Dr. Frank A. Winchell Archaeologist Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 888 First Street, N.E. Routing Code PJ-14.6/Room 61-10 Washington, DC 20426

Subject:

Middle Fork American River Project (FERC Project No. 2079) Draft Application for New License and Volume 5 - Exhibit E Supporting Documents D and E (Privileged Information)

Dear Dr. Winchell:

In accordance with 18 CFR § 5.18, Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) hereby files with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) the attached Draft Application for New License (Draft License Application) for the Middle Fork American River Project (MFP or Project), FERC Project No. 2079.

The MFP operates under a 50-year license, which was issued on March 13, 1963, by the Federal Power Commission, predecessor of the current FERC. The current license expires on March 1, 2013. Through submittal of this Draft License Application, PCWA is requesting renewal of its license to continue operation and maintenance of the MFP with a license term of 50 years (expiring on March 1, 2063). The new license term is based on the substantial costs associated with relicensing of the MFP; capital improvements; new environmental measures, programs, and facilities; and extensive monitoring and on-going resource agency consultation to ensure continued resource protection over the term of the new license.

The Draft License Application is comprised of five volumes, including public, critical energy infrastructure, confidential, and privileged information. Enclosed is an outline of the material contained in each volume. Volumes 1 and 3 of the Draft License Application containing public information are enclosed including two paper copies and two electronic copies on Compact Disk (CD). Distribution of Volumes 2 and 4 which contain critical energy infrastructure and confidential information are not included.

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Volume 5 contains the Exhibit E and associated SD D and E (Privileged Information) that provides information regarding the location(s) of sensitive cultural resources, and the Historic Properties Management Plan (HPMP). Volume 5 is enclosed in a sealed envelope marked "CONTAINS PRIVILEGED INFORMATION – DO NOT RELEASE". Pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.11(c)(1), the head of a federal agency may withhold from public disclosure any information about the location, character, or ownership of a historic property, or impede the use of a traditional site by practitioners. PCWA is filing two paper copies and two electronic copies of Volume 5 for your review. A copy of Volume 5 has also been provided to the FERC's Secretary; cultural resource specialists at the United States Department of Agriculture – Forest Service, Tahoe National Forest and the Eldorado National Forest; and Native American Tribes.

PCWA looks forward to working with you, resource agencies, and other interested parties on the Middle Fork American River Project relicensing. If you have any questions regarding the Draft License Application, please contact Andrew Fecko, PCWA Resource Planning Administrator at (530) 823-4889 or by E-Mail at afecko@pcwa.net.

Sincerely,

PLACER COUNTY WATER AGENCY

Einar L. Maisch, P.E.

Director of Strategic Affairs

Enclosures:

Transmittal Letter to the FERC Secretary and Deputy Secretary – Draft Application for New License

Cover Letter to Tribal Representatives

Outline of Each Volume of the Draft License Application

Volume 1: Initial Statement, Exhibit A, B, C, D, G, and H (Public Information)

Volume 3: Exhibit E and Supporting Documents A, B, and C [Books 1 through 11]

(Public Information)

Volume 5: Exhibit E Supporting Documents D and E (Privileged Information)

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CC:

Carrie Smith, Cultural Resource Specialist, Tahoe National Forest Katy Parr, Cultural Resource Specialist, Eldorado National Forest Mo Tebbe, Tahoe National Forest

Beth Paulson, Eldorado National Forest