

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON D.C. 20426  
November 8, 2010

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

Project No. 2079-061 – California  
Middle Fork American River Project  
Placer County Water Agency

Julie Leimbach, Coordinator  
Foothills Water Network  
P.O. Box 713  
Lotus, CA, 95651

**Reference: Response to Request for Extension of Comment Period on Draft License Application**

Dear Ms. Leimbach:

On October 20, 2010, you filed, on behalf of the Foothills Water Network, a request that the Commission grant an extension of the deadline for filing comments on Placer County Water Agency's (PCWA) draft license application (DLA) for the Middle Fork American River Project relicensing. Comments on the DLA are due to PCWA by December 27, 2010. The basis for your request is that PCWA has three outstanding relicensing studies (Entrainment, Bioenergetics, and Reservoir Fish Habitat) and three outstanding management plans (Visual, Geomorphology, and Riparian Monitoring) that have not yet been completed and are therefore not discussed in the DLA.

PCWA's final license application is due by February 28, 2011, and will include the three outstanding relicensing studies and the three outstanding management plans listed above. Pursuant to 18 CFR § 5.22 of the Commission's regulations, when the Commission has determined that the final license application meets the requirements specified in §§ 5.18 and 5.19, we will issue public notice accepting the application for filing; finding that the application is ready for environmental analysis; requesting comments, protests, and interventions; requesting recommendations, preliminary terms and conditions, and preliminary fishway prescriptions; establishing the date for final amendments to applications for new or subsequent licenses; and updating the schedule issued with the tendering notice for processing the application. After issuance of this notice, stakeholders will have 60 days to provide comments on the final license application.

Since the deadline for filing comments on the DLA and the date by which PCWA must file their final license application are only two months apart, it does not appear to be necessary to extend the comment period on the DLA. We encourage you to comment on the material contained in the DLA by December 27, 2010, and then use the 60-day comment period on the final license application to provide comments on any new information that was not previously provided.

If you have any questions you may contact Carolyn Templeton at (202) 502-8785 or [carolyn.templeton@ferc.gov](mailto:carolyn.templeton@ferc.gov).

Sincerely,

Ann F. Miles, Director  
Division of Hydropower  
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cc: Public Files  
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