Placer County Water Agency’s Withdrawal of Alternative Conditions for 16 Preliminary Section 4(e) Terms and Conditions Submitted by the United States Forest Service for the Middle Fork American River Project (FERC Project No. 2079-069)

Placer County Water Agency (PCWA), the existing Licensee for the Middle Fork American River Project (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission [FERC] Project No. 2079) (MFP or Project), filed an Application for New License on February 23, 2011. The United States Forest Service (Forest Service) subsequently filed Preliminary Terms and Conditions under Section 4(e) of the Federal Power Act on August 5, 2011. On September 2, 2011, PCWA submitted alternative conditions for 16 of the Forest Service’s Preliminary Section 4(e) Terms and Conditions. PCWA’s alternative conditions included nine “Clarified Alternative Conditions” and seven “Modified Alternative Conditions”, as follows:

PCWA’s Clarified Alternative Conditions

- PCWA Alternative Condition No. 15 – Pesticide-Use Restrictions on National Forest System Lands
• PCWA Alternative Condition No. 22 – Minimum Streamflows
• PCWA Alternative Condition No. 23 – Pulse Flows
• PCWA Alternative Condition No. 24 – Ramping Rates
• PCWA Alternative Condition No. 25 – Outages
• PCWA Alternative Condition No. 26 – Spawning Habitat Improvement Plan for the Middle Fork American River Below Ralston Afterbay Dam
• PCWA Alternative Condition No. 37 – Reservoir Minimum Pool Elevations and Reservoir Levels Recreation Objectives
• PCWA Alternative Condition No. 39 – Recreation Streamflows in the Middle Fork American River Below Oxbow Powerhouse
• PCWA Alternative Condition No. 45 – Erosion and Sediment Control and Management

PCWA’s Modified Alternative Conditions
• PCWA Alternative Condition No. 19 – Use of National Forest System Roads for Project Access
• PCWA Alternative Condition No. 28 – Monitoring Program
  o Fish Population Monitoring Plan
  o Foothill Yellow-legged Frog Monitoring Plan
  o Western Pond Turtle Monitoring Plan
  o Benthic Macroinvertebrate Monitoring Plan
  o Mercury Bioaccumulation Monitoring Plan
  o Geomorphology/Riparian Monitoring Plan
  o Water Quality Monitoring Plan
• PCWA Alternative Condition No. 31 – Streamflow and Reservoir Elevation Gaging Plan
• PCWA Alternative Condition No. 41 – Historic Properties Management Plan
• PCWA Alternative Condition No. 43 – Revised Transportation System Management Plan
• PCWA Alternative Condition No. 44 – Revised Fire Management and Response Plan
• PCWA Alternative Condition No. 46 – Revised Vegetation and Integrated Pest Management Plan

Subsequent to filing these alternative conditions, PCWA conducted numerous discussions with the Forest Service, other State and Federal resource agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and members of the public. As a result of these discussions, consensus was reached on the issues raised with respect to the aforementioned alternative conditions. This consensus was reflected in the advance copy of the Forest Service’s Modified Section 4(e) Terms and Conditions for the MFP that was provided to PCWA. Therefore, PCWA is withdrawing all 16 previously filed alternative conditions. PCWA’s withdrawal is contingent on the Forest Service filing Modified Section 4(e) Terms and Conditions with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission that are not substantively different from the advance copy provided to PCWA; in addition, PCWA reserves the right to provide additional comments on the Modified Terms and Conditions if they are substantively different from that advance copy.

If you have any questions regarding this withdrawal of alternative conditions for the MFP, please contact me at (530) 823-4889 or by e-mail at bransom@pcwa.net.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Ransom
Environmental Scientist

Attachments

Attachment A – Distribution List
Attachment B – Certificate of Service
Attachment A

Distribution List
## FERC Service List

**American Whitewater**  
Dave Steindorf  
CA Stewardship Director  
4 Baroni Dr  
Chico, CA 95928-4314

**CA Dept of Fish & Game**  
MaryLisa Lynch  
Water Program Manager  
1701 Nimbus Rd., Suite A  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

**CA Dept of Fish & Game**  
Sharon J Stohrer  
Staff Environmental Scientist  
1701 Nimbus Rd.  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

**CA Dept of Fish & Game**  
Nancee Murray  
Senior Staff Counsel  
Office of Gen Counsel  
1416 Ninth St., 12th Flr  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**CA Dept of Water Resources**  
Russ J Kanz  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**California Outdoors**  
Nate Rangel  
P.O. Box 401  
Coloma, CA 95613

**California Sportfishing Protection Alliance**  
Christopher Shutes  
1608 Francisco Street  
Berkeley, CA 94703

**California Dept of Water Resources**  
David Rose, Staff Counsel  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**California Dept of Fish & Game**  
Wendy Jones  
621 Capitol Mall, 18th Flr  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**National Park Service**  
Stephen M. Bowes  
333 Bush St Ste 500  
San Francisco, CA 94104-2828

**Dept of the Interior, Office of the Solicitor**  
DOI Solicitor  
2800 Cottage Way, Ste E1712  
Sacramento, CA 95825

**Dept of the Interior, Office of the Solicitor**  
Luke Miller  
Assistant Regional Solicitor  
2800 Cottage Way, Ste E1712  
Sacramento, CA 95825

**Dept of the Interior, Office of the Solicitor**  
Kerry O'Hara  
Assistant Regional Solicitor  
2800 Cottage Way, Ste E1712  
Sacramento, CA 95825

**Downey Brand LLP**  
Wendy Jones  
621 Capitol Mall, 18th Flr  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Granite Bay Flycasters**  
Spring Creek Guide Service  
William Carnazzo  
5209 Crestline Drive  
Foresthill, CA 95631

**Foothills Angler Coalition**  
Thomas Bartos, President  
7430 Morningside Dr.  
Granite Bay, CA 95746
FERC Service List (continued)

Foothills Water Network
Julie Leimbach, Coordinator
P.O. Box 713
Lotus, CA 95651-0713

Physical Address
1230 Scott Road
Lotus, CA 95651

Individual
Hilde Schweitzer
P. O. Box 852
Lotus, CA 95651

Physical Address
1090 Scott Road
Coloma, CA 95613

Upper American River Foundation
John Donovan
741 Commons Dr.
Sacramento, CA 95825

Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Alyssa Koo
Attorney
77 Beale Street, #B30A
San Francisco, CA 94105

Physical Address
77 Beale Street
Mail Stop B30A
San Francisco, CA 94105

KMT&G – Wells Fargo Center
Janet Goldsmith
400 Capitol Mall, 27th Floor
Sacramento, CA 94814-4417

Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Paul Maben
Supervising Program Manager
1108 Murphy’s Grade Road
Angels Camp, CA 95222

Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Jennifer Abrams
Attorney
77 Beale Street, #B30A
San Francisco, CA 94105

Placer County Water Agency
David A. Breninger
General Manager
P.O. Box 6570
Auburn, CA 95604-6570

Placer County Water Agency
Board of Directors
Chairman
P.O. Box 6570
Auburn, CA 95604

Placer County Water Agency
Jay L’Estrange
Director of Power Generation Services
P.O. Box 667
Foresthill, CA 95631-0667

Protect American River Canyons
Gary Estes, Board Member
4135 Eagles Nest
Auburn, CA 95603

Sackheim Consulting
Kelly Sackheim, Principal
5096 Cocoa Palm Way
Fair Oaks, CA 95628-5159

Spiegel & McDiarmid LLP
William Huang
1333 New Hampshire Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20036

Spiegel & McDiarmid LLP
Margaret McGoldrick
1333 New Hampshire Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20036

USDA-FS, El Dorado National Forest
Beth Paulson
Hydro Coordinator
100 Forini Rd
Placerville, CA 95667

Trout Unlimited
Brian J. Johnson, Staff Attorney
2239 5th St.
Berkeley, CA 94710

USDA-Office of the General Counsel
Joshua S. Rider
33 New Montgomery, 17th Flr
San Francisco, CA 94105
Other Interveners

US Department of Commerce
Richard Wantuck
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NMFS –Santa Rosa Area Office
777 Sonoma Avenue, Room 325
Santa Rosa, CA 95404-4731

Upper American River Foundation
Bill Templin
5125 Linda Lou Drive
Carmichael, CA 95608

US Department of Commerce
Kathryn Kempton, Office of General Counsel
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NMFS –SW Regional Office
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470
Long Beach, CA 90802

Others

Deputy Chief
National Forest Systems, Forest Service
Washington Office (WO), Lands Staff
Mail Stop 1124
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20250-0003

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Office of General Counsel-Energy Projects
888 First St., NE
Room 101-56
Washington, DC 20426
Attachment B

Certificate of Service
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to the provisions of 7 C.F.R. § 1.670, I hereby certify that I have this day served a complete copy of the foregoing document to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and each “license party” in the relicensing proceedings for Project No. 2079 as set forth in the attached distribution list, by courier service.

Dated at Auburn, CA this 30th day of November 2012.

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Benjamin Ransom
Placer County Water Agency
Environmental Scientist