

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

April 11, 2008

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

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

Mal Toy, Project Engineer
Placer County Water Agency
144 Ferguson Road
Auburn, CA 95603

Reference: Requests for Additional Information

Dear Mr. Toy:

Commission staff, after reviewing the Middle Fork American Project Pre-Application Document (PAD) and the transcripts of our March 4, 2008 scoping meetings, have three additional information requests at this time. Our additional information requests are included in the attached Schedule A. By copy of this letter, we request that Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) provide the additional information requested in Schedule A when you file your Preliminary Licensing Proposal and when you file your License Application, on or before October 2, 2012 and March 15, 2013, respectively.

Finally, please note that staff may determine a need for additional studies or information upon receipt and review of scoping comments/study requests and PCWA's proposed study plan, due April 11, 2008 and May 26, 2008, respectively.

If you have any questions, please contact Carolyn Templeton at (202) 502-8785 or carolyn.templeton@ferc.gov.

Sincerely,

Timothy J. Welch, Chief
Hydro West Branch 2

Enclosure: Schedule A

cc: Mailing list
Public Files

Schedule A

Additional Information Requests

Recreation Resources

1. In Supporting Document H-I of your PAD, you proposed five Recreation Study Plans, each of them stating that a Recreation Plan would be a potential license condition. A Recreation Plan will help us to assess the potential effects of the proposed measures on recreation resources. Therefore, please develop a Recreation Plan to be included in your Preliminary License Proposal (PLP) and your License Application. At a minimum, you should consult with the National Park Service, the United States Forest Service, California Department of Fish and Game, and California State Parks prior to developing this plan. The plan should include, but not limited to the following items:
 - a. List of all existing facilities;
 - b. All Facility Capital Improvements (plans for proposed facilities and plans for capital improvements to existing facilities);
 - c. Facility Operation and Maintenance for all new and existing facilities;
 - d. Implementation schedule for improvements, upgrades, construction, maintenance, etc.;
 - e. Map that clearly defines where existing facilities and new facilities will be in relation to the project boundary; and
 - f. Any plans for monitoring recreation use throughout the life of the project license (indicators, standards, and monitor reporting).

Please allow a minimum of 30 days for consulted entities to provide comments and make recommendations on the plan.

Cultural Resources

2. In Supporting Document H-I of your PAD, you proposed a Cultural Resources Technical Study Plan which stated that a Historic Properties Management Plan (HPMP) would be a potential license condition. The HPMP establishes a process for identifying the nature and significance of historic properties that may be affected by project maintenance and operation, establishing guidelines for routine maintenance, operation activities, proposed improvements to project facilities, and/or public access. The HPMP also defines goals for the preservation of historic properties, establishing a decision-making process and outlining procedures for consulting with the SHPOs, the FS, any affected tribe, and other interested parties

concerning the potential effects of the project on historic properties. Therefore, please develop a HPMP to be included in your PLP, and your License Application which, at a minimum, addresses the following items:

- a. Completion, if necessary, of identification of historic properties within the project's Area of Potential Effect;
- b. Continued use and maintenance of historic properties;
- c. Protection of historic properties threatened by shoreline erosion, recreation, other project-related ground-disturbing activities, and vandalism;
- d. Resolution of unavoidable adverse effects on historic properties;
- e. Treatment and disposition of any human remains that may be discovered, taking into account any applicable state laws and the Advisory Council's "Policy Statement Regarding Treatment of Human Remains and Grave Goods" (September 27, 1988, Gallup, NM);
- f. Compliance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (25 U.S.C. Section 3001), if Tribal or Federal lands are within the project area;
- g. Protection of previously unidentified historic properties discovered during project operations;
- h. Public interpretation of the historic and archaeological values of the project; and
- i. Coordination with the SHPOs and the interested persons during implementation of the HPMP.

Allow enough time (a minimum of 30 days) for review and comments on the HPMP by the SHPO, tribes and other involved parties, who may have an interest in cultural resources associated with the Project.

Plans Implementing Proposed Environmental Measures

Some of the studies that you may propose in your proposed study plans may lead to the development of environmental measures. Therefore, where appropriate, please include provisions in your proposed study plans for the development of specific, detailed plans implementing such measures. The implementation plans should be included in your PLP and License Application.

Document Content(s)

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