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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) is the existing Licensee and applicant for a subsequent license for the Middle Fork American River Project (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission [FERC] Project No. 2079) (MFP or Project). The MFP currently operates under a 50-year license that was issued on March 13, 1963. The current license expires February 28, 2013 and PCWA is seeking renewal of its license to continue operation and maintenance of the MFP using FERC's Integrated Licensing Process (ILP). The MFP serves as a multi-purpose water supply and hydro-generation project designed to conserve and control waters of the Middle Fork American River, the Rubicon River, and several associated tributary streams. The MFP is located primarily in Placer County (a small portion is located in El Dorado County) and consists of two major storage reservoirs, five smaller regulating reservoirs and diversion pools, and five powerhouses that began operation in 1967.

This Supplemental Filing includes a description and analysis of an alternative (Alternative 1) to the Proposed Action included in PCWA's Application for New License (herein, referred to as the Final License Application [FLA]) (PCWA 2011a). The No-Action Alternative and PCWA's Proposed Action described and analyzed in the FLA remain unchanged. Alternative 1 was developed after submittal of the FLA and incorporates: (1) revised instream flow and reservoir minimum pool conditions and additional recreation enhancements included in the resource agencies preliminary conditions and recommendations (CDFG 2011; DOI 2011; USDA-FS 2011); and (2) revised management plans that PCWA and the MFP stakeholders reached consensus in November 2011 (refer to Section 6.0). A complete description of Alternative 1 is provided in Section 2.0 – Elements Analyzed.

The impact analysis evaluates potential impacts of future construction, operation, and maintenance of the MFP under Alternative 1 compared to the No-Action Alternative presented in PCWA's FLA. The analysis incorporates new resource information collected by PCWA in 2011 after submittal of the FLA. The analysis considers input from state and federal resource agencies, Native American Tribes, non-governmental organizations, and members of the public acquired during extensive consultation completed during development of the FLA and subsequent consultation completed after submittal of resource agencies preliminary conditions and recommendations (Section 6.0). The objective of this filing is to augment information currently available to FERC for consideration in its National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis. This additional information will facilitate a more robust and inclusive NEPA analysis by FERC.

1.1 DOCUMENT ORGANIZATION

The Supplemental Filing provided herein is organized into three volumes as follows:

Volume 1 (Public Information)

- **Section 1.0 Introduction:** This section includes an overview of the Supplemental Filing.
- **Section 2.0 Elements Analyzed:** This section defines the activities and information analyzed.
- **Section 3.0 Environmental Effects Analysis:** This section describes the analytical approach for determining environmental effects and identifies environmental effects by resource area.
- **Section 4.0 Cumulative Effects Analysis:** This section identifies the cumulative effects.
- **Section 5.0 Economic Analysis:** This section details overall costs of Alternative 1.
- **Section 6.0 Consultation Documentation:** This section provides information on consultation activities that occurred following submittal of the FLA relevant to this Supplemental Filing.
- **Section 7.0 List of Preparers:** This section identifies those parties responsible for preparation of the Supplemental Filing.
- **Appendices and Attachments:** Technical appendices and attachments which contain analysis, environmental measures, and supplemental technical study reports (TSRs).

Volume 2 (Confidential Information)

- Confidential maps associated with the Supplemental Biological Technical Study Report – 2011.

Volume 3 (Privileged Information)

- Environmental measures and supplemental TSRs associated with cultural resources.

LITERATURE CITED

California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). 2011. Response to Notice of Ready for Environmental Analysis, Federal Power Act Section 10(j) and 10(a) Recommendations, Middle Fork American River Project (FERC Project No. 2079-069). Filed with FERC August 5, 2011.

Placer County Water Agency (PCWA). 2011a. Application for New License. Filed with FERC February 23, 2011.

United States Department of Agriculture-Forest Service (USDA-FS). 2011. Preliminary Section 4(e) Terms and Conditions, Middle Fork American River Project, FERC No. 2079. Filed with FERC August 5, 2011.

United States Department of the Interior (DOI). 2011. Middle Fork American River Project, FERC No. 2079-069, Department of the Interior's Response to Commission's June 7, 2011, Notice that Project is Ready for Environmental Analysis. Filed with FERC August 5, 2011.