

Placer County Water Agency

Middle Fork American River Hydroelectric Project Relicensing Introductory Stakeholder Meeting

April 25, 2006
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Canyon View Community Center
Sierra Room
471 Maidu Drive
Auburn, CA 95603

Draft Meeting Summary

Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) hosted an introductory stakeholder meeting to provide an orientation of the Middle Fork American River Hydroelectric Project (MFP) Relicensing to interested citizens, organizations and agencies. At this meeting PCWA introduced the relicensing team, provided an overview of the relicensing process, and presented information on the MFP facilities and operation. All of the meeting participants were provided with a handout packet that contained copies of the meeting presentation materials which are referenced by handout number. Handouts may be viewed by visiting the Relicensing website at <http://relicensing.pcwa.net> and choose Communication / Meetings / Meeting Materials / April 25, 2006.

Meeting Summary

The meeting summary is organized by agenda item. Each agenda item includes a brief overview of the agenda topic followed by a summary of decisions or action items, if any.

Introductions/Review Agenda - The meeting was opened with a round of introductions, review of the agenda (Handout #1) and a welcome message.

Welcome Message - David Breninger, PCWA General Manager, delivered the welcome message which introduced the purpose and benefits of the MFP.

PCWA Team Introduction – Mal Toy, PCWA Project Manager, introduced the relicensing team which included the PCWA team and consultant team (Handout #2).

Proposed Meeting Groundrules – The facilitator, Marie Rainwater (Marie Rainwater & Associates, LLC) reviewed proposed meeting groundrules (Handout #3). The group agreed to adopt the groundrules for use during the meetings.

FERC ILP Overview – Ed Bianchi (ENTRIX), provided an overview of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Integrated Licensing Process (ILP) which included a summary of key activities, early relicensing steps and documents, FERC schedule, and PCWA's

proposed relicensing approach (Handout #4). PCWA's proposed approach is to begin the study plan development and approval process early so technical resource studies can begin sooner.

Decisions/Action Items

- Action Item No. 1: Add to PCWA's MFP Relicensing website links to the FERC guidance handbook "Handbook for Hydroelectric Project Licensing and 5MW Exemptions from Licensing", April 2004, and the Hydro Reform Coalition guidance document "Citizen Toolkit for Effective Participation in the Hydropower Relicensing Process (The Hydro Guide)".

The following links have been added to the Relicensing website (<http://relicensing.pcwa.net> and choose Documentation / Technical Documents):

Handbook for Hydroelectric Project Licensing and 5MW Exemptions from Licensing, April 2006:

http://www.ferc.gov/industries/hydropower/gen-info/handbooks/licensing_handbook.pdf

Citizens Toolkit for Effective Participation in the Hydropower Relicensing Process (The Hydro Guide):

http://www.hydroreform.org/SupportingFiles/documents/HRC_Toolkit_-_2005-06.pdf

Relicensing Process Goals – Einar Maisch, PCWA Director of Strategic Affairs, provided an overview of the relicensing process goals which included stakeholder roles in relicensing, key elements of stakeholder participation, and key factors (Handout #5).

Relicensing Success Factors Breakout – The facilitator introduced this group exercise which provided stakeholders an opportunity to express their perspectives on the relicensing process (Handout #6). The stakeholder group was organized into six breakout groups that summarized their relicensing perspectives. The perspectives of the six breakout groups are summarized as Attachment A to this meeting summary.

Interest Statements Assignment – The facilitator requested that the stakeholders prepare to provide interest statements from their organization/agency for the MFP relicensing (Handout #8). Stakeholders are to provide their interest statements in an electronic format. These statements will be compiled and shared with the larger stakeholder group and discussed at the May 16th meeting. The facilitator indicated that she is available to assist stakeholders with formulating their interest statements.

Decisions/Action Items

- Action Item No. 2: Stakeholders requested that they be provided with a preamble statement introducing and explaining the stakeholder resource interest statements.

Preamble sent via e-mail to stakeholders on May 4, 2006. See Attachment B.

Draft Relicensing Process Plan (RPP) - Ed Bianchi, (ENTRIX) provided an overview of the Relicensing Process Plan (RPP) which included a description of the purpose, content, process and schedule of the 2006 relicensing meeting schedule (Handout #8).

Lunch Break – A demonstration of PCWA’s MFP Relicensing website was made during the lunch break. This website can be accessed by the following link: <http://relicensing.pcwa.net>.

Middle Fork Project Overview – John Robinson (ENTRIX), provided an overview description of the MFP which included a summary of the project capacities, project features (dams, reservoirs, diversion, powerhouses, water conveyance, and ancillary features), project operations and constraints, maintenance activities, and associated recreation sites (Handout #9).

Decisions/Action Items

- **Action Item No. 3:** Stakeholders requested further clarification of PG&E’s involvement in the MFP relicensing.

Further clarification will be provided at the May 16, 2006 meeting.

- **Action Item No. 4:** Determine if CDFG considers Middle Fork Interbay a reservoir that can be fished.

Update will be provided at the May 16, 2006 meeting.

- **Action Item No. 5:** Verify the extent of the MFP FERC Project boundary.

A FERC Project boundary map is currently being prepared and validated and will be distributed to the stakeholders upon completion.

Communication Protocol Sub-Group Formation – Marie Rainwater discussed the process to establish a Communication Protocols Subgroup. The Communication Protocol Subgroup will develop communication protocols that will be distributed to the larger stakeholder group for review, comment, and approval. A sign-up sheet was provided for stakeholders interested in participating in this Subgroup.

Next Meeting May 16th and Agenda

The agenda for the next meeting on May 16th was provided as Handout #11. The theme of the meeting is “Sharing of Stakeholder Interests”.

Attachment A: MFP Stakeholder Success Factors Breakout Group Results (See 5/16/06 Handout #2e)

Attachment B: Draft Introduction to Stakeholder Interest Statements (See 5/16/06 Handout #3)