

Dockets

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
Division of Hydropower Administration and Compliance
901 Market Street, Suite 350
San Francisco, CA 94103
415-369-3334 Fax 415-369-3322

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

May 6, 2003

Project No. 2105-CA
Upper North Fork Feather R. Project
Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Randal S. Livingston, Director
Power Generation
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
P. O. Box 770000
Mail Code: N11E
San Francisco, CA 94177

Re: Confirmation of P-2105 Scheduled 2003 Environmental Inspection

Dear Mr. Livingston:

This letter confirms arrangements made with Mr. Bill Zemke for the environmental inspection of the Upper North Fork Feather River Project, FERC Project No. 2105. I will meet Mr. Zemke at Canyon Dam (forming Lake Almanor Reservoir) off of State Highway 89 about nine miles west of Greenville, California, on Tuesday, June 10, 2003, at about 8:00 a.m. to begin the inspection. I expect the inspection will be completed by no later than Friday at noon.

Enclosed are lists of (1) information, data, and materials requested, and (2) areas and facilities to be inspected for each project. These lists may be expanded during the inspection. Please have Item 1 ready at the beginning of the inspection.

There may be some expenses incurred from the use of various vehicles for the inspections. I will bring forms and instructions so that you may request reimbursement from FERC for any pro-rated vehicle expenses if shared transportation is used for the inspections.

Should you have questions or need to make additional arrangements, please call me at 415-369-3334 or e-mail me at antonia.lattin@ferc.gov.

By copy of this letter, appropriate state agency, Federal agency, and tribal representatives are invited to attend the inspections. Agency and tribal representatives interested in attending should notify me at the above number or e-mail address no later than the Thursday before the inspections.

Sincerely,

Antonia Lattin
Environmental Protection Specialist
Division of Hydropower Administration
and Compliance

Enclosures

cc: Wayne S. White, Field Supervisor
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Ecological Services
2800 Cottage Way
Room W-2605
Sacramento, CA 95825

Jim Bybee, Regional Director
National Marine Fisheries Service
777 Sonoma Ave. Room 325
Santa Rosa, CA 95404-6528

Dilip Paul, FERC Coordinator
Regional Forester's Office
650 Capitol Mall, Suite 8-200
Sacramento, CA 95814

Forest Supervisor
Plumas National Forest
159 Lawrence Street
Box 11500
Quincy, CA 95971

Forest Supervisor
Lassen National Forest
55 South Sacramento St.
Susanville, CA 96130

Mr. Art Champ
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
1325 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Central Valley Operation Center
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825

Mike Pool, State Director
Bureau of Land Management
CA State Office
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-1834
Sacramento, CA 95825-0451

Director Region IX
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
75 Hawthorne St.
San Francisco, CA 94105

NPS CA Hydro Program
Attn: Harry Williamson
c/o BLM
2800 Cottage Way
W-1834 CA-942
Sacramento, CA 95825

Dept. of the Interior
Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
1111 Jackson St.
Oakland, CA 94607

**Mr. James Bowers
Assistant Operations Chief
Apple Valley Satellite Office
U. S. Geological Survey
P.O. Box 865
Apple Valley, CA 92307**

**Mr. Stephen W. Verigin, Acting Chief
Division of Safety of Dams
Dept. of Water Resources
P. O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001**

**Acting State Historic Preservation Officer
Office of Historic Preservation
Department of Parks and Recreation
P. O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001
Attn: Daniel Abeyta**

**FERC Coordinator Carolyn Rech
California Department of Fish and Game
and Fish and Game Commission
830 S Street
Sacramento, CA 95814**

**State of California
Department of Fish and Game
Region II
1701 Nimbus Road, Suite A
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670**

**State of California
Department of Parks and Recreation
P. O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001**

State of California
Department of Boating & Waterways
2000 Evergreen Street
Sacramento, CA 95815-3896

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3443 Routier Road, Suite A
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Enterprise Rancheria
1940 Feather River Blvd. #B
Oroville, CA 95965

Warren Gorbet
Maidu Cultural and Development Group
P. O. Box 85
Crescent Mills, CA 95934

Marvena Harris
Mountain Maidu
P. O. Box 1012
Westwood, CA 96137

FERC Project No. 2105

Information, Data, and Materials Requested

List of all private resorts and other developments wholly or partially occupying project lands and waters, including an identification of those facilities claiming deed reservation rights

Schedule of recreation use fees for all developed facilities and brochures if available

Recreation use statistics, 1998 to present, showing number of days at or over capacity for the licensee and Forest Service campgrounds

Reservoir elevations for the first day of the inspection

List and description of any discharges of sewage effluent from the Chester Sanitary District treatment facility from 1997 to the present

Copy or description of shoreline management and permit program and any other licensee actions to control non-project uses of project lands, including rules, standards, and current fees

Number of permits issued at Lake Almanor reservoir for residential structures and an estimate of how many structures, if any, still need to be permitted

Number of permits issued at Lake Almanor reservoir for commercial uses and an estimate of how many shoreline businesses, if any, still need to be permitted

Description of any compliance inspection program for Lake Almanor reservoir shoreline permits and a copy of the most-recent inspection report

Updates, if any, to the Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure Plans for each project powerhouse

If available, copy of the Almanor Basin Management Plan

Description of length-of-stay restrictions for recreation facilities

Description of advance preparations for fire suppression per Article 13 requirements

List of any construction projects over the past five years and description of any consultations with the State Historic Preservation Office per Article 44

Description of any consultations under Paragraph B of the November 22, 1991 Order re. release plans should Belden Powerhouse be off line from March 1 through October 31 when water is being delivered to the non-project Lake Oroville reservoir from project storage

Copy of special schedule from the California Department of Fish and Game for flow releases below Almanor Dam and Belden Forebay Dam, if any, from 1998 to the present per Article 26

Documentation of payment for stocking 5,000 pounds of catchable trout per year below Belden Forebay from 1998 to the present per Article 26

List of spill incidents from Belden Forebay from 1998 to present, if any, and description of what warnings staff gave to recreationists prior to each spill event

Estimate of seepage flows in Butt Creek below the reconstructed Butt Valley Dam, comparison to pre-remediation seepage flows, and description of any supplemental flow releases per the CDFG streambed alteration permit for the remediation work cited in the August 2, 1999 order approving the final fishery mitigation plan

Status of obtaining permits for transmission lines on National Forest lands per the December 22, 1998 order

Areas and Facilities To Be Inspected

Lake Almanor (Canyon) Dam, intake, minimum flow release mechanism, and safety features

Gage No. NF-2 (Big Meadows, USGS No. 11-3995)

All recreation sites occupying project lands and waters at Lake Almanor reservoir, including:

Canyon Dam picnic area and boat ramp

Camp Connery Group Camp

Private employee association Chico Division camp adjacent to Camp Connery

Rocky Point Campground (formerly Fox Farm, Mountain View, and Rocky Point)
Wilson's Camp Prattville Campground and Marina
Private employee association Camp Almanor
Plumas Pines Resort and Marina, including fuel storage area and delivery system
West Shore boat ramp
Almanor Campgrounds
Last Chance Campground(s)
Northshore Campground w/ boat ramp and moorings
Selected shoreline developments on Almanor Peninsula
Any other private shoreline developments
Kokanee Lodge and Marina
Big Cove Resort and Marina, including fuel storage area and delivery system
Kokanee Resort, including remediated earth berm jetty
Lake Almanor Country Club
Little Norway Resort and Marina, including fuel storage area and delivery system
Lichti's Lakeside Resort and Marina
Lake Almanor Resort and Marina
Hamilton Branch recreation access
Moonspinner Resort, including 6-boat dock and boat launch per July 1, 1998 order
Lassen View Resort and Marina, including fuel storage area and delivery system
Picnic area near Catfish Beach
Stumpy Beach access area
Westwood Beach access area
Lake Haven Resort and Marina
Lake Cove Resort and Marina
Almanor Scenic Overlook
Eastshore picnic area

Any fuel or other hazardous substance storage areas on project lands outside of powerhouse containment systems, including new or improved above-ground fuel tanks and piping systems at the Knotty Pine Resort if it is still in business

Signs satisfying Part 8 of the Commission's Regulations

30-acre wetland area pond adjacent to Chester Sanitary District sewage treatment facilities as authorized by the May 13, 1997, order, including visual screening

Flow path below Butt Valley Tunnel surge chamber if it discharges to the environment

Butt Valley Powerhouse, switchyard, and tailrace, including secondary containment system, any upgrades resulting from the small oil spill in March 2003, and public safety features

All recreation facilities at Butt Valley Reservoir, including:

Ponderosa Flat Campground and boat launch

**Alder Creek picnic area and boat launch with transmission line clearance
warning signs**

Cool Spring Campground

Butt Valley Dam, public safety features, and Butt Creek as seen from the dam

Selected portions of 115 kV transmission line from Butt Valley Powerhouse to Caribou No. 2 Powerhouse, including all water crossings

Butt Valley Dam, reservoir, intake, and safety features

Flow path below Caribou No. 1 and No. 2 tunnel surge chambers if they discharge to the environment

Caribou No. 1 and No. 2 Powerhouses, switchyard, and tailraces, including secondary containment systems, warning sign at trailhead, and other public safety features

Oak Flat Powerhouse, switchyard, and tailrace, including secondary containment systems and public safety features

Belden Forebay Dam and reservoir (Caribou Afterbay)

Gage No. NF-70 (below Belden Diversion Dam)

Gansner Bar rough fish barrier and safety barrier upstream

Flow path below Belden tunnel surge chambers if it discharges to the environment

Belden Powerhouse, switchyard, and tailrace, including secondary containment systems and public safety features

Belden Day Use Area, including historic gold stamp mill

North Fork Feather River below Belden Forebay as seen from the dam and sites where staff warns recreationists of impending spill flows

Representative portions of the transmission lines, including any areas where they cross bodies of water

Other public safety features and measures

Any areas previously accessible to members of the public for recreation that are now closed due to security precautions

Any areas downstream of project works that may be subject to sudden increases or decreases in flow

Any areas where transmission lines cross over project waters

Any abandoned features