



April 12, 2018

**Via Electronic Submittal (eFile)**

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary  
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
888 – 1st Street, N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20426-0001

**Subject: Yuba River Development Project**  
**FERC Project No. 2246-065 – California**  
**Revised Log Cabin and Our House Diversion Dams and New Bullards Bar Reservoir Large Woody Material Management Plan for License Application**

Dear Secretary Bose:

This letter provides to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC or Commission) the attached *Log Cabin and Our House Diversion Dams and New Bullards Bar Reservoir Large Woody Material Management Plan*, dated March 2018 (March 2018 Plan).

The Yuba County Water Agency (YCWA) requests that FERC replace the *Log Cabin and Our House Diversion Dams and New Bullards Bar Reservoir Large Woody Material Management Plan*, dated October 2016 (October 2016 Plan), in YCWA's application for new license for YCWA's Yuba River Development Project, FERC Project Number 2246 (Project) with the attached March 2018 Plan.

Further, YCWA requests that FERC evaluate the attached March 2018 Plan, rather than the October 2016 Plan, in FERC's environmental impact statement (EIS) being prepared to support the relicensing of the Project.

### **BACKGROUND**

On April 28, 2014, YCWA filed with the Commission an *Application for New License Major Project – Existing Dam (FLA)* for the Project. Appendix E2 to Exhibit E of the application included YCWA's proposed conditions for inclusion in the new license. YCWA's Proposed Conditions GS3 and GS4 pertained to management of large woody material at the Our Diversion Dam impoundment, Log Cabin Diversion Dam impoundment and New Bullards Bar Reservoir.

On October 27, 2016, YCWA provided to FERC revised proposed conditions, including a new YCWA Proposed Condition GS3, which replaced YCWA's Proposed Conditions GS3 and GS4 in the FLA with the October 2016 Plan. Further, YCWA stated that it understood the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service (Forest Service), agreed with the October 2016 Plan and – unless there were unforeseen complications – intended to file the

October 2016 Plan as part of the Forest Service's preliminary Federal Power Act (FPA) Section 4(e) terms and conditions. In addition, the letter stated YCWA understood the following parties supported the October 2016 Plan: United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS); California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Cal Fish and Wildlife) and the Foothills Water Network (FWN).

YCWA filed with FERC an *Amended Application for New License Major Project – Existing Dam* (Amended FLA) on June 2, 2017, and filed with FERC errata to its Amended FLA on July 21, 2017, September 15, 2017 and November 1, 2017. The Amended FLA included YCWA's Proposed Condition GS3, which included the October 2016 Plan.

On June 26, 2017, FERC issued a *Notice of Application Accepted for Filing, Soliciting Motions to Intervene and Protests, Ready for Environmental Analysis, and Soliciting Comments, Recommendations, Preliminary Terms and Conditions, and Preliminary Fishway Prescriptions* (REA Notice) for the Project relicensing.

On August 21, 2017, the Forest Service filed its FPA preliminary Section 4(e) terms and conditions. The Forest Service included in its filing the October 2016 Plan.

In subsequent discussions, YCWA and Relicensing Participants noted that YCWA, with agencies' approvals, used a method not described in the October 2016 Plan to remove from New Bullards Bar Reservoir an unusually large amount of floating material in 2017, and that it would be beneficial to include this method as an additional option in the *Log Cabin and Our House Diversion Dams and New Bullards Bar Reservoir Large Woody Material Management Plan*.

Over the past few months, the parties have collaboratively revised the October 2016 Plan to include this method. The result of this collaboration is the attached March 2018 Plan.

### **AGREEMENT WITH PLAN**

The attached March 2018 Plan and this transmittal letter were provided to interested Relicensing Participants for review. As evidenced by the attached e-mails and letters, YCWA understands the Forest Service intends to file the attached Plan with its Federal FPA Section 4(e) final terms and conditions unless there are unforeseen events, and the following parties also support the Plan: the USFWS and Cal Fish and Wildlife.

### **REQUEST**

YCWA requests that FERC replace the October 2016 Plan in YCWA's application for new license with the attached March 2018 Plan. YCWA requests that FERC evaluate the attached March 2018 Plan, rather than the October 2016 Plan, in FERC's EIS being prepared to support relicensing of the Project.

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If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Curt Aikens  
General Manager

Attachment: 1. Certificate of Service for the Yuba River Development Project, FERC Project No. 2246-065  
2. Support Emails for the March 2018 Log Cabin and Our House Diversion Dams and New Bullards Bar Reservoir Large Woody Material Management Plan  
3. March 2018 Log Cabin and Our House Diversion Dams and New Bullards Bar Reservoir Large Woody Material Management Plan

cc: Alan Mitchnick, FERC DC  
Parties on FERC's Official Service List for the Yuba River Development Project Relicensing, FERC Project No. 2246-065  
Relicensing Participants on YCWA's Yuba River Development Project's Relicensing E-Mail Contact List (via e-mail)

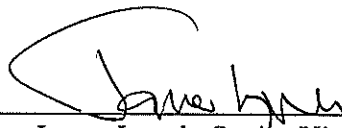
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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing document upon each person designated on the official service list compiled by the Secretary of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in this proceeding (Yuba River Development Project, FERC Project No. 2246-065).

Dated in Sacramento, CA this 12<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2018.



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James Lynch, Senior Vice President  
HDR Engineering, Inc.  
Hydropower Services  
2379 Gateway Oaks, Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95833  
(916) 679-8740

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