



August 10, 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 – California**  
**Updated *Our House and Log Cabin Diversion Dams Sediment Management Plan***

Dear Secretary Bose:

This letter provides to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) an updated *Our House and Log Cabin Diversion Dams Sediment Management Plan* (Plan) for FERC's approval.

### BACKGROUND

The Yuba County Water Agency (YCWA) is the owner and operator and holds the existing license from FERC for the Yuba River Development Project, FERC Project Number 2246 (Project). The Project is located in Yuba, Nevada and Sierra counties, California and includes Our House Diversion Dam on the Middle Yuba River and Log Cabin Diversion Dam on Oregon Creek, a tributary to the Middle Yuba River.

In a letter dated November 5, 2013, FERC directed YCWA to develop a plan for sediment management at Log Cabin Diversion Dam, and to file the plan with FERC for approval. YCWA, in collaboration with the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service (Forest Service), United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and other interested parties developed the *Log Cabin and Our House Diversion Dams Sediment Management Plan*. YCWA filed the Plan with FERC on May 20, 2014. FERC approved the mechanical sediment removal and emergency sediment removal portions of the Plan on September 23, 2014, and the sediment passage portions of the Plan on March 4, 2016. YCWA implemented the mechanical sediment removal portion of the Plan in October 2014 upon FERC's approval, after obtaining all necessary permits and approvals.

Section 6 of the Plan states that the Plan may be updated as needed by YCWA after consultation with the Forest Service, USFWS, CDFW, SWRCB, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB) and United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The section requires that YCWA file the updated Plan with FERC, including

relevant documentation of coordination and consultation with the above agencies, for FERC's approval, and YCWA implement the updated Plan as approved by FERC.

### **UPDATED PLAN**

Since its implementation, YCWA and agencies have noted improvements that could be made to the Plan based on lessons learned during plan implementation. The substantive improvements include: 1) removal of sediment due to blockage of the dam outlets; and 2) update sediment passage triggers and implementation. YCWA, working with agencies and other interested parties, have collaboratively updated the Plan to include these improvements. The result of this collaboration is the attached updated *Log Cabin and Our House Diversion Dams Sediment Management Plan*.

### **CONSULTATION DOCUMENTATION**

The attached updated *Log Cabin and Our House Diversion Dams Sediment Management Plan* and this transmittal letter were provided to the Forest Service, USFWS, CDFW, SWRCB, CVRWQCB, USACE and other interested parties for review and comment. As evidenced by correspondences in Attachment 2 to this letter, YCWA understands the following parties support the attached updated Plan: Forest Service, CDFW, and USFWS.

### **REQUEST**

YCWA requests that FERC approve the attached updated *Log Cabin and Our House Diversion Dams Sediment Management Plan*, which would replace YCWA's May 2014 Plan. YCWA would implement the updated plan upon FERC approval and obtaining any agency permits and approvals to do so. YCWA will continue to implement the existing Plan until that time.

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

Sincerely,



Curt Aikens  
General Manager

Attachment 1: Updated *Our House and Log Cabin Diversion Dams Sediment Management Plan*

Attachment 2: Support for Attached Updated Plan

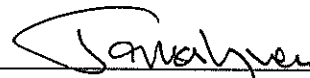
cc: John Aedo, FERC San Francisco  
Amy Lind, Forest Service  
Stephanie Millsap, USFWS  
Amy Kennedy, CDFW  
Philip Choy, SWRCB  
Stephanie Tadlock, CVRWQCB  
Doug Grothe, USACE  
Robert Chase, USACE

Page Left Blank

**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).

Dated in Sacramento, CA this 10<sup>th</sup> day of August 2018.



---

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