

**Yuba County Water Agency**

# **Yuba River Development Project**

(FERC Project No. 2246)

- Initial Native American Tribes Meeting -

**September 9, 2009**



# YCWA's Representatives

- Curt Aikens – General Manager, YCWA
- Jim Lynch – Relicensing Consultant, HDR|DTA
- Sandy Flint – Relicensing Consultant, HDR|DTA

# Purpose of Meeting

- Help Interested Native American Tribes Engage in YCWA's Yuba River Development Project Relicensing
- Review List of Native American Tribe Contacts

# Agenda

- Description of the Yuba River Development Project
- General Description of Relicensing Process
- Description of YCWA's Relicensing Process including Schedule
- How to Engage

# Yuba River Development Project

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# Project Purposes

- Water Supply
- Flood Control
- Power Generation, including Ancillary Services
- Environmental Enhancement
- Recreation

# Existing Facilities/Features

- Project on Main Stem Yuba River; North Yuba River; and Middle Yuba River Including Tributary Oregon Creek in Yuba, Sierra and Nevada Counties. Portion of FERC Project Boundary on National Forest System Land
- 1 Storage Reservoir – New Bullards Bar (966,103 ac-ft) on North Yuba River
- 2 Diversion Facilities – Our House on Middle Yuba River (860 cfs), and Log Cabin on Oregon Creek (1,100 cfs)
- 3 Powerhouses – New Colgate (340 MW), New Bullards Minimum Flow (150 kW) and Narrows 2 (55 MW)
- 4 Water Conduits – Lohman Ridge Tunnel (3.3 mi), Camptonville Tunnel (1.0 mi), New Colgate Power Tunnel and Penstock (4.7 mi) and Narrows 2 Power Tunnel (0.1 mi)
- New Bullards Bar Recreation Area & Some Facility Access Roads
- No Transmission Lines, Canals/Flumes, or Active Spoil Piles or Borrow Areas

# Proposed Facilities/Features

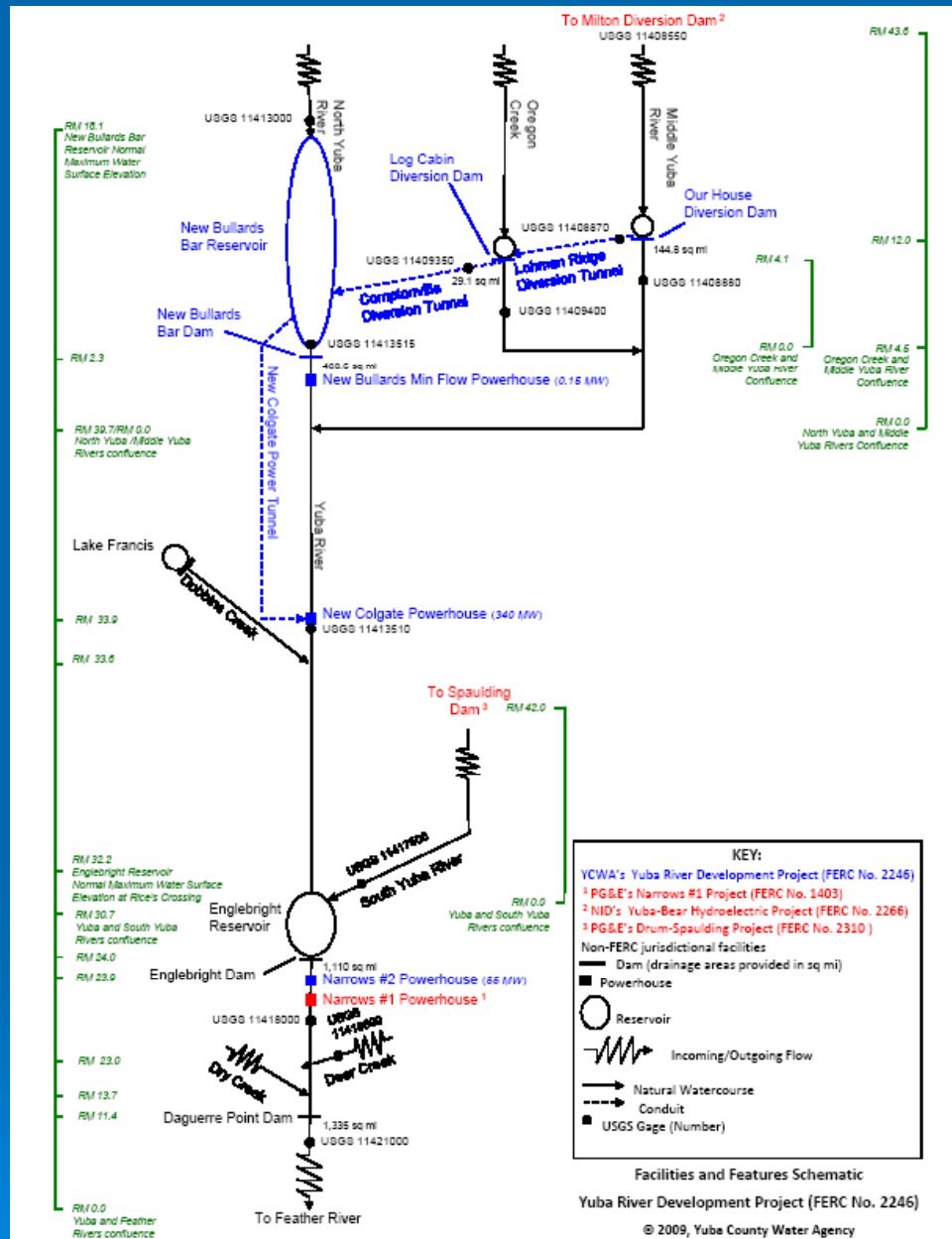
- YCWA in Process of Identifying and Evaluating Potential Generation Enhancements
- YCWA Plans to Complete Evaluations and Make Determination in Mid 2010

# Reservoir/Diversions Operations

- Project Operates Using Available Water Consistent with Meeting: Safety Considerations; All FERC License Conditions; USACE's Flood Control Requirements; and Pertinent Permits and Contracts
  - Lower Yuba River Accord establishes flow schedules below USACE's Englebright Dam
  - Coordination with PG&E's Narrows Project
- New Bullards Bar Reservoir Used for Storage - Usually at Highest Elevation at End of Spring Runoff Season, and Then Gradually Drawn Down to Lowest Elevation in Mid Winter.
- Our House and Log Cabin (No Appreciable Storage or Fluctuation) Used for Diversion to New Bullards Bar Reservoir
- Water Passes Through USACE's Englebright Reservoir

# Powerhouse Operations

- New Colgate Powerhouse Operated for Peaking
  - High demand times of day (*i.e.*, morning & evening)
- New Colgate Powerhouse Also Operated for Ancillary Services
  - Very rapid (within seconds) changes in operations
  - Project important in Northern California to meet transmission grid ancillary services requirements
- Narrows 2 and New Bullards Minimum Flow Powerhouses Operated for Base Loading (Constant Generation)



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**OUR HOUSE DIVERSION DAM SPILLWAY**

Type: Uncontrolled, 6 Bays  
Capacity: 60,000 cfs

**OUR HOUSE DIVERSION DAM**

Dam Height: 70 ft  
Crest Length: 368 ft  
Crest Elevation: 2,049 ft  
Type: Concrete, Arch

**OUR HOUSE DIVERSION DAM  
LOW-LEVEL OUTLET**

Diameter: 24 in  
Control: Hand-operated Gate Valve  
Invert Elevation: 1,988.5 ft  
Capacity: 60 cfs

**OUR HOUSE DIVERSION DAM  
SLUICE**

Diameter: 5 ft  
Control: Motor-operated Slide Gate  
Centerline Elevation: 1,990 ft  
Capacity: 800 cfs

Middle Yuba River



**LOG CABIN DIVERSION DAM SPILLWAY**  
Type: Uncontrolled, 6 Bays  
Capacity: 12,000 cfs

**LOG CABIN DIVERSION DAM**  
Dam Height: 53 ft  
Crest Length: 300 ft  
Crest Elevation: 1,979 ft  
Type: Concrete, Arch

**LOG CABIN DIVERSION DAM LOW-LEVEL OUTLET**  
Diameter: 18 in  
Control: Hand-operated Gate Valve  
Invert Elevation: 1,935 Ft  
Capacity: 13 cfs

**LOG CABIN DIVERSION DAM SLUICE**  
Diameter: 5 ft  
Control: Motor-operated Slide Gate  
Centerline Elevation: 1,938 ft  
Capacity: 800 cfs

Oregon Creek



Emerald Cove Marina

**NEW COLGATE  
POWERHOUSE PENSTOCK**  
Connects to New Colgate  
Power Tunnel

**NEW BULLARDS MIN FLOW  
POWERHOUSE**  
Capacity: 150 KW  
Rated Head: 560 ft Rated Flow: 5 cfs  
Turbine Type: Pelton (1)

**NEW BULLARDS BAR DAM  
LOW-LEVEL OUTLET**  
Control: 72 in Howell Jet Valve  
Invert Elevation: 1,395 ft  
Capacity: 1,250 cfs

Marysville Road  
(on YCWA land)

**NEW BULLARDS BAR DAM**  
Dam Height: 645 ft  
Crest Length: 2,323 ft  
Crest Elevation: 1,965 ft  
Type: Concrete, Arch

New Bullards Bar  
Reservoir

**NEW BULLARDS BAR DAM SPILLWAY**  
Type: Controlled, 3 Tainter Gates  
Crest Elevation: 1,902 ft  
Length: 106 ft  
Capacity: 160,000 cfs

North Yuba River



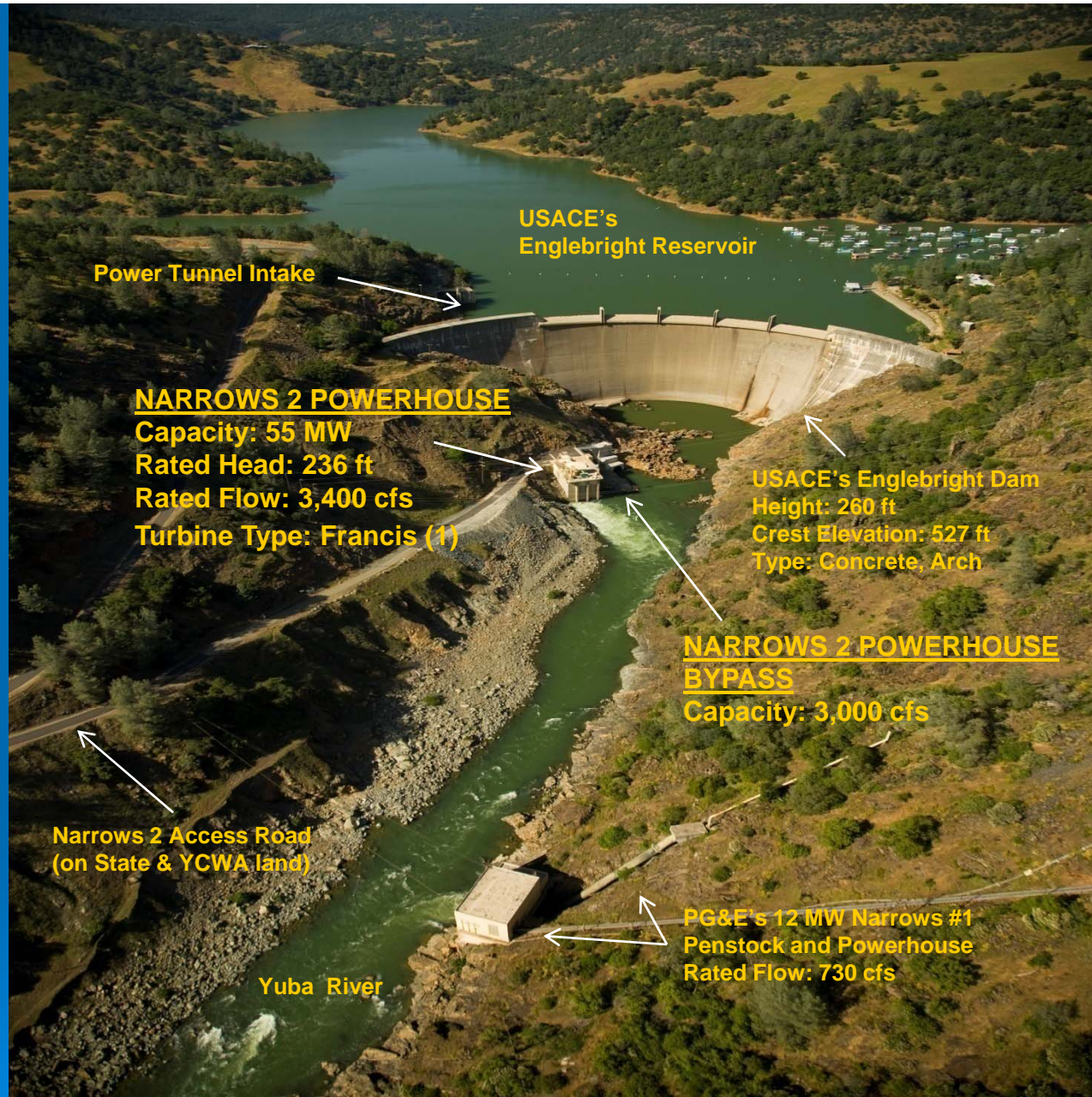
**NEW COLGATE PENSTOCK**  
Type : Steel, Above-Ground  
Diameter: 9 ft to 14.4 ft  
Length: 2,809 ft  
Rated Flow: 3,500 cfs

**NEW COLGATE POWERHOUSE**  
Capacity: 340 MW  
Rated Head: 1,360 ft  
Rated Flow: 3,430 cfs  
Turbine Type: Pelton (2)

PG&E's 60 kV Switchyard

YCWA's Project Office

Yuba River



Power Tunnel Intake

USACE's  
Englebright Reservoir

**NARROWS 2 POWERHOUSE**

Capacity: 55 MW  
Rated Head: 236 ft  
Rated Flow: 3,400 cfs  
Turbine Type: Francis (1)

USACE's Englebright Dam  
Height: 260 ft  
Crest Elevation: 527 ft  
Type: Concrete, Arch

**NARROWS 2 POWERHOUSE  
BYPASS**

Capacity: 3,000 cfs

Narrows 2 Access Road  
(on State & YCWA land)

Yuba River

PG&E's 12 MW Narrows #1  
Penstock and Powerhouse  
Rated Flow: 730 cfs

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# Relicensing Background

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# What is Relicensing?

- Relicensing Is Process of an Applicant Obtaining a New License from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to Continue Operating an Existing Hydroelectric Project After the End of the Project's Current License Term
- FERC Licenses are Issued for Terms of 30 to 50 Years

# What is Purpose of Relicensing?

- Balance Beneficial Uses of Project-Affected Resources Consistent with Current Social Priorities

# Relicensing Background

- Relicensing Process and Requirements are Codified in the Federal Power Act and Interfacing Statutes
- Relicensing Process and the New Licenses Are Administered by FERC. Other State and Federal Agencies and Tribes Have Key Roles, as Does the Public
- Relicensing Takes a Statutory Minimum of 5 Years to Complete, and Can Take Longer

# General Timeline

- Formal Start of Relicensing Proceeding Occurs When Applicant Files with FERC a Notice of Intent (NOI) and Pre-Application Document (PAD)
- Year 1: FERC Meets with Interested Tribes; Performs NEPA Scoping; Relicensing Participants Develop Study Plans; FERC Issues Formal Study Plan Determination; Applicant Begins Performing Studies
- Years 2 & 3: Applicant Gathers Information, Performs Studies, and Prepares License Application with Input from Relicensing Participants
- Years 4 & 5: FERC and State Perform Environmental Analyses (NEPA and CEQA); State Issues Water Quality Certificate; Federal Fish and Wildlife Agencies Issue Biological Opinion under ESA
- Years 5+: FERC Issues New License with New Conditions

# What is an NOI?

- A Brief Document that Notifies FERC of Applicant's Intent to File a License Application

# What is a PAD?

- A Written Summary by the Applicant of “Existing, Relevant, and Reasonably Available” Information to Help Inform Potentially Interested Parties at the Start of a Relicensing Proceeding
- Provides an Initial Compilation of Potential Impacts and Issues, and Applicant-Proposed Study Plans and Resource Measures
- Forms the Basis for Environmental Review

# How to Find Out More About Relicensing in General?

- FERC website: [www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)
- FERC's Relicensing Handbook

# YCWA's Relicensing Process

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# YCWA's Goals in Relicensing

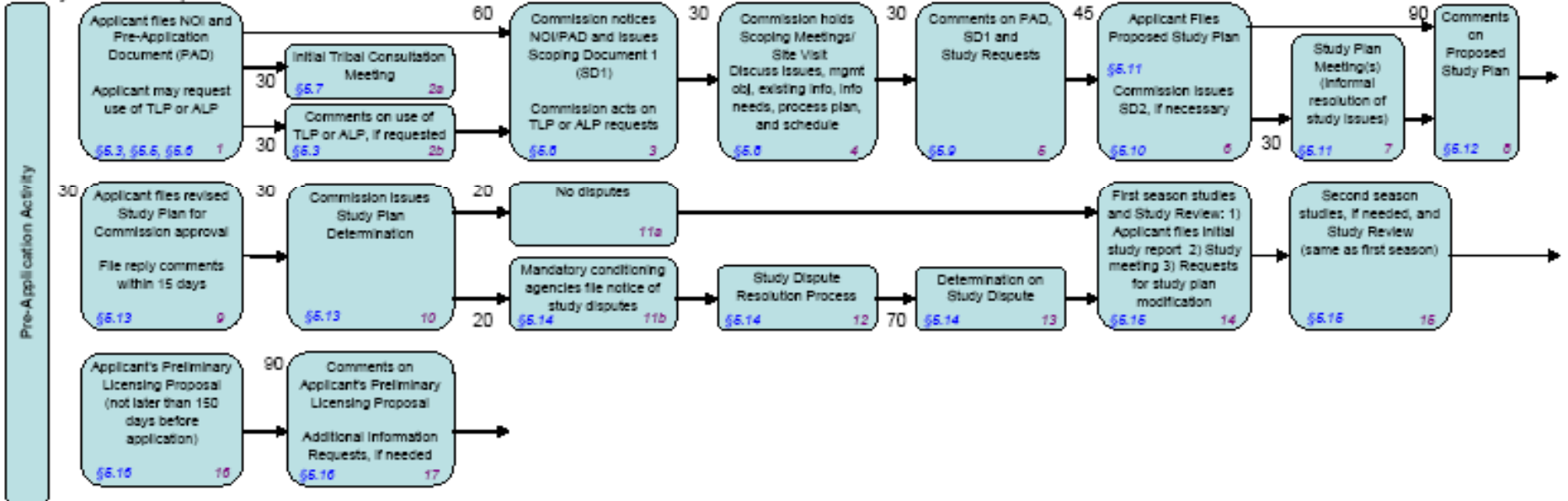
- Obtain a New FERC License That:
  - Maintains and enhances the Project benefits (*i.e.*, water supply, flood control, electricity generation, environmental and recreation)
  - Has a minimal adverse impact to Project economics
  - Helps foster YCWA's relationship with the community, resource agencies, tribes, and other interested parties
  - Has a maximum term at a minimum cost (both initially and ongoing)

# YCWA's Relicensing Process

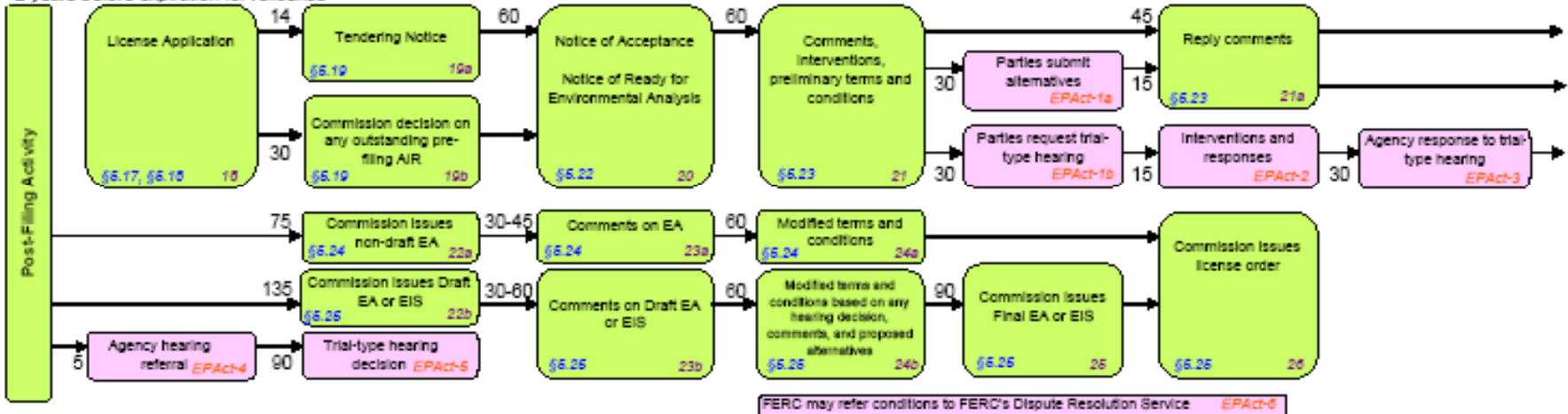
- At This Time, YCWA Plans to Follow FERC's Integrated Licensing Process (ILP)
- FERC Normally Invites Native American Tribes to a Meeting with FERC Within 30 Days of NOI Filing
  - Tribes must reply to FERC's request
  - Can be one-on-one meetings or joint meetings, but Licensee does not attend
  - Sometimes the request comes before the NOI filed in anticipation of the filing
- At this time, YCWA Plans to Request in its NOI that FERC Designate YCWA Its Non-Federal Representative for Consultation Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act
  - Note that this will not occur until the NOI is filed in November 2009, and FERC probably will not respond until it issues its Notice of Commencement of Proceeding in January 2010. Formal 106 consultation will not begin until then.

## Integrated Licensing Process (Section 241 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005)

5.5-5 years before expiration for relicense



2 years before expiration for relicense



\*Section 241 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 in pink.

# Project-Specific Timeline

## - Pre-Application Filing -

- November 1, 2010 – YCWA Files NOI/PAD [*Agencies might suggest a slight delay.*]
- Late 2010 – Early 2011 – FERC Holds Tribe Meeting, Holds Site Visit and Performs NEPA Scoping. YCWA and Relicensing Participants Begin Formal Study Proposal Development Process.
- 2011 - YCWA and Relicensing Participants Continue Formal Study Proposal Development Process. YCWA files Proposed and Revised Study Plans in mid April and mid August 2011. FERC Issues Study Plan Determination in September 2011 and Final in October 2011 If No Disputes. If Disputes Between FERC and a Mandatory Conditioning Agency, FERC Resolves Dispute by January 2012.
- 2012- YCWA Performs FERC-Approved Studies, Issues Initial Study Report, and Begins Negotiating Protection, Mitigation and Enhancement Measures
- 2013 – YCWA Performs Additional Studies If Needed, Continues Negotiating Measures, Issues Draft License Application or Preliminary License Proposal in Late 2013, and Issues Updated Study Report
- April 2014 – YCWA Files License Application

# Project-Specific Timeline

## - Post-Application Filing -

- Second Half of 2014 – FERC Issues Determination Regarding Need for Additional Studies, Issues Notice that the Application is Ready for Environmental Analysis (REA), and Requests Comments, Fishway Prescriptions, and Mandatory Conditioning Agencies' Preliminary Terms and Conditions. YCWA Files Request with SWRCB for a Water Quality Certificate.
- First Half of 2015 – YCWA and Relicensing Participants Comment on Fishway Prescriptions and Mandatory Conditioning Agencies' Preliminary Terms and Conditions, and May Submit Alternatives/Request for Trial-Type Hearing. Mandatory Conditioning Agencies Reply to Requests for Trial-Type Hearing, and Hold Hearing if Appropriate.
- Second Half of 2015 – FERC Issues Draft Environmental Document and Requests Mandatory Conditioning Agencies' Final Terms and Conditions. YCWA and Relicensing Participants File Comments. YCWA Initiates CEQA.
- By March 2016 – FERC Issues Final Environmental Document. YCWA Completes CEQA Process and SWRCB Issues Water Quality Certificate.
- April 2016 – Anticipated that FERC Issues New License Order.

# YCWA's Pre-NOI/PAD Activities

(1 of 2)

- Developed Relicensing Website ([www.ycwa-relicensing.com](http://www.ycwa-relicensing.com))
- Developed Relicensing GIS Database
- Performed Whitewater Boating Flow Study from New Bullards Bar Dam to USACE's Englebright Reservoir
- Collecting Water Temperature Monitoring Data in Streams and in Reservoirs, and Meteorological Data
- Collecting Water Quality Data
- In Stream Reaches Upstream of USACE's Englebright Reservoir, Performed Rosgen 1 Typing and Performing Stream Habitat Typing
- Developing Water Balance/Operations Model and Associated Hydrology
- Gathering Existing, Relevant and Reasonably Available Information for PAD

# YCWA's Pre-NOI/PAD Activities

(2 of 2)

- September 2009 – YCWA Issues Preliminary Information Package
- October 1, 2009 - YCWA Offers Project Tour for Agencies, Tribes and NGOs
- October 14, 2009 - YCWA Holds Meeting with Relicensing Participants to Review Contents of Preliminary Information Package, and Discuss Process Including Setting 2010 Meeting Dates
- February 2010 – YCWA Issues Draft “Straw Man” Study Proposals
- Remainder of 2010 – YCWA and Relicensing Participants Attempt to Reach Consensus on Study Proposals
- 2011 – Any Studies for which Consensus Reached, YCWA Will Consider Beginning Prior to FERC's Study Determination Assuming Budget Available

# How to Participate

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# How Can You Participate?

(1 of 2)

- Indicate your interest! Sign the meeting attendance sheet (and provide email address and other contact information) and we will add you to the Relicensing Contact List
  - Let us know if your contact information is correct
  - Let us know if you believe other Native Americans should be added to the Contact List. Who?
  
- Complete the PAD Questionnaire identifying issues and “existing, relevant, and reasonably available” information
  - Copies of PAD Questionnaire in back of room
  
- Let Us Know If You Would Like a Presentation Like This One to Your Tribal Council

# How Can You Participate?

(2 of 2)

- Let Us Know If the Information You Provide Should be Considered Confidential
- Make information in your possession available
- Participate in Future Relicensing Meetings
- Stay engaged
- Visit Relicensing Website ([www.ycwa-relicensing.com](http://www.ycwa-relicensing.com))



# YUBA COUNTY WATER AGENCY RELICENSING WEBSITE

YCWA Relicensing Website

## Documents

- Action Item Log
- Schedules
- FERC Filings - Relicensing
- FERC Notices and Orders - Relicensing
- Initial License
- Project Maps, Schematics and Fact Sheets
- Relicensing Documents
- Technical References
- Communication Guidelines
- Comprehensive Plans and Relevant Agreements
- Correspondence
- Lower Yuba River Accord
- Temporary**
- PAD Information Questionnaire
- Lists**
- Events Calendar

## PUBLIC WEBSITE FOR THE RELICENSING OF THE YUBA RIVER DEVELOPMENT PROJECT FERC No. 2246.

Welcome to Yuba County Water Agency's (YCWA) Yuba River Development Project Relicensing Public Website. This is an information resource for parties interested in the relicensing of YCWA's Yuba River Development Project, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Project No. 2246 (Project).

### The Project

The Project is located on Yuba River, Middle Yuba River and Oregon Creek in Yuba County, California, and consists of 1 reservoir (New Bullards Bar on the North Yuba River), 2 diversion dams (Our House Diversion Dam on the Middle Yuba River and Log Cabin Diversion Dam on Oregon Creek), 3 powerhouses (New Colgate, Fish Release and Narrows No. 2) and various recreation facilities and appurtenant facilities. The installed capacity of the Project is 361.9 megawatts.



### The License

The initial FERC license for the Project expires April 30, 2016. YCWA intends to apply to FERC for a new license (Relicensing) using FERC's Integrated Licensing Process (ILP), as described in Title 18 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Subchapter B, Part 5. Consistent with these regulations, YCWA intends to file with FERC a notice of intent to apply for a new license (NOI) and a Pre-application Document (PAD) after November 1, 2010 but no later than April 30, 2011. YCWA plans to file an application for new license by April 30, 2014.



### The Relicensing Process

YCWA enters the Yuba River Hydroelectric Project Relicensing (Relicensing) with the expressed goal of obtaining a new license with minimal adverse impact to Project economics, while helping to foster YCWA's relationship with the community, resource agencies, and other interested parties. YCWA desires to obtain a new license of maximum term for the Project at a minimum cost (both initially and ongoing) that allows the Project to maximize profits from the production of electrical power while also meeting environmental, recreational, irrigation and other non-power requirements and needs.

### The Site Purpose

The purposes of the Yuba River Development Project Relicensing Public Website are to make available to federal, state and local agencies; non-governmental organizations; and individual members of the public who may be interested in the Relicensing: 1) documents and material developed by YCWA during the Relicensing; and 2) information regarding the Yuba River Development Project Relicensing proceeding. The index to your left is divided into sections related to the Relicensing proceeding, and is periodically updated by YCWA. Click on the item in which you are interested. Please note that much of the information on this Public Website is in portable document format (pdf) or similar format, and some items appear blank until information is completed or published.



## Current Events Summary

- 8/17/2009 2:00 PM Initial Public Meeting: Describe the Project, and Relicensing Plan  
The purpose of this meeting is to engage unaffiliated members of the public in the relicensing. Licensee will describe the Project Licensee's Relicensing plan. The meeting will be repeated in the evening for members of the public...
- 8/17/2009 6:00 PM Initial Public Meeting: Describe the Project, and Relicensing Plan  
The purpose of this meeting is to engage unaffiliated members of the public in the relicensing. Licensee will describe the Project Licensee's Relicensing plan. The meeting is a repeat of a similar meeting in the afternoon, and is provided...
- 8/31/2009 10:00 AM Relicensing Participants: Communication Guidelines Meeting  
At the 7/15/09 Agency/NGO meeting, License and Relicensing Participants agreed to meeting to reach agreement on the Relicensing Communication Guidelines. Individuals who expressed an interest to participate included Mulder, Tupper, Giglio,...
- 10/1/2009 8:00 AM Relicensing Participants Meeting: Project Tour  
The purpose of the October 1 Project tour is to familiarize agencies, NGOs and Indian tribes with the Project on the ground. A detailed agenda, with tour specifics, will be issued about 10 days prior to the tour. [An initial notice for...]
- 10/14/2009 9:30 AM Relicensing Participants Meeting: Review Preliminary Information Package, and Discuss Process (including scheduling additional meeting dates)  
The purpose of the October 14 meeting is to talk about the preliminary information package that YCWA plans to distribute in late September, and process. It is anticipated that additional meetings will be scheduled, so please bring your calendars...
- 11/1/2010 2:00 PM Earliest Date that YCWA Can File with FERC a Notice of Intent to File an Application for a New License (NOI) and Pre-Application Document (PAD)
- 5/2/2011 2:00 PM Latest Date that YCWA Can File with FERC a Notice of Intent to File an Application for a New License (NOI) and Pre-Application Document (PAD)

## Links

- Yuba County Water Agency Web Site
- Lower Yuba River Accord Information including EIR/EIS

# Questions?

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# Thank You

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