
State Water Resources Control Board

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR TIGER CREEK REGULATOR DAM SPILLWAY REPLACEMENT PROJECT FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION PROJECT NO. 137

To: Trustee Agencies, Amador County Clerk, and Interested Parties

On November 22, 2023, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) filed a request with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) for a water quality certification (certification) pursuant to section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1341) for the Tiger Creek Regulator Dam Spillway Replacement Project (Proposed Project). The Tiger Creek Regulator Dam (Dam) is a part of PG&E's Mokelumne River Hydroelectric Project. The Proposed Project involves a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license amendment and Federal Clean Water Act section 404 permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (Corps). PG&E is seeking to obtain coverage from the Corps under its regional general permit 2 for reservoir maintenance activities.

The State Water Board, as the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) lead agency for the Proposed Project, intends to adopt an Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the Proposed Project. This information is provided to satisfy the formal written notice requirements for public review of a draft mitigated negative declaration (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15072). Notice is hereby given that the State Water Board is accepting comments on the Proposed Project's draft IS/MND.

Proposed Project Description

The Proposed Project is located in Amador County, California. The Proposed Project activities are at the Tiger Creek Regulator Reservoir (Reservoir) on Tiger Creek, approximately 24 miles northeast of Jackson. The Proposed Project includes: one staging and spoils disposal site approximately one mile south of the Reservoir; and another staging site along State Route 88 in the community of Pioneer, approximately 8.5 miles west-southwest of the Reservoir.

The Proposed Project includes construction of a new spillway along the Dam's right abutment and decommissioning of the old spillway infrastructure along the Dam's left abutment. The purpose of the Project is to allow the Dam to safely pass a flood event of up to 6,000 cubic feet per second. The new spillway includes construction of the following elements: a new spillway intake (crest structure), new notch through the existing Dam, new concrete chute, new flip bucket splitter blocks, and new plunge pool.

Other associated features of the Proposed Project include a permanent access road, a temporary access road with four temporary bridges across Tiger Creek, a 240-foot-long cofferdam in the Reservoir, a new 450-foot single span log boom and anchor blocks, and new lighting on the Dam.

Comment Submittal and Deadline

The State Water Board is accepting comments on the draft IS/MND for the Proposed Project. The comment period is from the date of this notice through Friday, February 23, 2024. **Comments must be received by 5:00 pm on Friday, February 23, 2024.** Comments can be submitted as follows:

Email (preferred): wr401program@waterboards.ca.gov

or

Mail:

State Water Resources Control Board – Division of Water Rights
Water Quality Certification Program – Attention: Eric Bradbury
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

The draft IS/MND is available on the [State Water Board's Mokelumne River Hydroelectric Project webpage](#)¹.

If you cannot access the document online, hardcopies of the draft IS/MND will be available at the locations² below:

Pioneer Branch Library
25070 Buckhorn Ridge Road
Pioneer, CA 95666
(209) 295-7330

Open Thursday and Friday from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

State Water Resources Control Board/CalEPA Building
1001 I Street,
2nd Floor Records Room, Room 2-114
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 341-5300

Open Monday to Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Appointment preferred. Schedule an appointment by emailing:
dwr@waterboards.ca.gov

¹ https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/water_quality_cert/mokelumne-river-ferc137.html

² The hours of operation are provided as a courtesy and may vary for holidays or other reasons.

If you have questions regarding this notice, please contact Eric Bradbury by email to: wr401program@waterboards.ca.gov or by phone call to: (916) 327-9401.

STAY INFORMED

To receive emails related to the Proposed Project and other projects pursuing certifications managed by the State Water Board's Division of Water Rights, interested persons should enroll in the "Water Rights Water Quality Certification" email notification service. Instructions on how to sign up for the State Water Board's email notification service are outlined below:

1. Visit the [State Water Board's Email Subscriptions Updates webpage](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.shtml#rights) at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.shtml#rights.
2. Provide your email in the required field, then click the "Submit" button.
3. In the next page, below Subscription Topics, go to "Water Rights", then "Water Rights Water Quality Certification."
4. Click the "Submit" button.
5. An email will be sent to you. You must respond to the email message to confirm your membership on the selected topic(s).

By enrolling in this email notification service, you will receive notices for other current projects overseen by the Division of Water Rights' Water Quality Certification Program, including the Proposed Project. If you do not have internet access or do not wish to participate in the email notification service, you may contact Eric Bradbury at the phone number listed above to request notices for the Proposed Project by mail. You can enroll or unenroll from the email notification service at any time.



_____ for
Parker Thaler
Water Quality Certification Program Manager
Division of Water Rights

1/19/2024

Date