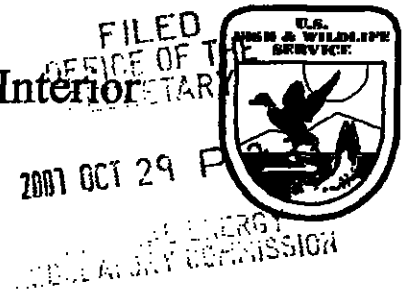


ORIGINAL



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605
Sacramento, California 95825-1846



In reply refer to:

Mr. Steve Nevares
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Mail Code N11D
P.O. Box 770000
San Francisco, California 94177

OCT 24 2007

Subject: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Comments on the Preliminary Proposed Decommissioning Plan for Pacific Gas and Electric Company's Kilarc-Cow Creek Hydroelectric Project, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Project No. 606, Shasta County, California

Dear Mr. Nevares:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has reviewed the Preliminary Proposed Decommissioning Plan (PPDP) for Pacific Gas and Electric Company's (Applicant) Kilarc-Cow Creek Hydroelectric Project (Project), Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Project No. 606, located in Shasta County, California. The Service provides the following comments:

The PPDP provides the basic concepts and preliminary proposals for the de-construction and decommissioning of the Project's various diversion structures, canals, and forebays. However, at this early stage of the PPDP's development, the specific details of the various proposals for the numerous decommissioning actions are not presented or known. In the PPDP, only general de-construction options, basic pre-construction surveys, minimal control or mitigation measures, and generic monitoring proposals are presented.

The PPDP's proposes that the Applicant not prepare detailed engineering, management, and mitigation plans until FERC issues an Order granting the Applicant's License Surrender Application (containing the Project's Final Decommissioning Plan) some time prior to 2011. However, in order for the Service to completely evaluate the potential effects of the Project's decommissioning actions on fish and wildlife resources, more specific details will need to be provided during the 2007 to 2008 period as the Draft License Surrender Application and Draft Decommissioning Plan are further developed. The specific details of how, where, and when additional roads or access would be constructed, various segments of the Project's facilities

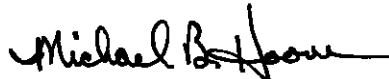
TAKE PRIDE
IN AMERICA 

would be dismantled, as well as specific mitigations for these various decommissioning actions, need to be provided in an orderly and progressive manner. Specific protocols for pre-construction, de-construction, and monitoring surveys, to assess potential threats to environmental, fish, and wildlife resources, also need to be further developed, provided, or referenced other than, "standard practices," or "best management practices."

The Applicant has scheduled additional review and comment periods for the Project's eventual Draft Decommissioning Plan prior to and after the Applicant files their Draft License Surrender Application (containing the Project's Draft Decommissioning Plan) in August of 2008. The Service looks forward to working collaboratively with the Applicant and all interested parties to develop a comprehensive License Surrender Application, Decommissioning Plan, and implementation schedule that will protect, mitigate, and enhance fish, wildlife, and other resources currently affected by the Project. The Service will make additional comments regarding the Project's Draft Decommissioning Plan when there is more specific information provided by the Applicant and other interested parties during the development of the Draft License Surrender Application.

The Service appreciates the opportunity to comment during this stage of the Project. If you have any questions regarding this response, please contact Mr. William Foster of my staff at (916) 414-6600.

Sincerely,



Michael B. Hoover
Acting Field Supervisor

cc:

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street NE
Washington, DC 20426

Mr. Steve Edmondson
National Marine Fisheries Service
777 Sonoma Avenue, Suite 325
Santa Rosa, California 95403-6528

Mr. Eric Theiss
National Marine Fisheries Service
650 Capitol Mall Suite 8-300
Sacramento, California 95814

Mr. Nevares

Mr. Steve Bowes
National Park Service
600 Harrison Avenue, Suite 600
San Francisco, California 94107

Ms. Annie Manji, Water Branch
California Department of Fish and Game
830 S Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Mr. Russ Kantz
Division of Water Rights
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, California 95812-2000

Ms. Kelly Caitlett
Friends of the River
915 20th Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Mr. Brian Johnson
Trout Unlimited
18008 B Street
Berkeley, California 94710