PUBLIC NOTICE FOR CLEAN WATER ACT 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION BEFORE THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

A request for an amendment to the water quality certification (certification) under section 401 of the Clean Water Act was filed for the Bucks Creek Hydroelectric Project (Project) with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board). California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3858 requires the Executive Director of the State Water Board to provide public notice of an application for certification at least twenty-one (21) days before taking certification action on the application. The typical notice period may be shortened in an emergency.

Written questions and/or comments regarding the application should be directed to Bryan Muro:

By email:

Bryan.Muro@Waterboards.ca.gov

or

By mail:

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Rights – Water Quality Certification Program
Attn: Bryan Muro
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

RECEIVED: December 12, 2024

PROJECT: Bucks Creek Hydroelectric Project APPLICANT: Pacific Gas and Electric Company

CONTACT: Jamie Visinoni

COUNTY: Plumas

PUBLIC NOTICE: January 10, 2024

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) is requesting an amendment to the water quality certification (certification) for the Bucks Creek Hydroelectric Project (Project). PG&E proposes two modifications to Condition 1: Minimum Instream Flows of the certification. First, PG&E requests to include language allowing for temporary modifications to the minimum instream flow requirements described in Table 2 (below Lower Bucks Lake) and Table 3 (below Grizzly Forebay). The revision would provide PG&E with the flexibility to address future maintenance and operational needs at Grizzly Forebay Dam and Lower Bucks Lake Dam. Additionally, PG&E is requesting to revise the deadline to submit the final annual report on minimum instream flow compliance to the State Water Board's Deputy Director of the Division of Water Rights from December 15 to January 31. The revision would align the annual reporting deadline with United States Forest Service 4(e) Condition No. 31 and the Project's Federal Energy Regulatory Commission license.