

Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613
For Hand Delivery/Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

SCH #

Project Title: DeSabra-Centerville Hydroelectric Project

Lead Agency: State Water Resources Control Board Contact Person: Amber Villalobos
Mailing Address: PO Box 2000 Phone: 916-323-9389
City: Sacramento Zip: 95812-2000 County: Sacramento

Project Location: County: Butte City/Nearest Community: Toadtown
Cross Streets: Camp DeSabra Lane and Skyway Road Zip Code: 95954
Longitude/Latitude (degrees, minutes and seconds): 121 ° 36 ' 43 " N / 39 ° 52 ' 23 " W Total Acres: 700
Assessor's Parcel No.: NA Section: multiple Twp.: 22-26N Range: 3-5E Base: MDBM
Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: NA Waterways: West Branch Feather River, Butte Creek
Airports: NA Railways: NA Schools: Magalia Upper Ridge Sp

Document Type:

- CEQA: [ ] NOP [ ] Draft EIR [ ] NEPA: [ ] NOI Other: [ ] Joint Document
[ ] Early Cons [ ] Supplement/Subsequent EIR [ ] EA [ ] Final Document
[ ] Neg Dec (Prior SCH No.) [ ] Draft EIS [ ] Other:
[ X ] Mit Neg Dec Other: [ ] FONSI

Local Action Type:

- [ ] General Plan Update [ ] Specific Plan [ ] Rezone [ ] Annexation
[ ] General Plan Amendment [ ] Master Plan [ ] Prezone [ ] Redevelopment
[ ] General Plan Element [ ] Planned Unit Development [ ] Use Permit [ ] Coastal Permit
[ ] Community Plan [ ] Site Plan [ ] Land Division (Subdivision, etc.) [ ] Other:

Development Type:

- [ ] Residential: Units \_\_\_\_\_ Acres \_\_\_\_\_
[ ] Office: Sq.ft. \_\_\_\_\_ Acres \_\_\_\_\_ Employees \_\_\_\_\_
[ ] Commercial: Sq.ft. \_\_\_\_\_ Acres \_\_\_\_\_ Employees \_\_\_\_\_
[ ] Industrial: Sq.ft. \_\_\_\_\_ Acres \_\_\_\_\_ Employees \_\_\_\_\_
[ ] Educational: \_\_\_\_\_
[ ] Recreational: \_\_\_\_\_
[ ] Water Facilities: Type \_\_\_\_\_ MGD \_\_\_\_\_
[ ] Transportation: Type \_\_\_\_\_
[ ] Mining: Mineral \_\_\_\_\_
[ ] Power: Type \_\_\_\_\_
[ ] Waste Treatment: Type \_\_\_\_\_
[ ] Hazardous Waste: Type \_\_\_\_\_
[ ] Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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Project Issues Discussed in Document:

- [ X ] Aesthetic/Visual [ ] Fiscal [ X ] Recreation/Parks [ ] Vegetation
[ X ] Agricultural Land [ ] Flood Plain/Flooding [ ] Schools/Universities [ X ] Water Quality
[ X ] Air Quality [ ] Forest Land/Fire Hazard [ ] Septic Systems [ X ] Water Supply/Groundwater
[ X ] Archeological/Historical [ X ] Geologic/Seismic [ ] Sewer Capacity [ ] Wetland/Riparian
[ X ] Biological Resources [ X ] Minerals [ ] Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading [ ] Growth Inducement
[ ] Coastal Zone [ X ] Noise [ ] Solid Waste [ X ] Land Use
[ ] Drainage/Absorption [ X ] Population/Housing Balance [ X ] Toxic/Hazardous [ X ] Cumulative Effects
[ ] Economic/Jobs [ X ] Public Services/Facilities [ X ] Traffic/Circulation [ X ] Other: Utilities & Service

Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:

Toadtown Powerhouse-Timber preserve; Centerville Powerhouse-Foothill recreational; DeSabra Powerhouse-Timber mountain

Project Description: (please use a separate page if necessary)
See Attachment A.

**Reviewing Agencies Checklist**

Lead Agencies may recommend State Clearinghouse distribution by marking agencies below with and "X".  
If you have already sent your document to the agency please denote that with an "S".

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Resources Board                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office of Historic Preservation          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boating & Waterways, Department of             | <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Public School Construction                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> California Emergency Management Agency         | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Recreation, Department of                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> California Highway Patrol                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Pesticide Regulation, Department of                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans District # _____                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Utilities Commission                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Division of Aeronautics               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional WQCB #5 _____                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Planning                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Resources Agency                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central Valley Flood Protection Board          | <input type="checkbox"/> Resources Recycling and Recovery, Department of     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coachella Valley Mtns. Conservancy             | <input type="checkbox"/> S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Comm.           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Commission                             | <input type="checkbox"/> San Gabriel & Lower L.A. Rivers & Mtns. Conservancy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colorado River Board                           | <input type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin River Conservancy                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation, Department of                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Santa Monica Mtns. Conservancy                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corrections, Department of                     | <input type="checkbox"/> State Lands Commission                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delta Protection Commission                    | <input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Clean Water Grants                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education, Department of                       | <input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Quality                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy Commission                              | <input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Rights                                 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fish & Game Region #2 _____         | <input type="checkbox"/> Tahoe Regional Planning Agency                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food & Agriculture, Department of              | <input type="checkbox"/> Toxic Substances Control, Department of             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forestry and Fire Protection, Department of    | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Resources, Department of                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Services, Department of                | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services, Department of                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housing & Community Development                |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Native American Heritage Commission |  |

**Local Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agency)**

Starting Date April 12, 2013 Ending Date June 13, 2013

**Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):**

Consulting Firm: <u>Stillwater Sciences / Louis Berger Group</u>	Applicant: <u>Pacific Gas and Electric Company</u>
Address: <u>2855 Telegraph Ave, Suite 400 /</u>	Address: <u>Mail Code N 11 C, PO Box 770000</u>
City/State/Zip: <u>Berkeley, CA 94705</u>	City/State/Zip: <u>San Francisco, CA 94177</u>
Contact: <u>Megan Keever</u>	Phone: <u>NA</u>
Phone: <u>510-848-8098</u>	

Signature of Lead Agency Representative: *M. 25* Date: 4/12/13

Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 21161, Public Resources Code.

## **Attachment A**

The existing DeSabra-Centerville Hydroelectric Project (Project) consists of three developments (Toadtown, DeSabra, and Centerville), which collectively include three reservoirs, three powerhouses, 14 diversion and feeder dams, five canals, and associated equipment and transmission facilities. The Project occupies federal land under the jurisdiction of the United States Forest Service, the United States Bureau of Land Management, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), and private land holders. The Project is located on Butte Creek and the West Branch Feather River in Butte County, California.

The Project has three powerhouses supplied by water from three principle diversions within the Project drainage basins, as well as eight smaller feeder diversions situated along the tributaries to Butte Creek and three feeder diversions along the tributaries to the West Branch Feather River. Three non-Project diversions (Forks of Butte, Miocene, and Parrott-Phelan) and one non-Project powerhouse (Forks of Butte) also exist within the Project vicinity.

Cool water diverted by the Project from the West Branch Feather River provides approximately 40 percent of the entire flow in lower Butte Creek from July through September, which improves habitat conditions for Chinook salmon and steelhead trout. The lower reach of Butte Creek supports the largest known self-sustaining population of the federally and state-listed Central Valley spring-run Chinook salmon, and smaller numbers of the federally listed Central Valley steelhead.

Proposed modifications to the Project include the cessation of diversions at Lower Centerville Diversion Dam once the DeSabra Forebay water temperature reduction device is operational. Ending diversions at Lower Centerville Diversion Dam is for the benefit of cold freshwater habitat to maintain salmonids and steelhead in good condition.

Other proposed modifications to the Project include:

### **Operational Changes**

- 1) New minimum streamflows;
- 2) A water temperature improvement facility in DeSabra Forebay;
- 3) Annual employee awareness training for cultural and natural resources;
- 4) Annual consultation with the United States Forest Service regarding measures for ensuring protection and use of National Forest resources affected by the Project;
- 5) Annual review of listed special-status plants and wildlife that could potentially be present on National Forest Service land, together with study requirements for newly listed species that includes identifying provisions for protecting listed species during any new construction or maintenance activities;
- 6) Transportation System Management Plan;
- 7) Erosion control measures on roads and the Round Valley Reservoir plunge pool;
- 8) Round Valley Dam Spillway Stabilization Plan;
- 9) Project Canal Maintenance and Inspection Plan;
- 10) Canal Fish Rescue Plan;
- 11) Maintenance of a minimum pool in Philbrook Reservoir for winter trout habitat;

- 12) New or modified flow measurement equipment to measure flow compliance and provide real-time flow information (locations downstream of Hendricks Diversion Dam, upstream of Butte Creek Diversion Dam and near Lower Centerville Diversion Dam);
- 13) Water quality monitoring program for receiving streams when canals are returned to service that includes a summary of cleaning and maintenance activities;
- 14) Hazardous Substances Plan;
- 15) Agency consultation to discuss operational plans during drought conditions (when such conditions exist);
- 16) Diversion Facility Removal Plan for five diversion dams (Oro Fino Ravine, Emma Ravine, Coal Claim Ravine, Stevens, and Little Butte Creeks);
- 17) Long-term Project Operations Plan that includes preparing annual operations and maintenance plans and holding annual meetings;
- 18) Inspection and replacement of wildlife facilities (e.g., bridges), as necessary, and monitoring of animal losses in Project canals;
- 19) Wet Meadow (continued implementation with revisions);
- 20) Vegetation Management Plan;
- 21) Invasive Weed Management Plan;
- 22) Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle Conservation Program (continued implementation);
- 23) Visual Management Plan; and
- 24) Historic Properties Management Plan to protect cultural resources.

#### **Recreation Changes**

- 1) Recreation Management Plan that includes constructing, rehabilitating and upgrading facilities at Philbrook Reservoir and DeSabra Forebay;
- 2) Annual operations and maintenance plan for Project recreation facilities at Philbrook Reservoir and DeSabra Forebay;
- 3) Real-time flow information for recreational boating;
- 4) Limited public access to streams at DeSabra and Centerville powerhouses; and
- 5) Sign and Information Plan.

Additional Project information is available in the Initial Study/Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration, which are available online at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water\\_issues/programs/water\\_quality\\_cert/ceqa\\_projects.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/water_quality_cert/ceqa_projects.shtml)