

Notice of Determination

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Appendix D

To: Office of Planning and Research
For U. S. Mail:
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

MAY 03 2017

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Street Address:
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Rights
1001 I Street, 14th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
Kristen Gangl, Project Manager
(916) 323-9389 or
kristen.gangl@waterboards.ca.gov

Lead Agency (if different than above):
Sacramento Municipal Utility District
Address: P.O. Box 15830, Mail Stop K203
Sacramento, CA 95852-0830
Contact: Mr. David Hanson
Phone: (916) 732-6703

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.

State Clearinghouse Number (if submitted to State Clearinghouse): 2015072021

Project Title: Water Quality Certification Amendment for the New Slab Creek Powerhouse and Boating Flow Release Valve Project (Project), Upper American River Hydroelectric Project (UARP), Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Project No. 2101

Project Location (include county): The Slab Creek Dam facility is located in El Dorado County on the South Fork of the American River.

Project Description: The Project is located immediately below Slab Creek Dam on the South Fork American River, approximately 50 miles east of Sacramento, and three miles north of the town of Camino. Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) proposes to use fiber sacks filled with washed sand and gravel to construct a temporary cofferdam, in lieu of rubber water-filled bladders referenced in Condition 12 of the existing Project water quality certification. The use of fiber sacks will help ensure the cofferdam is stable and tall enough to withstand high flows. Additionally, the cofferdam would be left in place within the South Fork American River for the duration of the major excavation and construction, approximately 15 months. Retention of the cofferdam throughout the winter will help avoid the inundation of newly excavated foundation areas and the transport of disturbed soils into the South Fork American River. Runoff within the confines of the cofferdam would be captured and pumped to a settling tank to remove suspended solids prior to release back to the South Fork American River. SMUD asserts the proposed changes will protect water quality objectives more effectively than the original language of Condition 12.

This is to advise that the State Water Resources Control Board (Responsible Agency) has approved the above-described project on _____ and has made the following determinations regarding the above-described project:

1. The Project [will will not] have a significant effect on the environment.
2. An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
 A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
 The project is covered by an existing Negative Declaration.
3. Additional mitigation measures [were were not] made a condition of the approval of the project to reduce any potentially significant impacts to less-than-significant.
4. As no unmitigated significant impacts were identified that fall within the State Water Board's approval authority, the State Water Board [has has not] adopted a Statement of Overriding Considerations for this project.
5. Findings [were were not] made by the Lead Agency pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

SMUD, as lead agency, determined that "the proposed change to Condition 12 is generally consistent with the analysis in the approved Final MND [Mitigated Negative Declaration]" for the UARP water quality certification. As a responsible agency, the State Water Board has independently determined that no subsequent or supplemental EIR is required for the project.

This is to certify that the Final CEQA Supplement with comments and responses Initial Study/Negative Declaration for the UARP water quality certification and record of project approval is available to the General Public at: State Water Board, Division of Water Rights, 1001 I Street, 14th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814

Signature (Public Agency) Thomas Howard Title Executive Director

Date 5/2/17 Date received for filing at OPR _____

Authority cited: Sections 21083, Public Resources Code. Revised 2005
Reference Section 21000-21174, Public Resources Code.