
State Water Resources Control Board

SEP 21 2012

Mr. Richard Doble
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Mailing Code N11C
P.O. Box 770000
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Mr. Doble:

APPROVAL OF FINAL CONSTRUCTION PLANS AND ASSOCIATED MEASURES FOR THE STANISLAUS AFTERBAY DAM REMOVAL PROJECT; REQUIREMENT OF THE WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION FOR THE SPRING GAP – STANISLAUS HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT, FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION PROJECT NO. 2130, TUOLUMNE COUNTY

On September 15, 2008, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) issued a water quality certification (certification) for Pacific Gas and Electric Company's (PG&E) Spring Gap-Stanislaus Hydroelectric Project, which was subsequently amended by the State Water Board on June 16, 2009 with issuance of Order WR 2009-0039. Condition 12 of the certification states in part:

Prior to the beginning of construction of the Stanislaus Power Tunnel Fish Screen and the removal of the Stanislaus Afterbay Dam, Licensee shall obtain all necessary permits. Licensee shall submit final construction plans, including measures to protect water quality to the Deputy Director for review and approval prior to beginning work.

On July 18, 2012 the State Water Board received the final construction plans for the Stanislaus Afterbay Dam Removal Project (Project) from PG&E. After careful review, it has been determined that the final construction plan and associated measures are in compliance with Condition 12 of the certification. Approval of the Project plan is hereby granted with the following conditions:

- PG&E must adhere to the best management practices (BMPs) and measures described in the Project plan to minimize water quality impacts.
- Any and all incidents involving violations of BMPs or measures to minimize water quality impacts shall be reported to the Deputy Director of the Division of Water Rights (Deputy Director) as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than 72-hours following the incident.
- Access to the Project site shall be granted within 24-hours of notice to PG&E by State Water Board staff.

SEP 21 2012

- Project activities shall not cause a violation of water quality standards.
- Project activities shall not cause an increase in turbidity downstream of the Project area greater than those identified in the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basins* (Sacramento/San Joaquin River Basin Plan). The table below, taken from the Sacramento/San Joaquin River Basin Plan, shows the allowable increases in turbidity compared to natural turbidity.

Natural Turbidity	Maximum Increase
Less than one nephelometric turbidity unit (NTU)	Total turbidity shall not exceed 2 NTUs
1-5 NTUs	1 NTU
5-50 NTUs	Not to exceed 20% of natural turbidity
50-100 NTUs	10 NTUs
Greater than 100 NTUs	Not to exceed 10% of natural turbidity

If monitoring shows that turbidity has exceeded the water quality objective, construction will cease and the violation will be reported immediately to the Deputy Director. Construction may not re-commence without the permission of the Deputy Director.

- The Deputy Director shall be notified of Project completion within 10-days of the cessation of all Project activities.
- In addition to the conditions described above, PG&E shall comply with all conditions contained in the certification for the Spring Gap-Stanislaus Hydroelectric Project.

If you have questions regarding this letter please contact Mr. Michael Maher at (916) 341-5408 or by email at mmaher@waterboards.ca.gov. Written correspondence should be directed to:

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

Sincerely,



Barbara Evoy
 Deputy Director
 Division of Water Rights

cc: Mr. Ross Jackson
 Pacific Gas and Electric Company
 2730 Gateway Oaks Drive, #220
 Sacramento, CA 95833

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

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SEP 21 2012

Ms. Pamela Creedon, Executive Officer
Central Valley Regional Water Quality
Control Board
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