

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

NOTICE OF APPLICATION READY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS AND SOLICITING COMMENTS,
RECOMMENDATIONS, TERMS AND CONDITIONS, AND PRESCRIPTIONS

(August 25, 2003)

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection.

- a. Type of Application: New Major License
- b. Project No.: 2105-089
- c. Date filed: October 23, 2002
- d. Applicant: Pacific Gas and Electric Company
- e. Name of Project: Upper North Fork Feather River Project
- f. Location: On the North Fork Feather River, in the vicinity of the community of Chester, Plumas County, California, T28N, R7E. The project occupies 1,500 acres of land administered by the Forest Supervisors of the Lassen and Plumas National Forests.
- g. Filed Pursuant to: Federal Power Act 16 U.S.C. ' ' 791 (a) - 825(r)
- h. Applicant Contact: Mr. Randal Livingston, Lead Director, Hydro Generation Department, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, P.O. Box 770000, N11C, San Francisco, CA 94177, (415) 973-6950.
- i. Commission Contact: Any questions concerning this notice should be addressed to John Mudre, e-mail address john.mudre@ferc.gov, or telephone (202) 502-8902.
- j. Deadline for filing comments, recommendations, terms and conditions, and prescriptions: December 1, 2003.

All documents (original and eight copies) should be filed with: Magalie R. Salas, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, DC 20426.

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The Commission's Rules of Practice require all intervenors filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person on the official service list for the project. Further, if an intervenor files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, they must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency.

Comments, recommendations, terms and conditions, and prescriptions may be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>) under the "e-Filing" link.

k. This application has been accepted, and is ready for environmental analysis at this time.

l. The existing Upper North Fork Feather River Project consists of three dams and reservoirs, five powerhouses, tunnels and penstocks connecting the reservoirs to the powerhouses, 230kV and 115kV transmission facilities, and various roads, recreation facilities, and administrative facilities. Project reservoirs include Lake Almanor (1,142,251 acre-feet), Butt Valley Reservoir (49,891 acre-feet), and Belden Forebay (2,477 acre-feet). Powerhouses include Butt Valley Powerhouse (41 MW), Caribou No. 1 Powerhouse (75 MW), Caribou No. 2 Powerhouse (120 MW), Oak Flat Powerhouse (1.3 MW), and Belden Powerhouse (125 MW). The Applicant proposes no new facilities, but proposes to add 33.73 acres of lands of the Plumas National Forest to the project because of historical and future project use of these lands.

m. A copy of the application is on file with the Commission and is available for public inspection. This filing may also be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the **eLibrary** (FERRIS) link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll-free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, (202) 502-8659. A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in item h above.

n. The Commission directs, pursuant to Section 4.34(b) of the Regulations (see Order No. 533 issued May 8, 1991, 56 FR 23108, May 20, 1991) that all comments, recommendations, terms and conditions and prescriptions concerning the application be filed with the Commission within 98 days from the issuance date of this notice. All reply comments must be filed with the Commission within 143 days from the date of this notice.

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Anyone may obtain an extension of time for these deadlines from the Commission only upon a showing of good cause or extraordinary circumstances in accordance with 18 CFR 385.2008.

All filings must (1) bear in all capital letters the title "COMMENTS", "REPLY COMMENTS", "RECOMMENDATIONS," "TERMS AND CONDITIONS," or "PRESCRIPTIONS;" (2) set forth in the heading the name of the applicant and the project number of the application to which the filing responds; (3) furnish the name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the filing; and (4) otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 385.2001 through 385.2005. All comments, recommendations, terms and conditions or prescriptions must set forth their evidentiary basis and otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 4.34(b). Agencies may obtain copies of the application directly from the applicant. Each filing must be accompanied by proof of service on all persons listed on the service list prepared by the Commission in this proceeding, in accordance with 18 CFR 4.34(b), and 385.2010.

o. Procedural schedule: The application will be processed according to the following Hydro Licensing Schedule. Revisions to the schedule may be made as appropriate.

Notice of application ready for environmental analysis	August 25, 2003
Terms and Conditions in response to REA Notice due	December 1, 2003
Reply comment due date	January 15, 2004
Notice of the availability of the draft EIS	March 31, 2004
DEIS comments due	May 31, 2004
Notice of the availability of the final EIS	September 15, 2004

Linda Mitry
Acting Secretary