

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TENDERED FOR FILING WITH THE COMMISSION,
SOLICITING ADDITIONAL STUDY REQUESTS, AND ESTABLISHING
PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE FOR RELICENSING AND A DEADLINE FOR
SUBMISSION OF FINAL AMENDMENTS

(April 23, 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.: 178-017
- c. Date filed: April 14, 2003
- d. Applicant: Pacific Gas and Electric Company
- e. Name of Project: Kern Canyon Project
- f. Location: On the Kern River, near the Town of Bakersfield, Kern County, California. The project occupies approximately 11.26 acres of public land located within the Sequoia National Forest.
- g. Filed Pursuant to: Federal Power Act 16 U.S.C. §§791 (a) - 825(r)
- h. Applicant Contact: Mr. Randal S. Livingston
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Power Generation, Mail Code N11E
P.O. Box 770000
San Francisco, CA 94177
(415)973-7000
- i. FERC Contact: Tim Looney, 202-502-6096 or timothy.looney@ferc.gov

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j. Cooperating agencies: We are asking Federal, state, local, and tribal agencies with jurisdiction and/or special expertise with respect to environmental issues to cooperate with us in the preparation of the environmental document. Agencies who would like to request cooperating status should follow the instructions for filing comments described in item l below.

k. Pursuant to Section 4.32(b)(7) of 18 CFR of the Commission's regulations, if any resource agency, Indian Tribe, or person believes that an additional scientific study should be conducted in order to form an adequate factual basis for a complete analysis of the application on its merit, the resource agency, Indian Tribe, or person must file a request for a study with the Commission not later than 60 days from the date of filing of the application, and serve a copy of the request on the applicant.

l. Deadline for filing additional study requests and requests for cooperating agency status: June 13, 2003.

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

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.

Additional study requests and requests for cooperating agency status 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. After logging into the e-Filing system, select "Comment on Filing" from the Filing Type Selection screen and continue with the filing process.

m. The application is not ready for environmental analysis at this time.

n. The Kern Canyon Project consists of: (1) an existing 150-foot-long and 23-foot-high dam; (2) an existing 3-acre reservoir having a usable capacity of 27-acre-feet; (3) a 1.58 mile long horseshoe shaped tunnel; (4) a 520-foot-long steel penstock varying in

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diameter from 96 inches to 90 inches; (5) a powerhouse containing one generating unit with an installed capacity of 9,540 kilowatts; (6) existing transmission facilities; and (7) appurtenant facilities. The project is estimated to generate an average of 67.6 gigawatt hours annually. The dam and existing project facilities are owned by the applicant.

o. A copy of the application is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's website at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "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.

Register online at <http://www.ferc.gov/esubscribenow.htm> to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

p. With this notice, we are initiating consultation with the CALIFORNIA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER (SHPO), as required by §106, National Historic Preservation Act, and the regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, 36 CFR 800.4.

q. Procedural schedule and final amendments: The application will be processed according to the following Hydro Licensing Schedule. Revisions to the schedule will be made as appropriate.

Issue Acceptance or Deficiency Letter	June 2003
Request Additional Information	June 2003
Issue Acceptance Letter	September 2003
Issue Scoping Document 1 for Comments	October 2003
Request Additional Information (if necessary)	December 2003
Issue Scoping Document 2	January 2004
Notice that application is ready for environmental analysis	January 2004
Notice of the availability of the draft EA	July 2004
Notice of the availability of the final EA	October 2004
Ready for Commission decision on the application	October 2004

Final amendments to the application must be filed with the Commission no later than 30 days from the issuance date of the notice of ready for environmental analysis.

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Magalie R. Salas
Secretary