

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
Washington, D. C. 20426

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

Project No. 382-099—California
Borel Hydroelectric Project
Southern California Edison

January 29, 2021

VIA FERC Service

James A. Buerkle, Director of Generation
Southern California Edison
1515 Walnut Grove Avenue
Rosemead, CA 91770

Subject: Plan and schedule for filing surrender application

Dear Mr. Buerkle:

This acknowledges receipt of your December 16, 2020, filing that identifies a plan and schedule to file a surrender application for the Borel Hydroelectric Project No. 382. The project is located on the North Kern River in Kern County, California. The project occupies federal lands administered by the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management.

In 2017, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) implemented a safety modification to its Lake Isabella Auxiliary Dam for which the Corps condemned 10.7 acres of private and public land associated with the Borel Project and sealed off the existing section of conduit through the Auxiliary Dam by filling it with concrete and abandoning the conduit in place, which rendered the Borel Project non-operational. On March 7, 2019, Commission staff requested that you file a plan and schedule for filing a surrender application with the Commission. Article 5 of your license requires you to retain all rights needed to maintain and operate the project. A surrender application is necessary because the Corps has acquired the rights to lands occupied by the Borel Canal, and because the project is no longer operational.

Your December 16, 2020 filing was made in response to our March 7 request. In it, you propose to submit a decommissioning plan that describes: 1) the proposed disposition (i.e., removal, modification, or abandonment-in-place) of all project facilities;

the manner in which Project lands would be restored and their final configuration; 2) proposed monitoring during decommissioning and post-decommissioning to assess the effectiveness of SCE's restoration work; 3) proposed measures to mitigate the identified decommissioning plan's impacts; and 4) a plan for the final disposition of all project lands, which would be implemented after the decommissioning is accomplished to the satisfaction of the Commission. The plan would include the proposed disposition of all land ownership, an Exhibit E, Environmental Report and documentation of SCE's consultation with agencies, landowners, and other stakeholders during preparation of the surrender application. You propose to submit the final surrender application within 24 months of the date of this letter. We find this schedule acceptable.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file the requested information using the Commission's eFiling system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, (866) 208-3676 (toll free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY). In lieu of electronic filing, you may submit a paper copy. Submissions sent via the U.S. Postal Service must be addressed to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. Submissions sent via any other carrier must be addressed to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852. The first page of any filing should include docket number P-382-099.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please contact Rebecca Martin at (202) 502-6012 or Rebecca.martin@ferc.gov.

Sincerely,

for Kim A. Nguyen, Chief
Environmental and Project Review Branch
Division of Hydropower Administration
and Compliance

cc: Wayne Allen
Southern California Edison
1515 Walnut Grove Avenue
Rosemead, CA 91770