

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

DEC 21 2000

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

Project Nos. 67, 120, 2085, 2175,  
2086, and 2174-California  
Big Creek Nos. 2A, 8, Eastwood; Big Creek  
No. 3; Mammoth Pool; Big Creek Nos. 1 and 2,  
Vermilion; and Portal  
Southern California Edison Company

Wayne S. White  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office  
3310 El Camino Avenue, Suite 130  
Sacramento, CA 95821-6340

Dear Mr. White:

In a letter of December 7, 2000, Southern California Edison (Edison) asked the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) to designate them as the non-Federal representative for the purpose of starting consultation with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) for the above projects. By this letter, the Commission designates Edison as the Commission's non-Federal representative to conduct informal consultation with your agency.

The role of the non-federal representative includes conducting studies, developing and supplying information, attending meetings, ensuring that pertinent endangered species information is maintained in a project file, developing a biological assessment, participating in informal consultation with the Service, and keeping FERC apprised of its actions. We recommend that Edison set up a meeting with your office to discuss how the informal consultation will be conducted.

The current licenses for these projects expire between 2003 and 2009. Edison is using a collaborative process to prepare a draft Environmental Assessment on the proposed relicensing of Project Numbers 67, 120, 2085 and 2175, and preparing a traditional relicensing application for Project Nos. 2086 and 2174.

FERC - DOCKETED

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