

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON D.C. 20426
October 3, 2007

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

Project Nos. 67-113, 120-020, and 2175-014
California
Big Creek Nos. 2A, 8, Eastwood; Big Creek No.
3; and Big Creek Nos. 1 and 2
Southern California Edison

Mr. Russ W. Krieger
Vice President, Power Production
Southern California Edison Company
300 N. Lone Hill Ave.
San Dimas, CA 91773

Dear Mr. Krieger:

On July 5, 2007, we accepted your Big Creek ALP license applications [Big Creek Nos. 1 & 2 (FERC Project No. 2175), Big Creek Nos. 2A, 8 & Eastwood (FERC Project No. 67), Big Creek No. 3 (FERC Project No. 120)], filed February 23, 2007. However, upon further review we have found that we need additional information on your projects. A list of the additional information is enclosed as Schedule A. Please file the requested information within 60 days of the date of this letter.

If the submittal of the additional information causes any other part of your application to be inaccurate, that part must also be revised and refiled by the due date. Also, please be aware that further requests for additional information may be sent to you at any time before final action on your applications.

When you file the requested information with the Commission, you must provide a complete copy of the information to each agency consulted under Section 4.38 of the regulations, and all parties on the service list.

Please file an original and eight copies of the information requested with the Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20426. Please put the docket numbers, P- 67-113, 120-020, and 2175-014 on the first page of your response.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or wish to discuss any of the items contained in the Schedule A, please contact Kenneth Hogan, Project Coordinator, at (202) 502-8434.

Sincerely,

Timothy J. Welch
Chief
Hydro West Branch 2

Enclosed: Schedule A

cc: Service List
Public Files

Schedule A – Additional Information Request

(1) Two bald nests are located at Shaver and Huntington Lakes. Although the bald eagle is no longer protected under the Endangered Species Act, it is protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (Eagle Act) and other laws. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has developed National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines (May 2007) to help landowners avoid violating the Eagle Act by disturbing bald eagles. The guidelines recommend, among other things, buffer zones of up to 660 feet to protect nesting eagles.

In order to determine the projects' consistency with the bald eagle guidelines, we need additional information. For each identified nest site, describe the amount of project lands and types of habitat that are located within the 660-foot-wide buffer zone around each nest; a description and timing of project-related activities, including maintenance activities and recreational facilities and use, that would be expected to occur within the buffer zones during the next license period; and whether these activities would be visible from the nests. Also, describe any potential inconsistencies with the guidelines.

(2) In your proposed recreation management Plan, Appendix O of the Big Creek ALP Settlement Agreement, you identify your responsibility for the management of recreational resources associated with the four projects for the term of the license. Under the heading *Recreation Facility Major Rehabilitation*, you provide a schedule for facility improvement. However, your schedule does not provide enough detail for us to understand the scope of the rehabilitation at the various sites and the respective rehabilitation costs. Therefore, please provide the following information specific to the recreation facility rehabilitation:

- a list of the kinds of rehabilitation measures that would be done at each site;
- a summary description of each measure at a level of detail sufficient for us to assess the any environmental effects of the measures, such as any anticipated ground-disturbing activities, closing of dispersed sites, rehabilitation and/or installation of sanitation facilities, installation of potable water, hardening and defining of public use areas, installation of picnic tables, expansion of sites to accommodate more visitors; and
- a breakdown of the rehabilitation cost at each recreation site.

(3) During our site visit in July, we accessed several gated access roads that were open to non-motorized, public recreation use. However, it was unclear whether or not the signage provided sufficient information for recreation use at each of these gates.

Therefore, please provide the following information specific to gated project access roads:

- a picture of the sign or signs posted at each gate of the gated access roads accompanied by a description of the location in relation to the project; and
- a description of what type of public use is authorized on each gated access road.