PUBLIC NOTICE FOR CLEAN WATER ACT 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION BEFORE THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

A request for a water quality certification (certification) for the Big Creek Dam No. 4 Low Level Outlet Valve and Dam Resurfacing Project (Project) was filed with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board). Certifications are issued under section 401 of the Clean Water Act. California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3858, requires the Executive Director of the State Water Board to provide public notice of an application for certification at least twenty-one (21) days before taking certification action on the application. The typical notice period may be shortened in an emergency.

Written questions and/or comments regarding the application should be directed to Garrett Long:

By email:

Garrett.Long@Waterboards.ca.gov

or

By mail:

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Rights – Water Quality Certification Program
Attn: Garrett Long
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

RECEIVED: November 18, 2022

PROJECT: Big Creek Dam No. 4 Low Level Outlet Repair and Dam

Resurfacing Project

APPLICANT: Southern California Edison

CONTACT: Hazem Gabr

COUNTY: Fresno

PUBLIC NOTICE: December 16, 2022

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Project involves two main activities: (1) replacement of the existing low-level outlet (LLO) system; and (2) resurfacing the downstream face of the dam. By restoring the functionality of the LLO system, the Project repairs will ensure the LLO valve operates in compliance with dam regulations set by California Department of Water Resources Division of Safety of Dams. In addition, the new downstream LLO and associated structure will allow flow releases in accordance with new minimum instream flow requirements of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license agreement for the Big Creek Hydroelectric Project Nos. 1 and 2, FERC Project No. 2175. Removing unsound concrete from the dam face and resurfacing with new concrete will protect the dam's structural integrity and will also prevent deteriorating concrete from eroding into Big Creek.