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

An application for water quality certification (certification) under section 401 of the Clean Water Act for the following project was filed with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board). California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3858 requires the Executive Director of the State Water Board to provide public notice of an application at least twenty-one (21) days before taking action on the application. Written questions and/or comments regarding the application should be directed to:

Savannah Downey
Water Quality Certification Program
Division of Water Rights
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

RECEIVED: December 1, 2017

PROJECT: Upper American River Project Water Quality Certification

Amendment to Modify Minimum Instream Flow Requirements Below Slab Creek Reservoir Dam and Streamline Process for

Interim Modifications to Reservoir Elevation Levels

APPLICANT: Sacramento Municipal Utility District

CONTACT: Darold Perry

COUNTIES: El Dorado and Sacramento

PUBLIC NOTICE: December 15, 2017

PROJECT STATUS: Amendment approved April 27, 2018

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) has requested an amendment to the minimum instream flow (MIF) requirements outlined in Condition 1.K. and reservoir elevation level requirements outlined in Condition 5.H. of the Upper American River Project (UARP) certification. The UARP is also referred to as Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Project No. 2101.

SMUD is requesting the amendment to Condition 1.K. to allow a two-year extension of time to complete the South Fork Powerhouse Project, which will allow SUMD to meet the certification MIFs described in Table 14 of the certification through controlled releases rather than spills over Slab Creek Dam. The UARP certification specifies MIF requirements below Slab Creek Reservoir Dam from Year 1 to Year 3; and from Year 4 through the term of the FERC license. The proposed amendment would extend the Year 1 to Year 3 MIF requirements through Year 5. The Year 4 through license term MIF requirements would apply as soon as reasonably practicable, but no later than Year 6 through the license term.

The UARP certification currently allows reservoir level modifications during emergency events. The requested amendment to Condition 5.H. would allow the Deputy Director for the Division of Water Rights to approve interim modifications to reservoir levels for maintenance and construction activities. Currently such interim modifications to reservoir levels require a certification amendment. This amendment would streamline the approval process for

maintenance and construction activities, including upcoming projects on Union Valley reservoir and Ice House auxiliary dam, which are scheduled for 2018.