Scoping Meeting Information Sheet Notice of Preparation for an Environmental Impact Report for the Klamath Hydroelectric Project Relicensing

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) released the Notice of Preparation and Scoping Meetings for an Environmental Impact Report for the Klamath Hydroelectric Project Relicensing on November 30, 2015. <u>Comments are due January 29, 2016</u>.

Written comments may be emailed to <u>WR401program@waterboards.ca.gov</u> or mailed to:

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

The State Water Board maintains a Klamath Hydroelectric Project website that provides information related to the State Water Board's water quality certification process, including compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Information available on the Klamath Hydroelectric Project webpage includes the Notice of Preparation, Fact Sheets, and other project-specific information. The webpage can be found online at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/water_quality_cert/klamath_ferc208 2.shtml

General Information

<u>Notice of Preparation</u>: The Notice of Preparation provides notification to interested parties and the public regarding the start of the CEQA process for the Klamath Hydroelectric Project, including information on scoping meetings. The scoping meetings provide interested parties with an opportunity to provide the State Water Board with written or oral comments concerning the range of alternatives, potential significant effects, and mitigation measures that should be analyzed in the environmental document. At the scoping meetings, State Water Board staff will provide background information on the Klamath Hydroelectric Project and the water quality certification process.

<u>Water Quality Certification</u>: The State Water Board is the agency in California that is responsible for acting on applications for water quality certifications for hydropower projects under section 401 of the federal Clean Water Act. As part of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) relicensing process the State Water Board may issue, deny, or waive water quality certification for PacifiCorp's Klamath Hydroelectric Project. Conditions of any water quality certification issued by the State Water Board for the Klamath Hydroelectric Project become mandatory conditions of the FERC license. The purpose of a water quality certification is to certify that a project will be in compliance with specified provisions of the Clean Water Act, including water quality standards and any appropriate requirements of state law.