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July 10, 2014

Ms. Beth Martinez, Lands Officer  
Stanislaus National Forest  
Supervisors Office  
19777 Greenley Road  
Sonora, CA 95370

Ms. Deborah Giglio, Special Assistant for  
Renewable Energy and Migratory Birds  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605  
Sacramento, CA 95825

Mr. Jeff Parks, Water Resource Control  
Engineer  
State Water Resources Control Board  
Division of Water Rights  
Water Resource Control Engineer  
1001 I Street, 14th Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

Dr. Jeffrey Single, Regional Manager  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
1234 East Shaw Avenue  
Fresno, CA 93710

Mr. Thomas L. Scesa, General Manager  
Tuolumne Utilities District  
18885 Nugget Blvd.  
Sonora, Ca 95370

Mr. John Aedo  
San Francisco Regional Office  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
100 First Street Suite 2300  
San Francisco, CA 94105-3084

**Subject: 2014 Revised Drawdown Curve for Pinecrest Reservoir and Ramping Rate Variance Request**

Dear Addresses:

This letter is provided to formally document the agreements reached during the June 24, 2014, meeting you attended at the Tuolumne Utilities District (TUD) office in Sonora, Ca. During the meeting, TUD discussed the currently projected water needs for their constituency. The meeting was focused on the need to develop a new drawdown curve for Pinecrest Reservoir in order to help TUD meet their customer demands through September 2014. TUD shared that their mandatory 25 % water conservation requirement is still in place and TUD is not proposing to reduce or increase that conservation requirement at this time. TUD also outlined their current water need projections through September 2014 and have determined that they will have around a 600 acre foot shortfall in water delivery. TUD made the request to the group to consider allowing Pinecrest Reservoir to be drafted to a target elevation of 5,606 feet by Labor Day. However, given the dynamic drought situation and water needs in the county, TUD's needs might require that Pinecrest be drafted to an elevation of 5,604 feet by Labor Day. TUD does not at this time anticipate a need to go below the 5,604 foot elevation.

As outlined in Conditions No. 5 of the 401 Water Quality Certification, PG&E is requesting a temporary variance for this year until such a time that the Water Board can act on the Lake Level Study Plan, to draft Pinecrest Reservoir below the 5,508 foot elevation as identified in Condition No. 4 of the 401 Water Certificate to an elevation of 5,606 feet by Labor Day. Additionally, Water Board staff received the flow and supply information at the TUD meeting held on June 2, 2014.

Given this dynamic water year TUD committed to not request that the lake be drafted below 5,606 feet unless all decision making parties agreed. To help keep the decision makers informed, TUD agreed to send the following individuals a water status report every two weeks, this report will be sent by TUD on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month:

- Ms. Beth Martinez – United States Forest Service
- Ms. Deborah Giglio – United States Fish and Wildlife Service
- Mr. Jeff Parks – State Water Resources Control Board
- Mr. Jeffery Shingle – California Department of Fish and Wildlife Service
- Mr. Scott Fee – PG&E
- Mr. Rich Doble – PG&E
- A courtesy copy will be sent to Mr. John Aedo – Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Further discussion was held regarding the possibility of relaxing the United States Forest Service 4(e) Condition No. 34 ramping rate requirement of 10 cubic feet per second (cfs), per week. Condition No. 34 states in part:

- Streamflows in the Philadelphia Reach from the annual snowmelt spill period at Strawberry Dam through August are steady, with only gradual increases and decreases in flows (target maximum change of approximately 10 cfs per week);
- Streamflows in the Philadelphia Reach from September 1 to the beginning of the annual snowmelt spill period at Strawberry Dam are steady to the extent feasible and still meet downstream consumptive water supply demands, with only gradual increases and decreases in streamflows (target maximum change of approximately 10 cfs per week);

While the 10 cfs is a target ramping rate requirement, as discussed during the June 24 meeting, during these drought conditions a ramping rate of 6 inches per hour is the preferred requirement. This is the current ramping rate requirement imposed in the State water Resources Control Boards, 401 Water Certification, Condition No. 19. Therefore, no action is required from the Water Board.

Enclosed with this submittal you will find the revised drawdown curve for Pinecrest Reservoir showing an elevation of 5,606 feet by Labor Day. Your approval of the revised drawdown is requested. Your approval is also requested on the proposed ramping rate

modification from 10 cfs a week to 6 inches per hour in the Philadelphia Reach as measured at gaging station S-83.

Please contact me at (415) 973-4480 if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Doble  
Senior License Coordinator  
Hydro Licensing

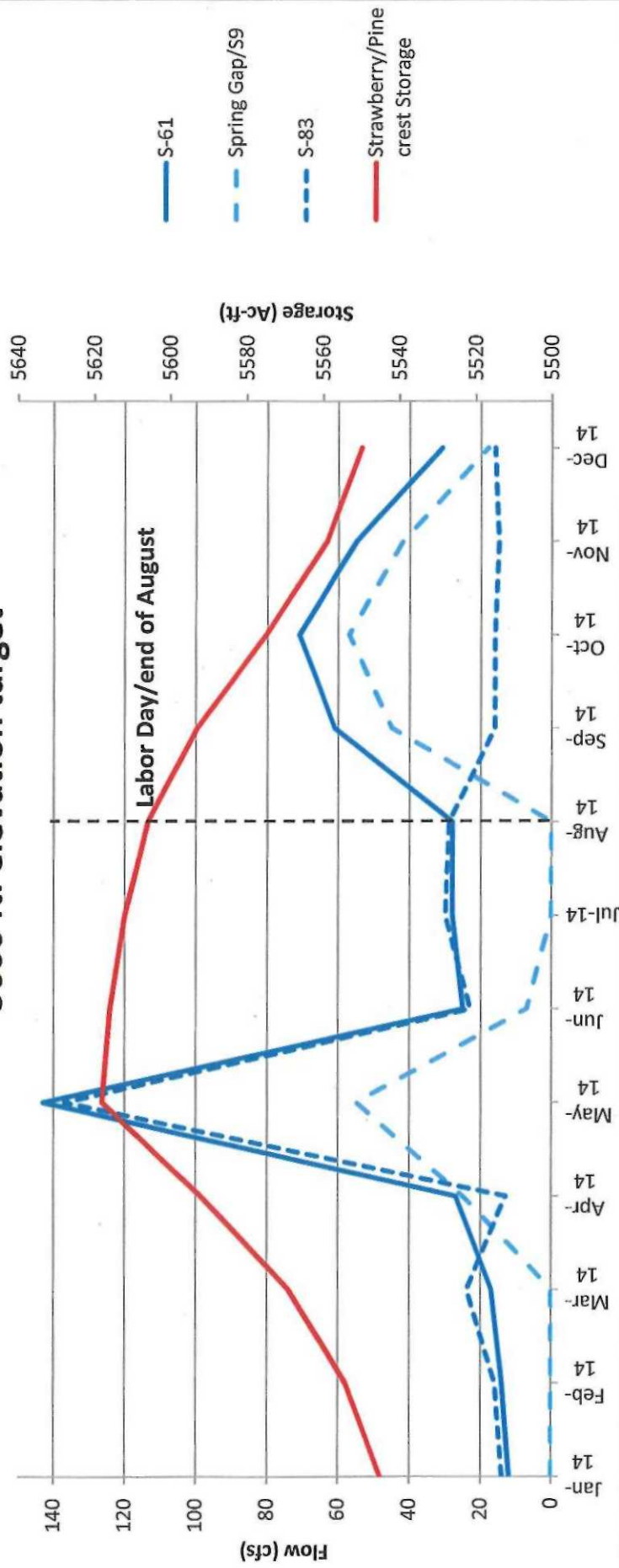
Enclosure

Cc: via electronic submittal  
Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20426-0001

Enclosure



# 2014 Drawdown Curve and Flow regime Strawberry/Pinecrest reservoir, 5606 ft. elevation target



	Jan-14	Feb-14	Mar-14	Apr-14	May-14	Jun-14	Jul-14	Aug-14	Sep-14	Oct-14	Nov-14	Dec-14
End-of-month Pinecrest Storage (AF)	2980	4010	6240	11535	18320	17,870	16,700	<b>15,113</b>	11,762	7,397	4,582	3,511
Elevation (ft)	5545	5554	5569	5592	5618	5616	5612	<b>5606</b>	5593	5575	5559	5550
Est. Average Flow @ S-61 (cfs)	12	14	17	27	143	25	28	28	61	71	55	31
Spring Gap/S9 (cfs)	0	0	0	25	55	7	0	0	45	57	42	18
Est. Average Flow @ S-83 (cfs)	14	16	24	13	137	23	30	29	16	16	15	16

\*Notes: Diversions to Spring Gap Powerhouse ended on June 10, 2014