OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

Project No. 1403-066 – California
Narrows Hydroelectric Project
Yuba County Water Agency

VIA Electronic Mail

Mr. Willie Whittlesey
General Manager
Yuba County Water Agency
WWhittlesey@yubawater.org

Reference: Authorization to Use the Traditional Licensing Process

Dear Mr. Whittlesey:

In a letter filed January 28, 2021, Yuba County Water Agency (YCWA) requested to use the Traditional Licensing Process (TLP) in preparing a relicense application for the 12-megawatt Narrows Hydroelectric Project, located approximately 23 miles northeast of the City of Marysville, in Nevada County, California. On the same date, YCWA filed a notice of intent and pre-application document (PAD) for the project. The project is partially located on federal land managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

On February 4, 2021, YCWA filed documentation with the Commission showing that it published a notice of the request to use the TLP in the January 29, 2021 editions of The Union and the Appeal-Democrat. YCWA’s notice contained the information required in section 5.3(d)(2) of the Commission’s regulations, including a statement requesting that comments on the request to use the TLP be filed with the Commission within 30 days of the request to use the TLP, by February 27, 2021. No comments were filed.

Therefore, based on the information that YCWA has provided indicating that the complexity of the resource issues is believed to be minor, the level of anticipated controversy and disputes over studies is expected to be minimal, and there is a reasonable amount of available information regarding resources associated with the project, YCWA’s request to use the TLP is granted.

Section 16.8 of the Commission’s regulations describes the pre-filing steps that need to be completed when preparing an application for a hydropower license under the
TLP, including consultation and conducting necessary studies [18 C.F.R. §16.8(a)-(e)]. Specific steps that will need to be carried out during pre-filing consultation include an initial joint agency/public meeting and site visit [§16.8(b)(3)]; an opportunity for participants to request studies [§16.8(b)(5)]; preparation and participant review of a draft application [§16.8(c)(4)]; and a meeting to resolve any disputes on the draft application [§16.8(c)(6)]. Please note that the initial joint agency/public meeting, is required to be held no sooner than 30 days, nor later than 60 days, from the date of this letter [§16.8(b)(3)(ii)].

If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Wolcott at (202) 502-6480 or via email at kelly.wolcott@ferc.gov.

Sincerely,

Vince Yearick
Director
Division of Hydropower Licensing