
State Water Resources Control Board

Notice of Opportunity for Public Comments and Board Consideration of Adoption of an Order Acting on Petition for Reconsideration for the Bucks Creek Hydroelectric Project

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board or Board) will accept comments from the date of this Notice until 12:00 p.m. (noon) on Thursday, May 21, 2026, on a Draft Order Granting In Part and Denying In Part Petition for Reconsideration (Petition) for the Bucks Creek Hydroelectric Project (Project) water quality certification (certification) issued on October 22, 2020. The Petition was filed by the Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) and City of Santa Clara (Santa Clara) (together Licensees or Petitioners), which jointly own the Project. The State Water Board will consider adopting the Draft Order at the regularly-scheduled Board Meeting on June 17, 2026. Additional information about the Project and how to provide comments on the Draft Order is provided below.

Participation Options

As noted below in this section, participation options include commenting on the Draft Order in writing or attending the public meeting at which the Board will consider adoption of a Proposed Order.

Review and Comment on the Available Documents

Review the Draft Order through the following [link](#):

https://waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/water_quality_cert/buckscreek/docs/DraftOrder_BucksPetition2026.pdf. **Please refer to the *Submit Written Comments section* below for information on how to provide comments on the Draft Order.**

Alternatively, physical copies of the available Draft Order may be mailed to you upon request by contacting staff as described in *Contact Information* below.

Attend the Public Meeting

A Board Meeting agenda will be available 10 days before the meeting at following [link](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/): www.waterboards.ca.gov/. You can participate in the Board meeting as follows:

- *In person*. Participate in person to observe or provide a comment. The Board meeting will be held at the California Environmental Protection (CalEPA) Building in Sacramento (1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814)
- *Virtually*. Submit an online speaker card if you wish to provide oral public comment at the Board meeting remotely: bit.ly/speaker-card-form. The form accepts responses a few days prior to the Board meeting. The Board Clerk will provide instructions to join Zoom in advance of the meeting. For more information

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | ERIC OPPENHEIMER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

about participating remotely at a Board meeting, please visit bit.ly/providingcomments. Oral comments at the Board meeting may have time limits.

- *View the Board meeting remotely.* For those who only wish to watch the meeting online, the webcast remains available at either youtube.com/user/BoardWebSupport or video.calepa.ca.gov (closed captioning available). This option should be used UNLESS you intend to comment.

Submit Written Comments

Written comments on the Draft Order must be received by **12:00pm (noon) on Thursday, May 21, 2026**. Comments received after this time and date may not be considered. Comments can be emailed (preferred), mailed, or hand delivered as follows:

- Email: Please email your written comments in PDF format to: commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov and include “**Bucks Creek Hydroelectric Project Draft Order**” in the subject line.
- Mail or Hand Delivery: You may mail or hand-deliver your written comments to the following address:
State Water Resources Control Board
Attention: Courtney Tyler, Clerk to the Board
P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-0100 (by mail)
1001 I Street, 24th Floor Sacramento, CA 95814 (hand delivery)

Language Services

This meeting will be offered in English. To request translation of a written document, interpretation services for the meeting, or sign language services please use one of the following options at least ten (10) business days before the meeting, if possible:

- Submit an online request: bit.ly/LanguageAccessForm
- Call (916) 341-5254
- Email languageservices@waterboards.ca.gov

Contact us to request information in your language.

Contáctenos para solicitar información en su idioma.

Liên hệ chúng tôi để yêu cầu thông tin bằng ngôn ngữ của quý vị.

귀하의 언어로 작성된 정보를 요청하려면 저희에게 문의하십시오.

ਆਪਣੇ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਸਭ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਬੰਧ ਕਰੋ।

Makipag-ugnayan sa amin para humiling ng impormasyon sa iyong wika.

请联系我们，以您的语言获取相关信息。

Accessibility & Reasonable Accommodations

Users of a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) may contact the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 or the teletype (TTY) voice line at (800) 735-2922.

Any person who requires reasonable accommodation to participate in the meeting should email contact@waterboards.ca.gov or call (916) 341-5254, at least ten (10) business days prior to the meeting. Learn more about accessibility within Zoom at www.zoom.com/en/accessibility.

Building and Parking Information

- Directions to the Joe Serna, Jr. (CalEPA) Building and public parking information: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/headquarters-sacramento/location/>
- Visitors to the CalEPA Building are required to sign in and obtain a badge at the Visitor Services Center located just inside the main entrance on 10th Street.
- Please allow 5 to 10 minutes to receive security clearance.

Ex Parte Disclosure Requirements

Reconsideration of the Project certification is subject to the prohibition on ex parte communications, as described in a [Memo from the State Water Board's Office of the Chief Counsel](#).¹ In general, communications about certain pending matters, such as reconsideration of the Project certification, in the absence of other parties and without notice and opportunity for all parties to participate in the communication are prohibited. Any communications regarding reconsideration of the Project certification (except for non-controversial procedural matters) must occur at a publicly noticed meeting or workshop or be submitted to the Clerk to the Board in writing.

Background

PG&E and Santa Clara own, and PG&E operates the Project, which is located on Bucks Creek, Grizzly Creek, Milk Ranch Creek, and Unnamed Milk Ranch Creek tributaries in the North Fork Feather River watershed in Plumas County. The Project was originally licensed on April 14, 1926, and is comprised of two developments (Bucks Creek Development and Grizzly Development) with an installed capacity of 84.8 megawatts.

PG&E and Santa Clara filed a certification application for the Project on October 23, 2019. (33 U.S.C. § 1341.) The Executive Director of the State Water Board issued the Project certification on October 22, 2020. On November 20, 2020, Petitioners filed a timely petition for reconsideration. On March 24, 2026, the State Water Board issued a Notice of Opportunity to Respond to Petition for Reconsideration of Water Quality Certification for Bucks Creek Hydroelectric Project, providing interested parties until April 13, 2026, to file a response to the Petition of the Project certification. The State Water Board received one comment from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Stay Informed

To remain informed about this item, you can receive email notifications by [subscribing online](#)² to the “Water Rights Water Quality Certification” email list under “State Water Resources Control Board” and “Water Rights.” Enter your email address and password (if applicable) and select the submit button. If this is your first time subscribing to a Water Boards email subscription list, you may create a password if desired.

¹ Available at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws_regulations/docs/exparte.pdf

² Available at: https://waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/

Any person interested in receiving additional information about this Draft Order, including any change to the date, time, or meeting location in this public notice, should subscribe to the "Water Rights Water Quality Certification" email distribution list.

Contact Information

- Staff contact: Bryan Muro, email: Bryan.Muro@waterboards.ca.gov; phone: (916) 327-8702
- Program contact: WR401Program@waterboards.ca.gov
- Project page: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/water_quality_cert/bucks creek/

May 5, 2026

Date



Courtney Tyler
Clerk to the Board