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## Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

6 January 2022

Samantha Hillaire  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
350 Salem Street  
Chico, CA 95928

**NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY: STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 GENERAL WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION,  
SB18054IN, FOR REGIONAL GENERAL PERMIT 8 FOR PACIFIC GAS AND  
ELECTRIC COMPANY, UPPER NORTH FORK FEATHER RIVER (FERC NO 2105),  
POST-DIXIE FIRE EMERGENCY CHECK DAMS IN STREAMS PROJECT, PLUMAS  
COUNTY, WDID NO. 5A32CR00223**

This letter serves to notify Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E; Enrollee) the Upper North Fork Feather River (FERC No 2105), Post-Dixie Fire Emergency Check Dams in Streams Project (Project) conducted under the Army Corps of Engineers Regional General Permit 8 (RGP 8) for repair and protection related activities on various stream channels within the Dixie Fire burn area (WDID No. 5A32CR00223) is certified under State Water Resources Control Board Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 General Water Quality Certification SB18054IN. This certification is for the purpose described in the Notice of Intent (NOI) and supplemental information submitted by PG&E and is limited to the 11 check dams identified in the application materials.

### **EMERGENCY WORK DESCRIPTION**

The Project consists of installing 11 gravel berm check dams into Deer Creek and various tributaries of French Creek, Butt Creek, and Upper North Fork Feather River above Caribou Powerhouses 1 and 2 and Oak Flat Powerhouse. The work is proposed to mitigate sediment transport and erosion to protect natural resources, roads and hydroelectric infrastructure. Check dams will be constructed of burlap sacks, gravel, and plastic ties, and will be installed by stacking by hand. In most locations, materials will be walked to the sites from the closest existing road; in a few locations farther away from roads, helicopters may be used to drop materials that will then be installed by hand (no overland vehicle travel expected; overland foot travel only).

The gravel bag check dams are likely to be semi-permanent and are expected to collect sediment and will be maintained for the next few wet seasons until the area becomes

DENISE KADARA, ACTING CHAIR | PATRICK PULUPA, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

revegetated; this may take 1-3 growing seasons. Maintenance will involve the periodic removal of sediment and replacement of damaged bags.

**Table 1: Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity for Permanent Physical Loss of Area Impacts**

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Stream Channel	0.011	52.2	27.5

### **FINDING OF APPLICABILITY**

This letter serves as formal notice that CWA Certification SB18054IN is applicable to this project. Your waste discharge identification (WDID) number is 5A32CR00223.

### **CONDITIONS**

The Enrollee shall conduct periodic monitoring and maintenance of the gravel berm check dams to include removal of accumulated sediment and replacement of damaged bags.

Any non-biodegradable materials used in the check dams shall be removed prior to (1) the end of their useful life and/or (2) once the area becomes revegetated and monitoring/maintenance is scheduled to cease.

### **REPORTING**

A Notice of Completion (NOC) shall be submitted by the Enrollee no later than 45 days after the emergency work has been completed. The NOC shall demonstrate that the work has been carried out in accordance with the description provided in PG&E's Notice of Intent (NOI).

Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of this Certification may expose PG&E to enforcement action pursuant to the Clean Water Act and California Water Code.

If you have any questions please contact Michael Crook at (530) 224-3295 or via email at [Michael.Crook@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Michael.Crook@waterboards.ca.gov).

Original Signed by Clint Snyder, AEO

(for) PATRICK PULUPA

Executive Officer

MC: db

cc via email: U.S. EPA, Region 9, San Francisco  
Water Quality Certification Program, SWRCB, Sacramento  
Zachary Fancher, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento  
Leslie Edlund, Plumas National Forest, Quincy