



State Water Resources Control Board

April 4, 2012

Mr. Hazem Gabr Southern California Edison 1218 South Fifth Avenue Monrovia, CA 91016

Dear Mr. Gabr:

REISSUANCE OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION FOR THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON TEHACHAPI RENEWABLE TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT, SEGMENTS 7 AND 8, LOS ANGELES AND SAN BERNARDINO COUNTIES, CALIFORNIA (FILE NO. SB10002IN)

On December 24, 2010, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) issued a Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification (Certification) to Southern California Edison Company (SCE) for the Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Line Project (TRTP) Segments 7 and 8 (Project). On July 13, 2011, the State Water Board issued an amendment to the Certification due to minor Project changes and an increase in impacts to waters of the U.S. On October 12, 2011, the State Water Board received a request from SCE for a second amendment to the Project Certification. However, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) determined that it would enroll the Project as amended under the newly issued Nationwide Permit (NWP) 12. The Corps existing NWPs expired on March 18, 2012. On March 19, 2012. the Corps reissued forty-eight of forty-nine existing NWPs and all of the general conditions and definitions, with some additions and modifications. As a result of these events, the State Water Board is now reissuing the Certification for TRTP Segments 7 & 8, which will include all the Project changes that have occurred since the first Certification was issued on December 24, 2010. State Water Board staff deemed the application for the reissued Certification complete on January 9, 2012. State Water Board staff has evaluated the changes to the original application information and the additional water quality protection measures, in consultation with the Los Angeles and Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Boards.

Pursuant to title 23, section 3838 of the California Code of Regulations, I hereby make the Certification determination described in the Enclosure for this Project. Attachments A through D of the Enclosure are also part of this water quality certification.

If you require further assistance, please contact Bob Solecki, the staff person most knowledgeable on the subject, at (916) 341-5483 (<u>rsolecki@waterboards.ca.gov</u>). You may also contact Bill Orme, Chief of the 401 Certification and Wetlands Protection Unit, at (916) 341-5464 (<u>borme@waterboards.ca.gov</u>).

Sincerely,

Thomas Howard Executive Director

Enclosures: Water Quality Certification Order

Attachment A: Signatory Requirements
Attachment B: Project Information Sheet

Attachment C: Project Tables Attachment D: Project Maps

cc: Mr. Dave Castanon

Chief, Regulatory Branch Los Angeles District

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

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