
State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND TO PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION FOR BUCKS CREEK HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION PROJECT NO. 619

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) has received a timely petition for reconsideration (Petition) of Board action related to the Clean Water Act section 401 water quality certification (certification) for the Bucks Creek Hydroelectric Project (Project) from the Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) and the City of Santa Clara (collectively, Petitioners). The Petition was filed pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3867.

BACKGROUND

The Project is owned and operated by PG&E and the City of Santa Clara and is located on Bucks Creek, Grizzly Creek, and Milk Ranch Creek in Plumas County, California.

On October 23, 2019, PG&E submitted a certification application for the Project to the State Water Board pursuant to section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1341). On October 22, 2020, the State Water Board's Executive Director issued a certification for the Project. Within 30 days of issuance of the Project certification, the State Water Board received the Petition. The Petition is available as described in the *Availability of Documents* section below.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS

A copy of the Petition has been uploaded to a [File Transfer Protocol \(FTP\) site](#). Please use the following information to access the Petition on the FTP site:

FTP Webpage Address: <https://ftp.waterboards.ca.gov/>
User Name: BucksCreek-FTP
Password: BucksCreek1

If you have difficulty accessing the Petition on the FTP site, please email WR401program@waterboards.ca.gov to arrange for an alternative method to access the Petition. Responses related to this notice will be made available on the FTP site within 10 days of the deadline for responses.

Additional documents related to the Project, including the certification, are available on the State Water Board's webpage for the [Bucks Creek Hydroelectric Project](#).¹

SUBMISSION OF RESPONSES TO PETITION

¹ https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/water_quality_cert/bucks_creek/

Any party or person wishing to file a response to the Petition with the State Water Board shall do so by 4:00 pm on April 13, 2026, as follows. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, § 3867.1.)

Email (preferred) to:

WR401program@waterboards.ca.gov

or

Mail hard copies to:

Bryan Muro

State Water Resources Control Board

Division of Water Rights – Water Quality Certification Program

P.O. Box 2000

Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

Copies of responses must also be submitted to the Executive Officer of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board and the Petitioners at the following hard copy or email addresses:

Jo Lynn Lambert

Lambert Law (*representing PG&E*)

300 East State Street, Suite 600

Redlands, CA 92373

JoLynn.Lambert@pge.com

Kim Ognisty

Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Chief Counsel, Hydro Generation

Attn: Law Department

P.O. Box 1018

Oakland, CA 94604-1018

KXOV@pge.com

Patrick Pulupa, Executive Officer

Central Valley Regional Water Board

11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200

Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Patrick.Pulupa@waterboards.ca.gov

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](#).² 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 in writing and copied to the above-listed parties.

² Available at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws_regulations/docs/exparte.pdf.

KEEP INFORMED OF PROJECT MILESTONES

To receive emails related to the Project and other projects pursuing certifications managed by the Division of Water Rights, interested persons should enroll in the "Water Rights Water Quality Certification" e-mail notification service. Instructions on how to sign up for the State Water Board's Email Subscription List are outlined below:

1. Visit the State Water Board's [Email Subscription webpage](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.html) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.html)
2. Provide your name and email in the required fields.
3. In the categories below the email and name fields, select "Water Rights," then "Water Rights Water Quality Certification."
4. Click the "Subscribe" button.
5. An email will be sent to you. You must respond to the email message to confirm your membership on the selected list(s).

By enrolling in this email list, you will receive notices for other current projects in the Division of Water Rights' Water Quality Certification Program, including the Project. If you do not have internet access or do not wish to participate in the email subscription list, you may contact Bryan Muro by phone at (916) 327-8702 and leave a message to request to receive notices by mail. You can enroll or un-enroll from the email subscription service at any time.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS NOTICE

If you have questions concerning this notice, please contact Bryan Muro, Project Manager, by email to: WR401program@waterboards.ca.gov or by phone to: (916) 327-8702.

Parker Thaler

Parker Thaler
Water Quality Certification Program Manager
Division of Water Rights

March 24, 2026

Date

ec: Petitioner (emails listed above)

Debbie-Anne Reese, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Via e-filing to FERC to Docket No. 619

Patrick Pulupa, Executive Officer
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
Email: Patrick.Pulupa@waterboards.ca.gov

Jamie Visinoni
Pacific Gas & Electric Company
Email: JNVS@pge.com

Trevor Moore
Pacific Gas & Electric Company
Email: TQMI@pge.com

cc: Interested Parties List