PUBLIC NOTICE FOR
CLEAN WATER ACT 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION
APPLICATION BEFORE THE STATE WATER RESOURCES
CONTROL BOARD

A request for water quality certification (certification) under section 401 of the Clean Water Act for the following project was filed with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board). California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3858 requires the Executive Director of the State Water Board to provide public notice of an application for certification at least twenty-one (21) days before taking certification action on the application. The notice period may be shortened in an emergency.

Written questions and/or comments regarding the application should be directed to Bryan Muro:

By email:
Bryan.Muro@waterboards.ca.gov

or

By mail:
State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Rights – Water Quality Certification Program
Attn: Bryan Muro
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

RECEIVED:	July 21, 2026
PROJECT:	Lee Vining Hydroelectric Project Relicensing
APPLICANT:	Southern California Edison
APPLICANT CONTACT:	Matthew Woodhall, Matthew.Woodhall@sce.com
COUNTY:	Mono
PUBLIC NOTICE:	August 18, 2026

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The 11.25-megawatt Project is located on Lee Vining and Glacier Creeks in the eastern Sierra Nevada near Yosemite National Park and Mono Lake. The Project is primarily on federal lands managed by Inyo National Forest, with a small portion owned by Southern California Edison (SCE). The Project includes three main dams and reservoirs (Saddlebag, Tioga, and Ellery), a 1.2-mile flowline, and the Poole Powerhouse. Water stored in Saddlebag and Tioga reservoirs is discharged through Lee Vining and Glacier Creeks, respectively, to Ellery Lake, where water is either diverted into the penstock to Poole Powerhouse or spills over Rhinedollar Dam (forms Ellery Lake), and then discharges to Lee Vining Creek.

In addition to continued operations and maintenance of the Project under a new FERC license, SCE proposes the following:

- Modification of the FERC Project boundary to include additional lands necessary for Project operations and maintenance, and better align with modern spatial data, for a net reduction of 73 acres.

- Minor operational changes to minimum instream flows, with continued hydropeaking operations (rapid increases in flow up to the powerhouse flow capacity of 110 cubic feet per second).
- Implementation of new or modified protection, mitigation, and enhancement measures for environmental resource and tribal/historic resource management. These new measures include: fish stocking; measures for the protection of rare, threatened, and endangered species during Project maintenance activities; invasive plant monitoring; a historic properties management plan; and measures for erosion and sediment control during Project maintenance activities.