



LEE VINING HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT (P-1388)
 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON
 PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE RELICENSING KICK-OFF MEETING

Date:	October 6, 2020
Time:	9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Location:	Microsoft Teams
Purpose of Meeting:	Public Open House Relicensing Kick-Off Meeting
Materials Provided:	Final PowerPoint Presentation Video Flyover of Project

Attendees:

Name	Affiliation
Chris Lizza	Mono Basin Regional Planning Advisory Committee
AR	Unknown
Steve Parmenter	California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)
Duncan King	Mono Basin Regional Planning Advisory Committee
Chris Shutes	California Sportfishing Protection Alliance
Rose Banks	CDFW
Alyssa Marquez	CDFW
Martin Ostendorf	SCE, Hydro Licensing, Senior Manager
Matthew Woodhall	SCE, Project Manager
Audry Williams	SCE, Cultural Resources
Samantha Nelson	SCE, Production Manager
Nicholas Von Gersdorff	SCE Dam Safety Engineer
Tristan Leong	US Department of Agriculture, Forest Service (USFS)
Sheila Irons	USFS
Thomas Torres	USFS
Lawson Reif	USFS
Nathan Sill	USFS
Blake Engelhardt	USFS
Lindsey Steinwachs	USFS
Dan Yarborough	USFS
Diana Pietrasanta	USFS
Nathan Sill	USFS
Tristan Leong	USFS
Chad Mellison	USFWS
Bartshe Miller	Mono Regional Planning Advisory Committee
Gaye Mueller	Mono County Fish and Wildlife Commission
Heather Bowen Neff	Stillwater Sciences
Brad Blood	Psomas

Steve Norton	Psomas
Katie Gallagher	Psomas
Paul Pau	Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP)
Mary Margaret Richardson	Unknown
Saeed Jorat	LADWP
Paul McFarland	Citizen (former Friends of the Inyo Director)
Ed Hancock	Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board
Stephen Bowes	National Park Service
Kelly Larimer	Kleinschmidt, Recreation Resources and Project Director
Shannon Luoma	Kleinschmidt, Deputy Project Manager
Finlay Anderson	Kleinschmidt, Project Manager
Carissa Shoemaker	ERM, TWG Coordinator
Nuria Holmes	Kleinschmidt Associates, Project Coordinator

Meeting Notes:

<i>Speaker</i>	<i>Discussion Topic/Notes</i>
Matthew Woodhall / Martin Ostendorf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opened Meeting • Safety Moment • Relicensing Team Introductions
Shannon Luoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting Tips and Guidelines • Meeting Objectives and Agenda
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Relicensing Process	
Matthew Woodhall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCE Relicensing Process • SCE Welcome, Vision, Objectives
Finlay Anderson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewed FERC relicensing process • Described Basic Steps of relicensing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Licensee files a NOI and PAD typically together about 5-5.5 years ahead of license expiration to state SCE's intent to relicense the Project, compile existing information, and identify data/knowledge gaps • FERC relicensing process approach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SCE has started the process early, approximately 6+ years prior to license expiration, to ensure that there is enough time to develop the PAD, and build relationships with stakeholders leading up to formal relicensing process. • FERC encourages stakeholder collaboration.
Shannon Luoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paused for questions from meeting participants [Questions and responses summarized below]
Overview of Lee Vining Hydroelectric Project	
Matthew Woodhall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description of the Project while viewing a Project map, describe where video will take us. • Flyover video played: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Described the Project area and provided an overview of the Project features ○ Project Generation and Operations summary
Shannon Luoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paused for questions from meeting participants; no questions asked at this time.
Existing Environment / Resource Areas	
Shannon Luoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce Existing Environment, remind attendees about when and how to ask questions after this section.

<i>Speaker</i>	<i>Discussion Topic/Notes</i>
Heather Bowen-Neff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Aquatic Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fish species, stream habitats, project reservoirs. ○ Brown and brook trout; sterile rainbow trout (stocked population) ○ Populations appear to be non-migratory. ○ Overhanging vegetation, moderate-gradient riffles, cascade habitat, spawning gravels, large woody debris. ○ Preliminary licensing topics: identify protected or managed species present, assess habitat conditions, and understand water quality parameters and standards.
Steve Norton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Terrestrial Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 14 vegetation types in project area from meadows to forests providing a wide range of habitats. ○ Rare, Threatened, Endangered: Yosemite toad and whitebark pine. ○ Critical habitat: Yosemite toad, Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog, Sierra Nevada bighorn sheep. ○ Preliminary licensing topics: identify special status species present, assess likelihood of other special status species, protect existing habitat for the special status species.
Kelly Larimer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Recreation and Land Use <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Location in association with Yosemite National Park, Inyo National Forest, Ansel Adams Wilderness. ○ Lots of year-round recreation: camping, hiking, picnicking, ice climbing, rock climbing, fishing, boating. ○ Preliminary licensing topics: assess opportunities, use, needs; inventory conditions with nexus to project; learn from community.
Audry Williams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cultural Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Review of what is a cultural resource. ○ Tribal cultural resource may include anything in the Tribes' interests which may include cultural resources or economic interests. ○ Traditional-Cultural Property: a community-related resource with traditional use, often associated with ethnic groups, eligible for listing on the NRHP. ○ 19 previous studies, 25 previously recorded built environment resources, 5 previously recorded archeological resources. ○ Multiple Tribal groups have expressed interest in the project – Kutzadikaa Paiute/Mono Lake are principal Tribal group. ○ Numerous trails, camps, medicine and food gathering locations. ○ Preliminary licensing topics: compliance with NHPA, contact Tribes, identify cultural resources within the project area.
Shannon Luoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Paused for questions from meeting participants [Questions and responses summarized below]

Technical Working Group (TWG): Approach and Overview

Finlay Anderson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Technical Working Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Open to all interested parties and individual stakeholders. ○ Current TWGs include Aquatic, Terrestrial, Recreation/Land Use, and Cultural/Tribal. ○ At the initial meeting, groups would review and establish TWG process charter, view a technical presentation on the existing resource information, discuss other
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<i>Speaker</i>	<i>Discussion Topic/Notes</i>
	data and information available, and review of potential data gaps. This would lead into study plans.

Relicensing Schedule Overview

Shannon Luoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Relicensing Process Schedule <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Highlighted some of the key activities and due dates associated with the Relicensing Process (projected date of August 2, 2021 for Notice of Intent/Pre-Application Document Filing) ○ Scoping meetings, can provide comments on PAD and Study Plans
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How to Stay Involved, We Want Your Feedback, Closeout

Shannon Luoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SCE encouraged all interested stakeholders to complete the Project Questionnaire and fill-out the Registration Form. ● FERC eLibrary subscription. ● Participate in TWG meetings. ● Also showed the project website and information available there. ● Finlay added if stakeholders have grey literature to note that in the Registration Form.
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Matthew Woodhall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Closing remarks and thanked attendees for joining the call. ● This meeting is to get the conversation started, reach out with your questions.
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Questions (Note: responses to questions have been edited/ revised for clarity):

<i>Attendee</i>	<i>Question/Comment and Responses</i>
Tristan Leong	What is the timeline for the expiration of the current license and the timeline of the process for the next license?
Shannon Luoma	<i>Timeline is more thoroughly discussed later in this meeting, but the current license expires January 2027, next license application filed August 2021.</i>
Ed Hancock	Is there a discussion section regarding water quality?
Matthew Woodhall	<i>Water quality wasn't a focus for this public meeting but it is definitely on our radar and we will address it thoroughly in the PAD.</i>
Sheila Irons	The Forest Service TWG representatives will be assigned by her (lead), only one representative is necessary.
Chris Shutes	What is the project's plan for the development of an operations model? In some cases there is a hydrology dataset and an operations model presented with the PAD, and sometimes it is within the Studies process. How will the TWGs relate to it, what is the timing?
Finlay Anderson	<i>We anticipate something similar to what happened on the Bishop project. We will use the scoping process to identify the broad scoping questions of the TWG as well as FERC: If needed, the model will be responsive to the scoping questions. We would develop the model after the PAD, we will present hydrologic data with the PAD for minimum flows and historic flow records. The operations model will be a part of the relicensing study process. Once it is fully developed we can use it to understand how the different resource areas work together.</i>

<i>Attendee</i>	<i>Question/Comment and Responses</i>
Tristan Leong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which FERC process will the Project use (ILP or TLP)? • Are any transmission/distribution lines included in the Project area?
Finlay Anderson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The project has not get determined with process will be used, TLP versus ILP. The PAD has been drafted assuming a TLP, but the final decision hasn't been and doesn't need to be made quite yet.</i> • <i>The transmission line historically extended to the town of Lee Vining but the license was amended to exclude the transmission line from the project boundary.</i>
Audry Williams	Is the Rhinedollar distribution line included in the FERC boundary?
Finlay Anderson	<i>There is a 12kV powerline that provides power to appurtenant facilities, but it's not part of the FERC license. Typically, FERC includes only primary transmission lines in its licenses.</i>