



**LEE VINING HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT (P-1388)**

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE RELICENSING KICK-OFF MEETING

<b>Date:</b>	October 6, 2020
<b>Time:</b>	6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
<b>Location:</b>	Microsoft Teams
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b>	Public Open House Relicensing Kick-Off Meeting
<b>Materials Provided:</b>	Final PowerPoint Presentation Video Flyover of Project

**Attendees:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Claire Landowski	Mono Lake Committee
Dennis Domaille	Unknown
Gordon Martin	US Department of Agriculture, Forest Service
Heather Beeler	US Fish and Wildlife Service
Sue Burak	Mono County Fisheries Commission
Unknown phone number	Unknown
Martin Ostendorf	SCE, Hydro Licensing, Senior Manager
Matthew Woodhall	SCE, Project Manager
Samantha Nelson	SCE, Production Manager
Heather Bowen Neff	Stillwater Sciences
Brad Blood	Psomas
Steve Norton	Psomas
Kelly Larimer	Kleinschmidt, Recreation Resources and Project Director
Shannon Luoma	Kleinschmidt, Deputy Project Manager
Finlay Anderson	Kleinschmidt, Project Manager
Carissa Shoemaker	ERM, TWG Coordinator

**Meeting Notes:**

<i>Speaker</i>	<i>Discussion Topic/Notes</i>
Matthew Woodhall / Martin Ostendorf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opened Meeting</li> <li>Safety Moment</li> <li>Relicensing Team Introductions</li> </ul>
Shannon Luoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting Tips and Guidelines</li> <li>Meeting Objectives and Agenda</li> </ul>
<b>Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Relicensing Process</b>	
Martin Ostendorf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SCE Relicensing Process</li> <li>SCE Welcome, Vision, Objectives</li> </ul>

<i>Speaker</i>	<i>Discussion Topic/Notes</i>
Finlay Anderson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviewed FERC relicensing process</li> <li>• Described Basic Steps of relicensing               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 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.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• FERC relicensing process approach               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 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.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• FERC encourages stakeholder collaboration.</li> </ul>
Shannon Luoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paused for questions from meeting participants; no questions asked at this time.</li> </ul>

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### **Overview of Lee Vining Hydroelectric Project**

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Matthew Woodhall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Description of the Project while viewing a Project map, describe where video will take us.</li> <li>• Flyover video played:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Described the Project area and provided an overview of the Project features</li> <li>○ Project Generation and Operations summary</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Samantha Nelson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction as operations manager, thank you for joining us.</li> </ul>
Shannon Luoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paused for questions from meeting participants [Questions summarized below]</li> </ul>

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### **Existing Environment / Resource Areas**

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Shannon Luoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce Existing Environment, remind attendees about when and how to ask questions after this section.</li> </ul>
Heather Bowen-Neff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aquatic Resources               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Fish species, stream habitats, project reservoirs.</li> <li>○ Brown and brook trout; sterile rainbow trout (stocked population)</li> <li>○ Populations appear to be non-migratory.</li> <li>○ Overhanging vegetation, moderate-gradient riffles, cascade habitat, spawning gravels, large woody debris.</li> <li>○ Preliminary licensing topics: identify protected or managed species present, assess habitat conditions, and understand water quality parameters and standards.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Steve Norton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Terrestrial Resources               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 14 vegetation types in project area from meadows to forests providing a wide range of habitats.</li> <li>○ Rare, Threatened, Endangered: Yosemite toad and whitebark pine.</li> <li>○ Critical habitat: Yosemite toad, Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog, Sierra Nevada bighorn sheep.</li> <li>○ Preliminary licensing topics: identify special status species present, assess likelihood of other special status species, protect existing habitat for the special status species.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Kelly Larimer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recreation and Land Use               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Location in association with Yosemite National Park, Inyo National Forest, Ansel Adams Wilderness.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<i>Speaker</i>	<i>Discussion Topic/Notes</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Lots of year-round recreation: camping, hiking, picnicking, ice climbing, rock climbing, fishing, boating.</li> <li>○ Preliminary licensing topics: assess opportunities, use, needs; inventory conditions with nexus to project; learn from community.</li> </ul>
Kelly Larimer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Cultural Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Review of what is a cultural resource.</li> <li>○ Tribal cultural resource may include anything in the Tribes' interests which may include cultural resources or economic interests.</li> <li>○ Traditional-Cultural Property: a community-related resource with traditional use, often associated with ethnic groups, eligible for listing on the NRHP.</li> <li>○ 19 previous studies, 25 previously recorded built environment resources, 5 previously recorded archeological resources.</li> <li>○ Multiple Tribal groups have expressed interest in the project – Kutzadikaa Paiute/Mono Lake are principal Tribal group.</li> <li>○ Numerous trails, camps, medicine and food gathering locations.</li> <li>○ Preliminary licensing topics: compliance with NHPA, contact Tribes, identify cultural resources within the project area.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Shannon Luoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Paused for questions from meeting participants [Questions and responses summarized below]</li> </ul>
<b>Technical Working Group (TWG): Approach and Overview</b>	
Finlay Anderson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Technical Working Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Open to all interested parties and individual stakeholders.</li> <li>○ Current TWGs include Aquatic, Terrestrial, Recreation/Land Use, and Cultural/Tribal.</li> <li>○ At the initial meeting, groups would review and establish TWG process charter, view a technical presentation on the existing resource information, discuss other data and information available, and review of potential data gaps. This would lead into study plans.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Relicensing Schedule Overview</b>	
Shannon Luoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Relicensing Process Schedule <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 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)</li> <li>○ Scoping meetings, can provide comments on PAD and Study Plans</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>How to Stay Involved, We Want Your Feedback, Closeout</b>	
Shannon Luoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● SCE encouraged all interested stakeholders to complete the Project Questionnaire and fill-out the Registration Form.</li> <li>● FERC eLibrary subscription.</li> <li>● Participate in TWG meetings.</li> <li>● Also showed the project website and information available there.</li> <li>● Finlay added if stakeholders have grey literature to note that in the Registration Form.</li> </ul>
Matthew Woodhall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Closing remarks and thanked attendees for joining the call.</li> <li>● This meeting is to get the conversation started, reach out with your questions.</li> </ul>

Questions (Note: responses to questions have been edited/ revised for clarity):

<i>Attendee</i>	<i>Question/Comment and Responses</i>
Sue Burak	Has the Poole Powerhouse been hit with any avalanches?
Matthew Woodhall	<i>No, not that we are aware of.</i>
Sue Burak	Wondering about fish surveys, when and where have they occurred? Is that data available for me to access?
Heather Bowen-Neff	<i>SCE has conducted fish/aquatic surveys between Saddlebag Dam and Slate Creek confluence in 2016, 2010, and 2006.</i>
Matthew Woodhall	<i>The surveys (every 5 years) are project data and are not available for the public. The studies will be used as resources for developing the license application.</i>
Sue Burak	Have there been any project studies for the invasive algae, <i>Didymosphenia geminata</i> ? I am aware that this algae is near the project, below Saddlebag Lake and Rush Creek too. Could be a possible study to see what conditions are conducive to these overgrowths of the algae. Mats of the algae can impact benthic invertebrates and create a poor habitat for trout. I have two papers regarding this algae in the area.
Shannon Luoma / Matthew Woodhall	<i>This is a great topic for the TWG meetings. These technical questions are great to introduce to the TWG meetings, please attend and bring these papers and questions with you.</i>
Claire Landowski	[Via Chat Window] I wanted to ask about the fluctuation of flows on Lee Vining Creek as power demands change. Would it be possible to look at how much flows vary over the course of a day -- will SCE be making any of that data available to Working Groups?
Finlay Anderson	<i>One of the upcoming FERC milestones is issuing the PAD which has a lot of historic hydrologic and generation data included in it. As well, the PAD will describe existing operations and constraints to operation, including any limits and requirements around flow fluctuations. Talking within the TWGs about operations questions are important, asking this question in the TWG would be ideal.</i>