

PRE-APPLICATION DOCUMENT

Volume I-Main Document and Appendices

BISHOP CREEK HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT
FERC PROJECT NO. 1394

Prepared for:



Bishop, California

Prepared by:

Kleinschmidt

Portland, Oregon
www.KleinschmidtGroup.com

May 2019

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**BISHOP CREEK HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT
FERC PROJECT NO. 1394**

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY
BISHOP, CALIFORNIA**

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Volume I	Main Document and Appendices
Volume II	Consultation Record
Volume III	Technical Study Plans
Volume IV	CONFIDENTIAL – Archaeological Sites
Volume V	CONFIDENTIAL – One-Line Diagram CEII Information

ACRONYMS

mg/L	milligrams per liter
1988 Forest Plan	1988 Inyo National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan
1993 Resource Plan	1993 Bishop Resource Management Plan Record of Decision
2001 Plan	2001 Inyo County General Plan Update
2018 LMP	2018 Land Management Plan for the Inyo National Forest
A	
APE	Area of Potential Effects
AVM	Acoustic Velocity Meter
B	
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BMP	Best Management Practice
C	
Calectric	California Electric Power Company (later known as Calectric)
Cal-IPC	California Invasive Plant Council
CEDEN	California Environmental Data Exchange Network
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CEII	Critical Energy Infrastructure Information
CESA	California Endangered Species Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
cfs	cubic feet per second
Chandler Decree	1922 water rights ruling of <i>Hillside Water Company v. William A. Trickey et.al</i>
CNDDDB	California Natural Diversity Data Base
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
cfu	colony forming units
CRMP	Cultural Resources Management Plan
CRPR	California Rare Plant Rank
CWA	Clean Water Act
D	
DO	Dissolved Oxygen
DPS	Distinct Population Segment
DSSMP	Dam Safety Surveillance and Monitoring Plan
E	
EA	Environmental Assessment
EAP	Emergency Action Plan
ESA	Endangered Species Act
ESE	Environmental Science and Engineering
eWRIMS	Water Rights Information Management System

F

FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
FLA	Final License Application
Forest Service	Inyo National Forest
FPA	Federal Power Act
FOIA	Freedom of Information Act

G

GHCN	Global Historical Climatology Network
GIS	Geographic Information System

H

HPMP	Historic Properties Management Plan
HRA	Historical Research Associates

I

ILP	Integrated Licensing Process
IPaC	Information for Planning and Consultation
ITP	Incidental Take Permit

K

kV	kilovolt
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L

LADWP	Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
LMP	Land Management Plan
LRWQCB	Lahotan Regional Water Quality Control Board
LWCF	Land and Water Conservation Fund

M

MCL	Maximum Contaminant Levels
ml	milliliter
MOU	Memorandum of Agreement
msl	mean sea level
MW	megawatt
MWH	megawatt hour
MYLF	mountain yellow-legged frog

N

NCE	Nevada-California Electric Corporation
NCP	Nevada-California Power Company
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NGO	non-governmental organizations
NLCD	National Land Cover Database
NNIP	Non-Native Invasive Plant

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NOI	Notice of Intent
NPM&M	Nevada Power, Mining, and Milling Company
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NTR	National Toxics Rule
NVUM	National Visitor Use Monitoring Program
 O	
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
 P	
PAD	Pre-Application Document
PCT	Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail
PME	Protection, Mitigation and Enhancement
Project	Bishop Creek Hydroelectric Project
PSP	Public Safety Plan
 R	
RRM	Recreation Resource Management
RUN	Recreation Use and Needs
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
 S	
Sales Agreement	1933 Sales Agreement
SCE	Southern California Edison Company
SCORP	Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan
SD1	Scoping Document 1
SD2	Scoping Document 2
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer
SLA	Simon, Li & Associates
SLA Report	1990 Simon, Li & Associates Report
SMCL	Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level
SNYLF	Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog
SSP	Southern Sierra Power Company
Study Plan	Technical Study Plan
SWAMP	Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
 T	
TCP	Traditional Cultural Property
TWG	Technical Working Group
 U	
USC	United States Code
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USFS	U.S. Forest Service

TABLE OF CONTENTS (CONT'D)

USFWS U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS U.S. Geological Survey

W
WQC Water Quality Certificate
WO₃ Tungsten Trioxide

PRE-APPLICATION DOCUMENT

BISHOP CREEK HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT FERC PROJECT NO. 1394

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY BISHOP, CALIFORNIA

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

Southern California Edison Company (SCE) is the licensee, owner and operator of the Bishop Creek Hydroelectric Project (Project), Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Project No. 1394 located on Bishop Creek near the community of Bishop in Inyo County, California. Project facilities are located within the Inyo National Forest and the John Muir Wilderness (managed by the U.S. Forest Service [USFS]), lands managed by Bureau Land Management (BLM) and on private lands. The Project consists of five developments: Power Plants 2 through 6 on the Middle Fork of Bishop Creek. Three primary storage reservoirs include Southlake Reservoir, Sabrina Lake and Longley Lake. The Project also utilizes diversions and flowlines that collect water from Green Creek (a tributary to Bishop Creek), Birch Creek and McGee Creek. SCE currently operates the Project under a 30-year license that was issued by FERC on July 19, 1994. Because the current license will expire on June 30, 2024, SCE is seeking a license renewal to continue operation and maintenance (O&M) of the Project.

1.2 DOCUMENT PURPOSE AND CONTENT

This Pre-Application Document (PAD) has been prepared in compliance with 18 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) Part 5, which defines the form and content requirements of the document. The purpose of the PAD is to provide FERC, federal and state agencies, and other interested stakeholders with background information related to Project facilities and engineering, operational, economic and environmental aspects of the Project. The PAD defines pertinent Project issues and potential study needs. In accordance with the regulations, the PAD and associated Notice of Intent (NOI) have been filed with FERC, and distributed to federal and state

resource agencies, local governments, relevant tribal entities, non-governmental organizations (NGO) and other interested parties.

The information contained in this document was assembled based on the requirements set forth in 18 CFR §5.6 (c) and (d) and is organized as follows:

Accompanying this PAD and appendices (Volume I) are additional volumes that will form the basis of the anticipated relicensing process:

- Volume II (Consultation Record) summarizes contacts and consultations completed as part of the early consultation process.
- Volume III (Proposed Technical Study Plans [Study Plans]) will form the basis of the proposed Study Plans to be used by FERC to consider its response to the scoping process.
- Volume IV (Cultural Resources-Confidential Information) contains information that provides details on the location(s) of sensitive cultural resources. Disclosure of this information could be harmful to these resources. Pursuant to 18 CFR §385.1112, SCE requests confidential treatment of this information.
- Volume V (One-Line Diagrams), contains information required by 18 CFR § 5.6(d)(2) that SCE considers to be Critical Energy Infrastructure Information (CEII), and therefore will be filed separately.