

filed on the draft EIS will be analyzed by the staff and considered in a final EIS. The staff's conclusions and recommendations presented in the final EIS will then be presented to the Commission to assist in making a licensing decision.

Scoping

The Commission staff is asking the resource agencies, Indian tribes, non-governmental organizations, and the public to help them identify the scope of environmental issues that should be analyzed in the EIS and to provide them with information that may be useful in preparing the EIS.

To help focus comments on the environmental issues, a scoping document outlining subject areas to be addressed in the EIS will be mailed to those on the mailing list for the project.

Those with comments or information pertaining to this project should file it with the Commission at the following address within 60 days of the issuance date of the scoping document: David P. Boergers, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426.

All filings should clearly show the following on the first page: Dry Fork Energy Storage Project, FERC No. 10725.

Intervenors are reminded of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure which require all intervenors filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person whose name appears on the official service list for the project. Further, if an intervenor files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, they must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency.

In addition to asking for written comments, the Commission staff will hold two scoping meetings to solicit any verbal input and comments that you may wish to offer on the scope of the EIS. An agency scoping meeting will begin at 9:30 a.m. on September 30, 1998, at the Holiday Inn, Sheridan, Wyoming. A public scoping meeting will begin at 5:00 PM on September 30, 1998, at the Sheridan Jr. High School Auditorium, 600 Adair Street, Sheridan, Wyoming. The first hour of the public scoping meeting will be an informal session where the public will have the opportunity to meet with the Commission staff and the applicant to discuss the proposed project. The public and agencies may attend either meeting.

There will also be a visit to the project site on September 29, 1998, to allow the parties to become more familiar with the project area. Those planning on attending the site visit should bring a four-wheel-drive vehicle, blaze orange clothing (if possible), and lunch. We plan to hike from the proposed lower reservoir site to the proposed upper reservoir site and to one alternative reservoir location.

More information about the scoping meetings and site visit is available in the scoping document. If you have any questions about this notice or need a copy of the scoping document, please contact Mr. Doug Hjorth at (781) 444-3330 ext. 283 or Mr. Nick Jayjack at (202) 219-2825.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Surrender of Exemption

September 1, 1998.

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and is available for public inspection.

a. Type of Application: Surrender of Exemption

b. Project No: 7454-005

c. Date Filed: February 27, 1997, supplemented on June 13, 1997, and July 17, 1998

d. Applicant: El Dorado Irrigation District

e. Name of Project: Weber Dam

f. Location: North Fork Weber Creek, El Dorado County, California

g. Filed Pursuant to: Federal Power Act, 16 USC Section 791(a)-825(r)

h. Applicant Contact: Steven Hutchings, 2890 Mosquito Road, Placerville, CA 95667 (916) 622-4534

i. FERC Contact: Dave Cagnon, (202) 219-2693

j. Comment Date: October 9, 1998

k. Description of Application: El Dorado Irrigation District has applied to surrender its exemption because of difficulties in operating the hydroelectric facility in an efficient and economic manner and due to its changing priorities. The project consists of: (1) 30-inch-diameter, 100-foot-long penstock, joining a 24-inch diameter outlet pipe; (2) 90-foot-high, 308-foot-

long Weber Dam on the north fork of Weber Creek at an elevation of 2,275 feet; a powerhouse with an installed capacity of 175 kW under an operating head of 71 feet; and (3) a 7000-foot-long, 21-kV transmission line of Pacific Gas and Electric. The exemptee proposes to remove the existing hydroelectric works, rebuild the dam, and utilize the reservoir as a future domestic water supply.

1. The notice also consists of the following standard paragraphs: B, C2, and D2.

*B. Comments, Protests, or Motions to Intervene—*Anyone may submit comments, a protest, or a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.210, .211, .214. In determining the appropriate action to take, the Commission will consider all protests or other comments filed, but only those who file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules may become a party to the proceeding. Any comments, protests, or motions to intervene must be received on or before the specified comment date for the particular application.

*C2. Filing and Service of Responsive Documents—*Any filings must bear in all capital letters the title "COMMENTS," "PROTEST" or "MOTION TO INTERVENE," as applicable, and the project number of the particular application to which the filing is in response. Any of these documents must be filed by providing the original and 8 copies to: The Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426. Any motion to intervene must also be served upon each representative of the applicant specified in the particular notice.

*D2. Agency Comments—*Federal, state, and local agencies are invited to file comments on the described application. A copy of the application may be obtained by agencies directly from the Applicant. If an agency does not file comments within the time specified for filing comments, it will be presumed to have no comments. One copy of an agency's comments must also be sent to the Applicant's representatives.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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