DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2916-036]

East Bay Municipal Utility District;
Notice of Availability of Final Environmental Assessment

August 17, 1999.

A final environmental assessment (FEA) is available for public review. The FEA is for an application for the Lower Mokelumne River Project (FERC No. 2916) to amend the license to remove Mine Run Dam. The Mine Run Dam was previously used to control acid mine drainage from the abandoned Penn Mine; no hydroelectric facilities are associated with Mine Run Dam. The project is located on the Mokelumne River, in Amador, Calaveras, and San Joaquin Counties, California. The FEA finds that approval of the application would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

The FEA was written by staff in the Office of Hydropower Licensing, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Copies of the FEA are available for review in the Commission's Public Reference Branch, Room 2A, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426 or by calling (202) 208-1371. The FEA may be viewed on the web at http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm. If you would like to attend, please call Frank Christie, Black River Limited Partnership, at (518) 483-1961, for further information.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,
Acting Secretary.

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Notice of Scoping Meetings and Site Visit and Soliciting Scoping Comments

August 17, 1999.

Take notice the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection:

a. Type of Application: Minor License.
b. Project No.: P-11730-000.
c. Dated Filed: April 21, 1999.
d. Applicant: Black River Limited Partnership.
e. Name of Project: Alverno Hydroelectric Project.
f. Location: On the Black River in the Townships of Aloha, Benton, and Grant, in Cheboygan County, Michigan.
i. FERC Contact: Any questions on this notice should be addressed to John Costello, E-mail address john.costello@ferc.fed.us or telephone at (202) 219-2914.
j. Deadline for filing scoping comments: 60 days from the issuance date of this notice.

All documents (original and eight copies) should be filed with: David P. Boergers, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426.

The Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure require all intervenors filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person whose name appears on the official serve 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 the resource agency.

k. Status of Environmental Analysis: This application is not ready for environmental analysis at this time.

l. Description of Project: The constructed project consists of a 360-foot-long earth filled dam with a powerhouse located on the right riverbank and a gated spillway near the left bank. The project impoundment extends approximately 2.5 miles upstream. The powerhouse contains 2 horizontal turbine/generator sets.
m. Locations of the Application: A copy of the application is available for inspection and reproduction at the Commission's Public Reference and Files and Maintenance Branch, located at 888 First Street, NE, Room 2A-1, Washington, DC 20426, or by calling (202) 208-2326. A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the Cheboygan Public Library, 107 South Ball Street, Cheboygan, Michigan.

n. Scoping Process: The Commission intends to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) on the project in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act. The EA will consider both site-specific and cumulative environmental impacts and reasonable alternatives to the proposed action.

Scoping Meetings

The Commission will hold scoping meetings, one in the daytime and one in the evening, to help us identify the scope of issues to be addressed in the EA.

The daytime scoping meeting will focus on resource agency concerns, while the evening scoping meeting is primarily for public input. All interested individuals, organizations, and agencies are invited to attend one or both of the meetings, and to assist the staff in identifying the scope of the environmental issues that should be analyzed in the EA. The times and locations of these meetings are as follows:

Daytime Meeting

Tuesday, September 21, 1999, 1:00 PM, Benton Town Hall, corner of North Black River Road, and Orchard Beach Road, (Alverno Corner)

Evening Meeting

Tuesday, September 21, 1999, 7:00 PM, Benton Town Hall, corner of North Black River Road, and Orchard Beach Road, (Alverno Corner)

To help focus discussions, we will distribute a Scoping Document (SD1) outlining the subject areas to be addressed in the EA to the parties on the Commission's mailing list. Copies of the SD1 also will be available at the scoping meetings.

Site Visit

The applicant and Commission staff will conduct a project site visit on Tuesday, September 21, 1999. We will meet at the project's powerhouse at 10:30 AM. If you would like to attend, please call Frank Christie, Black River Limited Partnership, at (518) 483-1961, no later than September 17, 1999.