

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Project No. 77-332

ORDER APPROVING EXTENSION OF TIME FOR WATER QUALITY
CERTIFICATION INFORMATION

(Issued July 7, 2026)

1. On June 9, 2026, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, licensee for the Potter Valley Hydroelectric Project No. 77, filed a request for an extension of time to file documentation of its request for water quality certification pursuant to the October 31, 2025 public notice of its surrender application. The project is located on the Eel River and East Fork of the Russian River in Lake and Mendocino counties, California. The project occupies federal lands managed by the U.S. Forest Service.
2. On October 31, 2025, Commission staff issued public notice of the licensee's July 25, 2025 filing of an application to surrender the license for the project. Pursuant to the notice, the licensee is required to file, within 60 days of the notice: (1) a copy of the water quality certification (certification); (2) a copy of the request for certification, including proof of the date on which the certifying agency received the request; or (3) evidence of waiver of water quality certification. On December 23, 2025, the Commission extended the due date for filing this documentation to June 30, 2026.
3. In its June 9, 2026 request, the licensee states the fixed due date of June 30, 2026 is a less effective means of managing the certification process compared to the licensee's original November 25, 2025 request, in which the licensee proposed extending the due date to within 60 days of issuance of the Commission's Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement or other formal notice related to document preparation pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). By that time, the licensee states that the certifying agency, i.e., the California State Water Resources Control Board (California SWRCB), should be well positioned to process any application for certification. The licensee states it is fully committed to obtaining all applicable permits for surrender and decommissioning of the project. The licensee states the June 30, 2026 deadline does not reflect on-the-ground circumstances and cites to the California SWRCB's earlier support of requesting additional time, filed on March 16, 2026.
4. The reasons advanced by the licensee justify its request for additional time to file documentation of applying for water quality certification. Upon further consideration of

the issues related to preparing a certification application, Commission staff approve the licensee's request and extend the due date to file such documentation within 60 days of issuance of any Commission notice related to NEPA document preparation.

The Director orders:

(A) Pacific Gas and Electric Company's request for additional time to file documentation of applying for water quality certification for surrender and decommissioning of the Potter Valley Hydroelectric Project No. 77, filed June 9, 2026, is approved. The due date for filing this information is extended to within 60 days of Commission issuance of a notice related to the schedule for document preparation pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act.

(B) This order constitutes final agency action. Any party may file a request for rehearing of this order within 30 days from the date of its issuance, as provided in section 313(a) of the Federal Power Act, 16 U.S.C. § 825l, and the Commission's regulations at 18 C.F.R. § 385.713 (2025). The filing of a request for rehearing does not operate as a stay of the effective date of this order, or of any other date specified in this order. The licensee's failure to file a request for rehearing shall constitute acceptance of this order.

Jot Splenda, Chief
Environmental and Project Review Branch
Division of Hydropower Administration
and Compliance