

Power Generation

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January 24, 2025

Via Electronic Submittal (E-File)

Debbie-Anne Reese, Secretary Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 888 First Street, N.E. Room 1A Washington, DC 20426

Re: POTTER VALLEY HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT, FERC NO. 77 SURRENDER APPLICATION AND DECOMMISSIONING PLAN Status Update and Revised Process Plan and Schedule

Dear Secretary Reese:

This letter presents Pacific Gas & Electric Company's (PG&E) update on the status of efforts to submit a Final Surrender Application and Decommissioning Plan for PG&E's Potter Valley Hydroelectric Project (Potter Valley), Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) No.77 and a revised process plan and schedule.

By letter dated May 11, 2022, FERC staff informed PG&E that because no third party had filed an adequate relicensing application for Potter Valley by the April 22, 2022, deadline for such applications, PG&E must file a plan and schedule for filing a license surrender application with FERC.¹ As directed, PG&E on July 8, 2022, filed a plan and schedule for PG&E's preparation and filing of a surrender application with FERC.²

By letter dated July 29, 2022, FERC accepted PG&E's proposed process plan and schedule.³ Noting that PG&E's "proposed schedule allows for several iterations of consultation with the resource agencies, Tribes, and various stakeholders," FERC requested that "[i]f adjustments to this schedule are necessary, the licensee should notify Commission staff as soon as possible."⁴

On June 6, 2024 PG&E filed a revised schedule for filing a surrender application for the Potter Valley Hydroelectric Project No. 77.⁵ PG&E was and continues to work with a coalition referred to as the "Proponents" (consisting of Sonoma County Water Agency, Mendocino County Inland Water and Power

⁴ Id.

⁵ Letter from Janet Walther, PG&E, to Debbie-Anne Reese, FERC, Project No. 77-001, Accession No. <u>20240606-5202</u> (filed June 6, 2024)

¹ Letter from Shana Wiseman, FERC, to Jan Nimick, PG&E, at 2, Project No. 77-000, Accession No. <u>20220511-3004</u> (issued May 11, 2022).

² Letter from Janet Walther, PG&E, to Kimberly D. Bose, FERC, Project No. 77-164, Accession No. <u>20220708-5267</u> (filed July 8, 2022).

³ Letter from Shana Wiseman, FERC, to Jan Nimick, PG&E, *et al.*, at 2, Project No. 77-000, Accession No. <u>20220729-</u> <u>3016</u> (issued July 29, 2022)

Commission, Humboldt County, Round Valley Indian Tribes, California Trout, Trout Unlimited, and California Department of Fish and Wildlife) to integrate the construction of a New Eel-Russian Facility (NERF) into PG&E's decommissioning plan. FERC acknowledged PG&E's revised schedule and on July 1, 2024, found the schedule acceptable.⁶

PG&E is adjusting the schedule for the Final Draft Surrender Application and Decommissioning Plan to be provided to agencies and stakeholders for a 30-day review and comment period from January 25, 2025, to January 31, 2025. PG&E is not adjusting any other part of the schedule which is shown in its entirety below:

Activity	Revised Schedule
Provide Final Draft Surrender Application and Decommissioning Plan to agencies and stakeholders for a 30- day review and comment period	January 31, 2025
Address comments from agencies and other stakeholders on Final Draft Surrender Application and Decommissioning Plan	March 2025 – May 2025
Prepare and file Final Surrender Application and Decommissioning Plan	July 29, 2025

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact PG&E's License Project Manager, Tony Gigliotti, at (925) 357-7120.

Sincerely,

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Janet Walther Director, Hydro Licensing

⁶ Letter from Diana Shannon for Jot Splenda, FERC, to Stephanie Maggard, PG&E, Project No. 77-000, Accession No. <u>20240701-3021</u> (issued July 1, 2024)