



**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

March 13, 2023

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose  
Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, NE, Room 1A  
Washington, DC 20426

**Re: PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY – PROJECT NO. 77-314;  
POST-TECHNICAL MEETING COMMENTS OF THE WATER ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE**

Dear Secretary Bose:

The Water Advisory Committee (“WAC”), comprised of a member of each of the respective legislative bodies of the eight Water Contractors and Marin Municipal Water District, all of which purchase water from the Sonoma County Water Agency (“Sonoma Water”) under various contracts, hereby submits this comment letter in response to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission’s (“Commission” or “FERC”) January 30, 2023 Notice Inviting Post-Technical Conference Comments. The eight Water Contractors include the Cities of Cotati, Petaluma, Rohnert Park, Santa Rosa, Sonoma, Town of Windsor, and the North Marin and Valley of the Moon Water Districts; a Director of Marin Municipal Water District is an “*ex officio*” WAC member.

The Water Contractors are parties to contracts with Sonoma Water to provide the overwhelming majority of the water supply for municipal and industrial purposes to over 600,000 residents of Sonoma and Marin Counties. The Water Contractors are highly dependent on Russian River water, as the region has limited local water resources and no

ability to import water supplies from other regions of California. Eel River water that flows through Pacific Gas & Electric Company's ("PG&E") Potter Valley Project ("PVP") facilities into the East Branch of the Russian River provides an important component of Sonoma Water's system which delivers water to the Water Contractors.


The Water Contractors support the comments included in Sonoma Water's March 3, 2023 Post-Technical Conference Comments. In particular, the Water Contractors join Sonoma Water in supporting the National Marine Fisheries Service's ("NMFS") proposal to reevaluate and revise Operating Rule E.5 in its Biological Opinion for the January 28, 2004 Order amending the PVP FERC License. NMFS's proposed revision would safely and prudently permit diversions in excess of those currently allowed when Lake Pillsbury is spilling and hydrologic conditions below Cape Horn Dam that are protective of Eel River fisheries are being met. The Water Contractors believe this measure would not only be beneficial to overall water supply resiliency and reliability in Sonoma, Mendocino, and Marin Counties, but would also support the shared and balanced objective of ensuring healthy fisheries in both the Eel and Russian Rivers. The Water Contractors also agree that under the FERC License, PG&E has an express responsibility to complete the repairs necessary to make the PVP powerhouse operable again as soon as reasonably possible.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments to the Commission. Please let us know if you have any questions or would like further information. All correspondence and communication should be directed to:

Jennifer Burke, Santa Rosa Water Director  
Chair of the Technical Advisory Committee  
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Kimberly D. Bose  
March 13, 2023  
Page 3

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Mike Healy, City of Petaluma Council Member  
Chair  
Water Advisory Committee

Cc: Service List, P-77-314

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the foregoing document has been served upon each person designated on the official service list compiled by the Secretary in this proceeding via electronic mail or first-class mail.

Dated this 14th day of March, 2023



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Kathy M. Viall, Secretary to  
Morgan Biggerstaff, Assistant City Attorney  
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