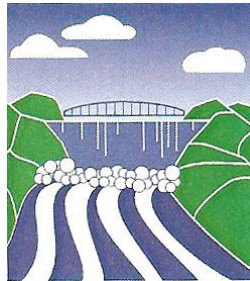


Application for a New License **Major Project – Existing Dam**

Initial Statement

Security Level: Public

Camp Far West Hydroelectric Project
FERC Project No. 2997



Prepared by:
South Sutter Water District
2464 Pacific Ave.
Trowbridge, CA 95659
www.sswd@hughes.net

June 2019

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INITIAL STATEMENT

Before The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Application for a New License for a Major Project – Existing Dam

1.0 Introduction

The South Sutter Water District (SSWD, Licensee or Applicant) has prepared this Initial Statement, as part of its Application for a New License Major Project from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) for the Camp Far West Hydroelectric Project (Project), FERC Project Number 2997. The Project's existing FERC Boundary includes no federal land nor is any federal land adjacent to the boundary or on the Bear River downstream of the Project.

This Initial Statement is prepared in conformance with Title 18 of the Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.), Subchapter B (Regulations under the Federal Power Act), Part 4 (Traditional Licensing Process [TLP]). In particular, this Initial Statement conforms to the regulations in 18 C.F.R. Sections (§§) 4.51(a) and 4.32(a), which pertains to the contents of an Initial Statement.

2.0 Applicant and Requested Term of New License

SSWD formally applies to the Commission for a new license for the Project, a water power project, as described in the attached exhibits. The initial license for the Project was issued by FERC to SSWD on July 2, 1981, effective on July 1, 1981 for a period of 40 years.

On March 14, 2016, SSWD filed with FERC a Notice of Intent to File an Application for a New License for the Project on or before June 30, 2019, 2 years prior to the expiration of the existing FERC license.

SSWD proposes to continue operating the Project for the next 40 years with one modification to the spillway, a reservoir pool raise of 5 feet (from 300.0 feet NMWSE to 305.0 feet NMWSE), and the adoption of the resource management measures proposed in its license application.

SSWD requests a new license term of 50 years. FERC's Policy Statement on Establishing License Terms for Hydroelectric Projects, 161 FERC ¶ 61,078 (2017) includes as a justification for granting a longer license term where significant measures are expected to be implemented under the new license for non-development purposes (i.e., environmental, recreation and water supply) or those that enhance power and developmental purposes. FERC's long-standing practice is to consider costs of improvements relative to the size of the project. Further,

America’s Water Infrastructure Act of 2018, Pub. L. No. 115-270, 132 Stat. 3765, requires FERC to give equal weight to investments by the licensee over the term of the existing license that resulted in redevelopment, new construction, new capacity, efficiency, modernization, rehabilitation or replacement of major equipment, safety improvements, or environmental, recreation, or other measures conducted over the term of the existing license.

Based on these FERC and Congressional directives, SSWD’s request for a 50-year license term is warranted. SSWD is in the process of constructing a new auxiliary spillway structure and related modifications which constitute a major investment in the Project. SSWD expects to spend approximately \$8,812,206 on the spillway modifications (i.e., Secondary Spillway) and related Project modifications. Further, SSWD is proposing a 5 foot pool raise that will enhance the water supply benefits of the Project. SSWD’s estimated cost for the pool raise is \$3,942,264. SSWD also is proposing to relocate recreational facilities impacted by the pool raise, at an additional estimated cost of \$725,000. These Project investments would total approximately \$13,479,470, a very substantial amount for a 6.8 MW project, and are in addition to the costs of the PM&E measures proposed in the FLA.

3.0 Location of the Project

The location of the Project is:

State:	California
Township or nearby town:	City of Wheatland, CA
Counties:	Yuba, Nevada, and Placer
Stream or other body of water:	Bear River

4.0 Applicant’s Name, Business Address and Telephone Number

SSWD’s physical address, mailing address and telephone number are:

South Sutter Water District
2464 Pacific Avenue
Trowbridge, CA 95659
Tel: (530) 656-2242

5.0 Applicant’s Authorized Agent

The exact name, business address and telephone number of the person authorized to act for SSWD as an agent for this Application for a New License are:

Brad Arnold
General Manager
South Sutter Water District
2464 Pacific Avenue
Trowbridge, CA 95659
Tel: (530) 656-2242
sswd@hughes.net

6.0 Applicant's Organizational Status

Established in 1954, SSWD, located in Trowbridge, California, is a State of California public agency formed under California Water District Law, California Water Code Section 34000 et seq. to develop, store, and distribute surface water supplies for irrigation uses in SSWD's service area. In addition, Section 34000 et seq. authorizes SSWD to develop hydroelectric power in connection with SSWD's projects. SSWD is governed by a Board of Directors, whose seven members are elected by landowners within SSWD's service area.

SSWD's service area encompasses a total gross area of 63,972 acres (ac), of which 6,960 ac are excluded, for a net area of 57,012 ac. Approximately 40,107 ac are in Sutter County and 16,905 ac are in Placer County. In a normal year, over 35,500 ac within SSWD's service area are under irrigation, with approximately 29,110 ac (82%) in rice production, 3,905 ac (11%) in orchards, 2,130 ac (6%) in irrigated pastures, and 355 ac (1%) in miscellaneous row and field crops.

7.0 Pertinent Statutory and Regulatory Requirements of the State of California

The statutory or regulatory requirements of California, the State in which the Project is located, that may affect the Project with respect to: 1) bed and banks; 2) appropriation, diversion, and use of water for power purposes; 3) right to engage in the business of developing, transmitting, and distributing power; and 4) any other business necessary to accomplish the purposes of the license under the Federal Power Act, are:

- California Water Code Sections 1200-1831 – Specify requirements and procedures for appropriation and use of water for power purposes.
- California Water Code Section 13160; Title 23, California Code of Regulations Sections 3855-3861 – California Water Code Section 13160 designates California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) as the state water pollution control agency for Federal Water Pollution Control Act and any other federal act. Title 23, California Code of Regulations, Sections 3855-3861 specify requirements and procedures for applications for water quality certificates required under federal law.

- California Water Code Sections 6075-6157 – Specify powers of the California Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) and specify requirements and procedures for the inspection and maintenance of dams.

The steps which SSWD has taken or plans to take to comply with each of the laws cited above are described below:

- SSWD already has the water rights necessary to operate the Project.
- SSWD will file an application for a water quality certificate with the SWRCB within 60 days after the date that FERC issues a notice that SSWD's Application for New License is ready for environmental analysis [18 C.F.R. § 4.34(b)(5)].
- SSWD cooperates, and will continue to cooperate, with DSOD on annual inspections of Project dams.

In addition, CDFW in its written comments on SSWD's December 2018 Draft Application for new license, requested SSWD include in its Initial Statement of the Application for New License the following sections from the California Fish and Game Code (F.G.C.): Sections 1600 to 1616 that require parties notify CDFW and follow the prescribed requirements before substantially changing or using any material from any lake or streambed; Section 2302 regarding the responsibility of reservoir managers and owners related to dreissenid mussel; Section 5937 regarding sufficient water for fish existing below dams; and Section 5943 regarding public access of dam waters. As a project licensed by FERC under the Federal Power Act, the Project is not subject to state fish and wildlife laws and regulations. However, for completeness and in respect for CDFW's request, SSWD notes these F.G.C sections here.

8.0 Proprietary Rights Necessary to Construct, Operate and Maintain the Project

SSWD owns all existing Project facilities and has the necessary proprietary rights, title and interest in lands and water to operate and maintain the Project. No Project facilities are federally-owned or operated. SSWD has the necessary proprietary rights, title and interest in lands and water to implement the Pool Raise.

9.0 Counties, Cities, Other Political Subdivisions and Indian Tribes Affected by the Project

The name and mailing address of the counties in which the Project is located are:

County of Nevada
Board of Supervisors
950 Maidu Avenue
Nevada City, CA 95959-8600

County of Placer
Board of Supervisors
175 Fulweiler Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603-4543

County of Yuba
Board of Supervisors
215 Fifth Street
Marysville, CA 95901-5737

The Project is not located within any designated cities, towns or subdivisions, nor is a Project dam located within 15 miles of any city or town with a population of 5,000 or more.

The Project does not use any federal facilities or any State of California facilities. No other irrigation districts own or operate facilities within the Project.

The Project is located within the vicinities of the following irrigation district areas, planning/zoning areas, and similar special purpose political subdivision areas:

Nevada County Local Agency Formation Commission
Executive Officer
950 Maidu Avenue
Nevada City, CA 95959

Placer County Resource Conservation District
Director
251 Auburn Ravine, Suite 107
Auburn, CA 95603-3719

Nevada County Resource Conservation District
Manager & Bear River Watershed Coordinator
113 Presley Way, Suite 1
Grass Valley, CA 95945-5846

Sierra Nevada Conservancy
Executive Director
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205
Auburn, CA 95603

Nevada Irrigation District
1036 West Main Street
Grass Valley, CA 95945-5424

Yuba County Local Agency Formation Commission
Commission Clerk
825 Ninth Street, Suite B
Marysville, CA 95901

Placer County Local Agency Formation Commission
Commission Clerk
110 Maple Street
Auburn, CA 95603

Yuba County Resource Center
Conservation District Director
1511 Butte House Road, Suite B
Yuba City, CA 95993

No parties divert water directly from the Project Facilities or features for irrigation or domestic water uses other than SSWD, which pumps a small amount of water from Camp Far West Reservoir to service the Project recreation areas.

The Project is not located within any federal special purpose political subdivision.

In addition to the parties noted above, SSWD has reason to believe that the following political subdivision in the general area of the Project would likely be interested in or affected by this relicensing:

City of Wheatland

City Manager
111 C Street
Wheatland, CA 95692

County of Sutter

Board of Supervisors
1160 Civic Center Blvd
Yuba City, CA 95993

The Project is not located within or adjacent to an Indian tribe reservation.

Native American individuals and organizations that may be affected by the Project are listed below. By including this list here, SSWD does not imply that any tribe listed below will be interested in the Camp Far West Hydroelectric Project relicensing, or that tribes not included in this list would not be interested in the relicensing.

Colfax-Todds Valley Consolidated Tribe

Pamela Cubbler, Chairperson
P.O. Box 734
Auburn, CA 95604

Strawberry Valley Rancheria

Cathy Bishop, Chairperson
PO Box 984
Marysville, CA 95901

Colfax-Todds Valley Consolidated Tribe

Judy Marks, Secretary
1068 Silverton Circle
Lincoln, CA 95648

Colfax-Todds Valley Miwok-Maidu Cultural Foundation

Michelle Roper, Chairperson
P.O. Box 1490
Foresthill, CA 95631

Greenville Ranch Tribe of the Maidu Indians

Patty Allen
PO Box 279 140 Main St.
Greenville, CA 95947

Greenville Ranch Tribe of the Maidu Indians

Kyle Self
PO Box 279 140 Main St.
Greenville, CA 95947

T'Si-akim Maidu

Jason Ryberg,
P.O. Box 634
Rough Ready, CA 95975

United Auburn Indian Community

Matthew Moore, THPO
10720 Indian Hill Road
Auburn, CA 95603

T'Si-akim Maidu

Eileen Moon, Vice Chairperson
P.O. Box 1246
Grass Valley, CA 95945

United Auburn Indian Community

Marcos Guerrero, Cultural Resources Supervisor
10720 Indian Hill Road
Auburn, CA 95603

T'Si-akim Maidu
Grayson Coney, Cultural Director
P.O. Box 1316
Grass Valley, CA 95945

United Auburn Indian Community
Gene Whitehouse, Chairperson
10720 Indian Hill Road
Auburn, CA 95603

Nevada City Rancheria
Shelly Covert, Secretary
641 S Auburn St.
Grass Valley, CA 95945

Nevada City Rancheria
Richard Johnson, Chairperson
PO Box 574
Grass Valley, CA 95945

In addition, based on other recent activities associated with the Project, SSWD has reason to believe that the following Native American individuals and organizations may have knowledge of cultural resources in the Project area:

**Mooretown Rancheria of
Maidu Indians**
Benjamin Clark
#1 Alverda Drive
Oroville, CA 95966

SSWD will include the parties above on the Camp Far West Hydroelectric Project relicensing Contact List, and will make a copy of the Application for New License, including Exhibit G maps, available to each party listed above, or their designee, when SSWD files the Application for New License with FERC.

10.0 Federal, State and Local Agencies That May Be Interested in the Project

SSWD believes the following federal, State of California, and local agencies might be interested in the Camp Far West Hydroelectric Project relicensing. By including this list here, SSWD does not imply that these agencies will be interested in the Camp Far West Hydroelectric Project relicensing or that agencies not included in this list would not be interested in the relicensing.

Federal Agencies

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Federal Agency Director
401 F Street NW, Ste. 308
Washington, DC 20001

**U.S. Department of the Interior,
Fish and Wildlife Service**
Habitat Restoration Coordinator
Anadromous Fish Restoration Program
1707 Nimbus Road, Ste. A
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Federal Emergency Management Agency
External Affairs Director
Regional Office
1111 Broadway, Ste. 1200
Oakland, CA 94607

**U.S. Department of Commerce,
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration,
National Marine Fisheries Service**
FERC Coordinator
Southwest Region
777 Sonoma Avenue, Room 325
Santa Rosa, CA 95404-6515

**U.S. Department of Commerce,
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration,
National Marine Fisheries Service**
Assistant Regional Administrator
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825-1846

**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Office of Energy Projects Diversion of
Dam Safety and Inspections**
Frank Blackett, Regional Engineer
San Francisco, Regional Office
100 First Street, Suite 2300
San Francisco CA 94105

**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Regional Director**
901 Market Street, Suite 350
San Francisco, CA 94103

**U.S. Department of the Interior,
Fish and Wildlife Service**
Branch Chief
Energy and Power
2800 Cottage Way, Suite W-2605
Sacramento, CA 95825-1846

**United States Department of the Interior,
National Park Service**
Outdoor Recreation Planner
333 Bush Street, Suite 500
San Francisco, CA 94101-2828

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Regional Director
Pacific Southwest Regional Office
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3922

**Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)**
Branch of Adjudication and Records (CA-
943.5)
2800 Cottage Way, Suite W1834
Sacramento CA 95825-1886

**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Office of General Counsel-Energy Projects**
888 First Street, N.E.
Room 101-56
Washington, DC 20426

State of California Agencies

California Department of Boating and Waterways

Director
One Capitol Mall, Ste. 500
Sacramento, CA 95814

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Manager – Region 2
1701 Nimbus Road, Suite A
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-4503

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

Region 2 – Cascade
Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit
13760 Lincoln Way
Auburn, CA 95603-3236

California Department of Parks and Recreation

Office of Historic Preservation
State Historic Preservation Office
P. O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

California Department of Transportation

Director – District 10
1976 East Charter Way
Stockton, CA 95205

California Department of Water Resources

1416 Ninth Street, 11th Floor
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 95814-5511

Regional Water Quality Control Board

Central Valley Region
Executive Officer
11020 Sun Center Drive, #200
Sacramento, CA 95670-3888

State Water Resources Control Board

Section 401 Coordinator
1001 I Street
P. O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2048

SSWD will include the parties above on the Camp Far West Hydroelectric Project relicensing Contact List, and will make a copy of the Application for New License, including Exhibit G maps, available to each party listed above, or their designee, when SSWD files the Application for New License with FERC.

11.0 Businesses, Non-Governmental Organizations and Members of the Public That May Be Interested in the Project

For informational purposes, SSWD provides to the FERC the following list of businesses, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and members of the public that have specifically asked SSWD to include them on the Camp Far West Hydroelectric Project Contact List, or that SSWD has reason to believe might be interested in the relicensing. By including this list here, SSWD does not imply that each party will be interested in the Camp Far West Relicensing Project relicensing, or that businesses, NGOs or members of the public not included in this list would not be interested in the relicensing.

American Rivers

California Regional Director
120 Union Street
Nevada City, CA 95959

American Whitewater

California Stewardship Director
4 Baroni Drive
Chico, CA 95928-4314

California Hydropower Reform Coalition

Director
370 Belmont Avenue #6
Oakland, CA 94610

California Sportfishing Protection Alliance

Director
1248 East Oak Avenue #D
Woodland, CA 95776

California Trout

Executive Director
360 Pine Street
4th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94104

**Camp Far West Lake Concessionaire,
North and South Shore**

8176 Camp Far West Road
Wheatland, CA 95692

**Federation of Fly Fishers,
Northern California Council**

P.O. Box 1017
Meadow Vista, CA 95722-1017

Environmental Advocates

5135 Anza Street
San Francisco, CA 94121

Foothills Water Network

Coordinator
P.O. Box 573
Coloma, CA 95613

Friends of the River

Senior Policy Advocate
Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95811

Natural Heritage Institute

President
100 Pine Street, Suite 1550
San Francisco, CA 94111

Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Janet Walther
Mail Code N11C
P.O. Box 770000
San Francisco, CA 94177-0001

Sacramento Municipal Water District

Director, Power Generation
6201 S Street, MS A204
Sacramento, CA 95817

**Sierra Club,
Mother Lode Chapter**

Chapter Executive Committee Chair
909 12th Street, Suite 202
Sacramento, CA 95814-2700

Sierra Nevada Alliance

Executive Director
P.O. Box 7989
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96158-7989

South Yuba River Citizens League

Executive Director
313 Railroad Avenue
Nevada City, CA 95959

Environmental Defense Fund
California Legislative Headquarters
1107 Ninth Street, Suite 1070
Sacramento, CA 95814

Trout Unlimited
CA Water Project/Director
2239 Fifth Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94710

SSWD will include the parties above on the Camp Far West Hydroelectric Project Relicensing Contact List, and will make a copy of the Application for New License, including Exhibit G, available to each party listed above, or their designee, when SSWD files the Application for New License with FERC.

12.0 Readily Accessible, Reviewable and Reproducible Information

This Application for New License, as well as other information required under 18 C.F.R. Section 4.32(b)(3), is available to businesses, NGOs and members of the public for inspection, review and reproduction (at a reasonable cost of reproduction and postage) during regular business hours (8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday) at SSWD's place of business; which is:

South Sutter Water District
2464 Pacific Avenue
Trowbridge, CA 95659

The public is instructed to contact Mr. Brad Arnold, or his designee, by telephone at (530) 656-2242 to make an appointment to review the information.

As required by 18 C.F.R. Section 4.32(b)(3), a copy of this Application for New License is available at the following public libraries in the Project region:

Nevada County Public Library
Grass Valley Library - Royce Branch
207 Mill Street
Grass Valley, CA 95945-6711

Yuba County Public Library
303 2nd Street
Marysville, CA 95901-6011

Placer County Public Library
350 Nevada Street
Auburn, CA 95603-3720

In addition, in conformance with 18 C.F.R. Section 4.32(b)(3) and to facilitate the distribution of documents and information regarding the Camp Far West Hydroelectric Project relicensing, SSWD maintains a Camp Far West Hydroelectric Project Relicensing Website at <http://www.sswdrelicensing.com>. Information and relicensing documents, except for excessively

large documents, including this Application for New License, are available in portable document format (.PDF) on the website.

13.0 Notice of Availability of Application

As required by 18 C.F.R. Section 4.32(b)(6), SSWD will publish a notice of the availability of this Application for New License twice within 14 days of the date it is filed with FERC in the following newspapers of general circulation:

NEVADA COUNTY:

The Union

464 Sutton Way
Grass Valley, CA 95945

PLACER COUNTY:

Lincoln News Messenger

188 Cirby Way
Roseville, CA 95678

YUBA COUNTY:

Appeal-Democrat

P.O. Box 431
Marysville, CA 95901

A copy of the publication is attached. SSWD will promptly file with FERC proof of publication.

14.0 Exhibits

The exhibits that are filed as part of this Application for New License are:

- Exhibit A – Project Description
- Exhibit B – Project Operations and Resource Utilization
- Exhibit C – Construction History and Proposed Construction Schedule
- Exhibit D – Statement of Costs and Financing
- Exhibit E – Environmental Report
- Exhibit F – General Design Drawings
- Exhibit G – Project Maps
- Exhibit H – Miscellaneous Material

The foregoing Initial Statement and attached exhibits are hereby made part of this Final Application for New License.

SUBSCRIPTION AND VERIFICATION

This application for new license is executed in the State of California, City of Trowbridge, and County of Sutter by Brad Arnold, General Manager of the South Sutter Water District being first duly sworn, deposes and states that the contents of this application for new license are true to the best of his knowledge or belief, and signs the application this 24th day of June 2019.

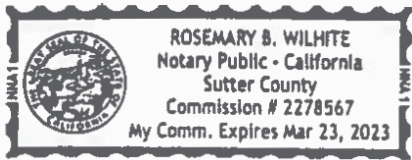
SOUTH SUTTER WATER DISTRICT

By: Brad Arnold
Brad Arnold, General Manager

A notary public or other officer completing this certificate verifies only the identity of the individual who signed the document to which this certificate is attached, and not the truthfulness, accuracy, or validity of that document.

State of California
County of Sutter

Subscribed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me
on this 24th day of June, 2019,
by Brad Arnold
(1) Brad Arnold
(and ~~(2)~~ _____),
Name(s) of Signer(s)



proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence
to be the person(s) who appeared before me.
Signature Rosemary B. Wilhite
Signature of Notary Public

Seal
Place Notary Seal Above

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ATTACHMENT 1

Draft Public Notice to Be Placed by the SSWD in Local Periodicals Twice within 14 days of SSWD Filing the Final License Application for New License with FERC

**Announcement of Filing of Application
Before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
for a New License Major Project – Existing Dam
for the
Camp Far West Hydroelectric Project**

South Sutter Water District (SSWD) owns and operates the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)-licensed Camp Far West Hydroelectric Project, a water power project in Yuba, Placer and Nevada counties, California, on the Bear River. The Project is composed of one development – Camp Far West. The current FERC license for the Project expires on June 30, 2021.

In June 2019, SSWD applied to FERC for a New License for a Major Project – Existing Dam. The Application describes the Project facilities, Project operation, estimated costs related to continued operations, and general information. The Application also includes a description of environmental and recreational resources in the vicinity of the Project; an assessment of potential adverse environmental impacts associated with continued Project operation and maintenance; and SSWD’s proposed resource management measures to protect and enhance environmental and recreation resources, and mitigate any Project impacts.

As required by 18 C.F.R. Section 4.32(b)(3), at this time SSWD announces the availability for inspection and reproduction of the Application. The Application has been made available in electronic format to pertinent resource agencies and Native American Tribes, and a copy is available for inspection and reproduction during regular business hours at the Public Libraries in Marysville, Grass Valley, and Auburn as well as at SSWD’s office at 2464 Pacific Avenue Trowbridge, CA 95659 (tel: 530-656-2242). The Application is also available on SSWD’s Relicensing Website at <http://www.sswdrelicensing.com>. A copy of the Application may also be obtained upon request from SSWD after reasonable reimbursement to SSWD for postage and reproduction.

Upon acceptance of the Application for filing, FERC will publish notices soliciting additional public participation.

Questions regarding this notice should be addressed to Brad Arnold, General Manager, at (530) 656-2242.

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