



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Southwest Region
777 Sonoma Ave., Room 325
Santa Rosa, CA 95404-4731

October 15, 2009

In response refer to:
FERC P-606:DKW

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE
Washington, D.C. 20426

Subject: Scoping Comments of the National Marine Fisheries Service regarding PG&E's Kilarc-Cow Creek Hydroelectric Project, FERC P-606.

Dear Secretary Bose:

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has received a copy of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's Notice of Scoping Meetings and Environmental Site Review and Soliciting Scoping Comments, dated September 15, 2009. NMFS offers the following comments in response.

NMFS has previously provided Comments, Recommended Terms and Conditions, and a Motion of Intervention (filed July 7, 2009) in response to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) Notice of Application Ready for Environmental Analysis. Because our July 7, 2009, filing still accurately reflects our position regarding project decommissioning and license surrender, NMFS requests that FERC refer to those comments during its preparation of the Environmental Assessment.

NMFS remains committed to working cooperatively with Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) and other stakeholders in the decommissioning process. Decommissioning, as described in the Final License Surrender Application, remains the most viable alternative for maximizing benefits for anadromous fish. NMFS was one of the signatories of the Early Decommissioning Agreement along with PG&E, the California State Water Resources Control Board, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the California Department of Fish and Game, the National Park Service, Trout Unlimited and Friends of the River - establishing a framework for a decommissioning and restoration scenario for this Project. NMFS remains committed to the principles outlined in the Early Decommissioning Agreement.



If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact David White at (707) 575-6810.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Edmondson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Steve Edmondson
Northern California Habitat Supervisor
Habitat Conservation Division

cc: Service List P-606

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION**

Pacific Gas and Electric)
)
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Kilarc-Cow Creek Hydroelectric Project)
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Project No.606

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that I have this day caused the foregoing document to be served upon each person designated on the official service list compiled by the Secretary in the proceeding.

Dated this 15th day of October, 2009.

David White

David White
National Marine Fisheries Service