

March 26, 2003

Ms. Magalie R. Salas  
Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
Mail Code: DHAC PJ-12,3  
888 First Street, N.E.  
Washington, DC 20426

Subject: Filing of Application for New License  
Portal Hydroelectric Power Project – FERC Project No. 2174

Dear Ms. Salas:

The Southern California Edison Company (SCE) is filing an Application for New License (Application) for the Portal Hydroelectric Power Project, FERC Project No. 2174. The existing License expires March 31, 2003. Enclosed are the original and ten copies of the Application and associated signed affidavit and certificate of service.

This Application, comprised of six volumes, has been prepared in accordance with 18 CFR §§ 4.51 and 16.8. Volume 1 contains the initial statement and Exhibits A, B, C, D, and H; Volume 2 is the Exhibit E Environmental Report; Volume 3 contains the Exhibit E Technical Appendices; Volume 4 is the Confidential Cultural Resources Report; Volume 5 contains Exhibits F and G, which are Confidential Critical Energy Infrastructure Information; and Volume 6 contains Project maps depicting environmental resources and Project facility locations, which are not to be posted on the internet (Non-Internet Public). The privileged information in Volumes 4 and 5 is being filed pursuant to 18 CFR § 388.112 and is exempt from the mandatory disclosure requirements of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. §552) and should be withheld from public disclosure. Volume 4 is privileged information because the federal cultural resource laws restrict access to this information and SCE may not share the information with the public. Volume 5 contains drawings that the Commission, in Order No. 630, deemed to be critical energy infrastructure information that must be filed as privileged.

By copy of this letter, SCE is notifying government agencies and other potentially interested parties of the Application (see Distribution List). Agencies and interested parties on the Distribution List will receive the Application documents, except Volume 4 the Cultural Resources Report and Volume 5 Exhibits F and G.

Further information regarding the SCE request to treat Volumes 4 and 5 as privileged should be directed to:

Nino J. Mascolo  
Senior Attorney  
2244 Walnut Grove Avenue, Room 354  
Rosemead, CA 91770  
Telephone: (626) 302-4459  
Facsimile: (626) 302-1926

SCE is concurrently applying to the California Water Quality Control Board for Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification by letter dated March 26, 2003 (copy enclosed). If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me or Mr. Geoffrey L. Rabone at (909) 394-8721.

Sincerely,



R. W. Krieger  
Vice President  
Power Production

Enclosures: Application Volume 1 Initial Statement and Exhibits A, B, C, D, and H  
Application Volume 2 Exhibit E  
Application Volume 3 Exhibit E Technical Appendices  
Application Volume 4 Confidential Cultural Resources Report (limited distribution)  
Application Volume 5 Exhibit F and G, Confidential Critical Energy Infrastructure Information (Limited Distribution)  
Application Volume 6 Project Maps (Non Internet Public Distribution)  
Application for Water Quality Certification

cc: Distribution List