

Southern California Edison (SCE) is notifying agencies, Native American Tribes, non-governmental organizations, and members of the public of the upcoming relicensing for the Kern River No. 1 Hydroelectric Project (Project) using the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) Integrated Licensing Process (ILP). The relicensing process is formally initiated upon SCE's filing of a Notice of Intent (NOI) and Pre-Application Document (PAD) with FERC (regulatory deadline is May 31, 2023).

Background

SCE currently operates the Project under a 30-year FERC license that expires May 31, 2028. The Project is located on the Kern River approximately 15 miles east of the City of Bakersfield in Kern County, California and occupies federal lands within the Sequoia National Forest which is under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Forest Service. The Project is operated in a run-of-river mode. Water from the Kern River is diverted at Democrat Dam into an approximately 9-mile-long flowline to the Project powerhouse which has an installed capacity of 26.3 megawatts. Water exiting the powerhouse enters a short tailrace and is returned to the Kern River upstream of the Kern Canyon Project (FERC Project No. 178) owned by Kern and Tule Hydro LLC.

Early Outreach Activities

Prior to filing the NOI and PAD, SCE will complete the following early outreach activities:

- In July 2022, a questionnaire was distributed to resource agencies, Native American Tribes, non-governmental organizations, and members of the public soliciting information on existing resources in the vicinity of the Project. A link to complete the questionnaire electronically is available on the Project website at www.sce.com/regulatory/hydro-licensing/kr1.
- In March/April 2023, SCE will convene a public meeting, open to all stakeholders, to discuss the relicensing process, project facilities and operations, existing resource information, and draft technical studies in advance of distribution of the PAD. Additional information on the public meeting will be distributed later.

If you received this announcement via e-mail, you are on SCE's relicensing distribution list. If you obtained this announcement by another means and want to be added to SCE's distribution list, please visit the Project website at www.sce.com/regulatory/hydro-licensing/kr1 and click on the link to complete the contact registration form.

To receive notifications from FERC via e-mail of new filings and issuances related to the Kern River No. 1 Project, register online at www.ferc.gov/ferc-online/overview. Follow the online instructions and subscribe to docket number P-1930.

After filing the NOI and PAD, SCE will conduct stakeholder meetings during the formal relicensing proceeding to further identify potential resource issues; refine draft technical studies; discuss study results; and evaluate potential protection, mitigation, and enhancement measures. SCE looks forward to working collaboratively with all stakeholders during the upcoming relicensing proceeding.