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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON
An EDISON INTERNATIONAL Company

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Manager
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March 13, 2007

Ms. Philis J. Posey
Acting Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street NE
Washington, DC 20426

Dear Ms. Posey:

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Subject: Kern River No. 3 Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2290)
Fish Population Monitoring Report

Southern California Edison (SCE) Company's Kern River No. 3 (KR3) Hydroelectric Project was issued a license by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) on December 24, 1996. Article 411 of the license requires fish population monitoring to be conducted once every five years for the term of the license. A study plan was developed in consultation with the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), the U.S.D.A. Forest Service (FS), Sequoia National Forest (SQF), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), and the National Park Service (NPS). The first post-license study was completed in 1998 and a report was submitted to the Commission in April 1999. The second study was delayed by adverse conditions in the river, the most recent being the McNally Fire, which caused watershed deforestation resulting in sedimentation in the study reach. SCE received concurrence from the above resource agencies that the river water had cleared sufficiently for the late October/early November 2006 study.

A comparison of the 2006 Kern River fish monitoring survey results against the results from the previous years of record indicate that many site-specific fish populations appear to be fluctuating within normal limits (as defined by the 1989 through 1998 record). However, there is strong evidence that fish populations at certain locations have declined or have changed in population structure, either in response to a set of adverse conditions (e.g., altered habitat conditions or unsuitable flows for critical life stages), or in response to a devastating natural event (e.g., the McNally Fire). For example:

- Sacramento sucker populations are being adversely affected at upstream locations by the continuing presence of sediments in the North Fork Kern River. Older sucker age classes are nearly absent; however, good localized recruitment is apparent at some locations.

- Sacramento pikeminnow populations are also being adversely affected by the continuing presence of sediments throughout the North Fork Kern River. Older pikeminnow age classes are

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