



Public Notice

Public Notice Number: 200200006

Date: June 7, 2002

Comments Due: July 7, 2002

US Army Corps
of Engineers

Sacramento District
1325 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-2922

In reply, please refer to the Public Notice Number

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

SUBJECT: Application for a Department of the Army permit under authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act to place fill material into the Truckee River to construct the Farad Diversion Dam, as shown in the attached drawings.

APPLICANT: Lee Simpkins
Sierra Pacific Power Company
6100 Neil Road
RENO, NV 89520-0024

LOCATION: The proposed Farad Diversion Dam Replacement project is located near Floriston, in Nevada County, California. Section 19, Township 18 North, Range 18 East. Latitude 39 -24-27.9442 Longitude 120-1 -30.5221, UTM Zone 10, 756142.06 North, 4366045.58 East.

PURPOSE: Reconstruct a water diversion structure used for hydroelectric power generation.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: To replace the Farad Diversion Dam on the Truckee River. The previous structure was destroyed during the 1997 floods. The proposed structure will be constructed approximately 300 feet upstream of the previous structure and would consist of a adjustable crest, boat/debris chute, and an intake structure. Incorporated into the design are low and high flow bypass channels. These channels are rock grouted to simulate natural river conditions and act as fish passage structures. The project will include a fine-plate fish screen and bypass fish return pipe. The project encompasses 4 acres of waters of the Truckee River, a water of the United States. Project components will result in the temporary dewatering of 2.5 acres of the Truckee River and result in the placement of permanent fill into 0.9 acre of the Truckee River.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The area primarily consists of the Truckee River with some riparian woodland habitat located along the banks.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: A known cultural resources site which the applicant characterizes as potentially eligible for the National Register, the Farad Hydroelectric power facility, is located 1.8 miles away from the permit area, and the applicant states that the site will

not be adversely impacted by the proposed work. The project will connect to the wooden flume near the project site and re-establish water flows to the powerhouse and attendant features. Presently unknown cultural resources may also be located in the permit area.

This activity would not affect any threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat. The District Engineer has made this determination based on information provided by the applicant and on the Corps' preliminary investigation.

Interested parties are invited to submit written comments on or before **July 7, 2002**. Personal information in comment letters is subject to release to the public through the Freedom of Information Act. Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, consideration of property ownership, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people. The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

If additional information is required, please contact Lee Simpkins, telephone 775-834-3528, or Mr. Matthew Kelley, at the letterhead address, telephone 916-557-7724.

Michael J. Conrad, Jr.
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Engineer

Enclosures: 3 Drawings