



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, SACRAMENTO DISTRICT  
1325 J STREET  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-2922

Environmental Resources Branch

November 19, 2020

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

Following the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Spillway Raise portion of the Richard L. Schafer Dam, Tule River Basin, California; Tule River Spillway Enlargement project, in Tulare County has been prepared and is now available for public review and comment at <https://www.spk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Tule-River-Spillway-Enlargement/>

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and the Lower Tule River Irrigation District (LTRID), the non-federal sponsor, are proposing to construct a 10 foot-high concrete ogee weir across the emergency spillway at Richard L. Schafer Dam, which would raise Lake Success' gross pool elevation from 655.1 feet to 665.1 feet NAVD88. Due to the increased gross pool elevation, land would be acquired around the lake by LTRID, the Highway 190 bridge that passes over the lake would be armored with additional rock revetment, rock slope protection would be added to Frazier Dike, several existing structures and supporting utilities at both the Rocky Hill and Tule Recreation Areas would be relocated or flood-proofed, and to meet minimum height requirements, Southern California Edison would replace 15 transmission towers with 14 taller ones along the western edge of the lake. This portion of the project is referred to as Phase 2 to distinguish it from the first phase. Both phases of the project were authorized for construction by the Water Resources Development Act of 1999, Section 101 (b)(4) (Public Law 106-53, August 17, 1999).

Phase 1 of the project focuses on realigning Worth Drive/Avenue 146 and widening the right abutment of the emergency spillway 165 feet. The draft EA for Phase 1 was released for public review on September 27, 2019. A FONSI for the Phase 1 final EA was signed April 14, 2020. Construction for Phase 1 began in August, 2020.

The public review period for the draft EA opens November 23, 2020, and will end on December 23, 2020. All comments received on the draft document will be considered and incorporated into the final EA, as appropriate. Please send any comments to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District, Attn: Yari Johnson (CESPK-PDR-P), 1325 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814. If you have any questions, Yari Johnson can be reached at 916-557-6937 or [Yari.B.Johnson@usace.army.mil](mailto:Yari.B.Johnson@usace.army.mil).

Sincerely,

Andrea Meier  
Acting Chief, Environmental Resources Branch