



# El Dorado Irrigation District

Weber #53  
El Dorado  
ISA 61  
HWA  
Files  
XC: YADE  
RA  
#53

In Reply Refer To: E0597-257

May 29, 1997

Mr. Kevin P. Madden, Acting Director  
Office of Hydropower Licensing  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, NE, Room 51-35  
Washington, D.C. 20426

Subject: Weber Dam Hydroelectric Proj. 7454-CA  
Surrender of Exemption

Dear Mr. Madden:

We received your response to the District's petition to surrender our exemption on April 14, 1997. You requested the following information:

- a plan and schedule for the long term remediation of the environmental and safety problems caused by the dams seismic instability;
- a plan and schedule for any additional site restoration and disposition of the project works, including the reservoir and powerhouse;
- evidence of consultation with the appropriate resource agencies, including environmental concerns regarding the endangered red-legged frog and potentially contaminated sediment.

Enclosed is a description of the long term operation plan for Weber Dam including engineering documents, site restoration plans and environmental concerns.

The District is proposing to maintain a permanent reduction of the reservoir level as the remediation for the safety problems of the dam. This level will be below the maximum level that is considered to be safe. The District feels that this plan significantly reduces the risk associated with the seismic concerns of the dam and is the least disruptive to the environment.

Please accept this information so that review of our surrender petition can begin. As you may know, the District no longer produces power from this project. The turbine unit has been dismantled and

In Reply Refer To: E0597-257  
May 29, 1997  
Page 2 of 2

replaced with discharge piping. Resource agencies have been contacted and are aware of the District's proposal. These agencies will contact your office directly or will send a letter. Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Steve Hutchings  
Senior Engineer

SH:dlm

Enclosure

cc: William T. Hetland, General Manager  
Dale Bohnenberger, Engineering Director  
Fred McKain, Consultant  
Mr. Noel Folsom, Regional Director, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
901 Market Street, Suite 350, San Francisco, CA 94103-1778  
Mr. Stafford Lehr, California Department of Fish and Game, Region 2  
1701 Nimbus Road, Suite A, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670  
Mr. Gary Taylor, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Sacramento Field Office  
3310 El Camino Avenue, Suite 130, Sacramento, CA 95821-6340  
Mr. Vernon Persson, California Department of Safety of Dams  
2200 X Street, Suite 200, Sacramento, CA 95818