

July 8, 2016

**Public Notice for Water Quality Certification and/or Waste
Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects)**

**Lake Pillsbury Low Level Boat Launch Project
WDID No. 1B15155WNLA, ECM PIN CW-815763**

Lake County

On December 4, 2015, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from the Pacific Gas and Electric, Angela Risdon (Applicant), requesting Federal Clean Water Act, section 401, Water Quality Certification for activities associated with the Lake Pillsbury Low Level Boat Launch Project (Project). The proposed Project will cause disturbances to waters of the United States associated with shoreline and riparian habitat on Lake Pillsbury within the Eel River Hydrologic Unit No. 111.63. The Project is located on the western shore of Lake Pillsbury approximately 500 feet south of the Lake Pillsbury Resort at the terminus of Kapronos Road, Potter Valley vicinity, Lake County, at latitude 39.4181°N, and longitude 122.9567°W. Permanent impacts to waters of the U.S. include approximately 0.047 acres of lake bed (20 linear feet of lake shoreline) Temporary impacts to waters of the U.S. include approximately 80 linear feet of an unnamed stream bed and bank and 0.08 acres of lake bed.

The primary purpose of the Project is to construct a low water level boat launch to facilitate recreational boating access when water level in the lake recedes below existing facilities. The proposed Project would include construction of a 20-foot wide boat launch, turn around area and 15 parking spaces. The site is within the existing hydroelectric facility boundary and is the site of existing disturbance due to informal boat launch activities. Work is proposed during low water conditions in the lake naturally dewatering the site. If dewatering is necessary the Applicant proposes to submit a dewatering and water quality monitoring plan for Regional Water Board approval. Temporary impacts to the unnamed stream are proposed only within the existing gravel lake bed, not extending outside of the lake bed high water mark.

The proposed Project includes a plan to enhance adjacent shoreline areas, including planting native oak trees within the riparian area along the lake shoreline impacted by the proposed boat launch. The Project proposes to employ best management practices to prevent or reduce any discharges during and after construction.

The Project is planned to begin in the summer or fall of 2016 depending on lake water levels, with construction work planned to last approximately 9 weeks.

The Applicant has obtained authorization from the United States Army Corps of Engineers for a Clean Water Act, section 404 (Nationwide Permit No. 36, Project ID SPK-2015-01074). The Applicant was not required to obtain a California Department of Fish and Wildlife Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement.

The North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, as lead California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) agency, has determined that the project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption, 15303 New Construction, and will file a Notice of Exemption with the State Clearinghouse concurrent with issuance of the 401 Water Quality Certification, pursuant to CEQA guidelines.

The information contained in this public notice is only a summary of the Applicant's proposed activities. The application for Water Quality Certification in the Regional Water Board's file contains additional details about the proposed Project including maps and photos. The application and Regional Water Board file are available for public review.

Regional Water Board staff are proposing to regulate this Project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341) and/or Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act authority. In addition, staff will consider all comments submitted in writing and received at this office by mail during a 21-day comment period that begins on the first date of issuance of this notice and ends at 5:00 p.m. on the last day of the comment period. If you have any questions, please contact staff member Gil Falcone Gil.Falcone@waterboards.ca.gov at (707) 576-2830 or Stephen Bargsten Stephen.Bargsten@waterboards.ca.gov at (707) 576-2653 within 21 days of the posting of this notice.