PUBLIC NOTICE FOR CLEAN WATER ACT 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION BEFORE THE DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS

An application for water quality certification under section 401 of the Clean Water Act for the following project was filed with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), Division of Water Rights. California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3858 requires the Executive Director of the State Water Board to provide public notice of an application at least twenty-one (21) days before taking certification action on the application. Written questions and/or comments regarding the application should be directed to:

Water Quality Certification Unit

Division of Water Rights

P.O. Box 2000

Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

RECEIVED: January 20, 2010

PROJECT: Bear Creek Diversion Dam Replacement Dam Project

APPLICANT: Southern California Edison Company

AGENT: Roy Leidy, PBS & J COUNTY: San Bernardino

RECEIVING WATER: Bear Creek and Santa Ana River

PUBLIC NOTICE: May 11, 2010

PROJECT STATUS: Pending

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Southern California Edison Company (SCE) operates the Santa Ana River and Bear Creek diversion dams for the Santa Ana River 1 & 2 Hydroelectric Project authorized under the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), Project No. 1933. The FERC license requires SCE to install a permanent structure for the release and measurement of dedicated instream flow.

SCE proposes to replace the existing Bear Creek Diversion Dam and construct a new dam about 100 feet downstream. The new dam will be constructed with reinforced concrete and an earthen filled soft plug in the center of the structure. The proposal includes constructing a new intake and modifying a portion of the existing concrete canal that conveys water to the powerhouse. The existing pipeline will also be removed and a breach will be cut through the existing berm to reconfigure channel flow. No modifications are planned for the Santa Ana River Diversion Dam.

The State Water Board is lead agency for the purpose of the California Environmental Quality Act. There are federal threatened and endangered species in the project area that include six plant species, the Sierra Madre Yellow-legged Frog, Santa Ana Sucker, and Southwestern Willow Flycatcher. In addition, the California Department of Fish and Game designated Bear Creek as a Wild Trout Stream for native rainbow and brown trout.