



Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

7 July 2020

Jesus Viscarra
Pacific Gas & Electric Company
350 Salem Street
Chico, CA 95928

ORDER AMENDING CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION AND ORDER; PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY, LOWER BUCKS DAM GEOMEMBRANE PROJECT (5A32CR00197A3), PLUMAS COUNTY

This Order responds to the 30 June 2020 request for an amendment of the Lower Bucks Dam Geomembrane Project (WDID No. 5A32CR00197A2). The original Water Quality Certification (Certification) was issued on 16 July 2019, and amendments were issued on 7 October 2019 and 17 December 2019. The request for amendment is hereby approved. The Certification is therefore amended as described below. Please attach this document to the original Certification and previously approved amendments.

AMENDMENT:

Pacific Gas & Electric Company is requesting an amendment to the Section 401 Water Quality Certification and Order to alter the project description and change the temporary impacts from 9.28 acres to 10.50 acres. Therefore, Section IV, Section VII, Table 1; and Attachment B, Table 2 of the Water Quality Certification are amended in underline/strikeout format below.

IV. Project Description

The proposed Project will involve temporarily dewatering the Lower Bucks Reservoir (Reservoir), then working with equipment in the dewatered lakebed. Work activities will involve temporarily creating access routes in the lakebed, dredging accumulated sediments behind the Lower Bucks Dam (Dam), then installing a new concrete plinth and the geomembrane liner, followed by replacing some of the dredged material back to the original footprint. The remainder of the dredged material will be deposited and stabilized in an upland area on the PG&E fee-title property. Water flow into the Reservoir from Bucks Creek (via Bucks Storage Dam) and Milk Ranch Conduit will be rerouted around the Dam with approximately 2 miles of bypass pipe(s). Most of the water entering the Reservoir from other sources will be excluded from the dewatered

KARL E. LONGLEY SCD, P.E., CHAIR | PATRICK PULUPA, ESQ., EXECUTIVE OFFICER

work areas with a temporary cofferdam; separate catchment systems may be installed for some small perennial creeks. Nuisance water in the dewatered area will be passed through Baker (settling) tanks, or similar procedures will be used to maintain water quality. The filtration system will be located within an existing Forest Service campsite on the north shore of the lake. Water leaving the filtration system will be pumped directly into the existing bypass pipeline on Three Lakes Road and discharged into Bucks Creek below Lower Bucks Dam. After repairs are complete, construction areas will be recontoured to original conditions to the extent feasible, then restored and stabilized, before the Reservoir is refilled. No construction related materials or spoils will be left in the Reservoir or other aquatic features.

VII. Description of Direct Impacts to Waters of the State

Total Project fill/excavation quantities for all impacts are summarized in Table 1. Permanent impacts are categorized as those resulting in a physical loss in area and also those degrading ecological condition only.

Table 1: Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity									
Aquatic Resource Type	Temporary Impact ¹			Permanent Impact					
				Physical Loss of Area			Degradation of Ecological Condition		
	Acres	CY ²	LF ²	Acres	CY	LF	Acres	CY	LF
Lake	9.259 <u>10.486</u>		1,148 <u>1,333</u>						
Riparian Zone	0.003								
Stream Channel	0.012 <u>0.006</u>		114 <u>106</u>						
Wetland	0.003								

¹ Includes only temporary direct impacts to waters of the state and does not include upland areas of temporary disturbance which could result in a discharge to waters of the state.

² Cubic Yards (CY); Linear Feet (LF)

Attachment B

Individual Direct Impact Locations

The following table shows individual impact locations.

Table 2: Individual Direct Impact Information											
Site ID	Latitude	Longitude	Indirect Impact Requiring Mitigation		Direct Impact Duration	Dredge			Fill/Excavation		
			Yes	No		Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Jurisdictional Wetland	39.901642	-121.228504	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Temporary				0.003		
					Permanent						
Riparian	39.901642	-121.228504	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Temporary				0.003		
					Permanent						
Streambed un-vegetated	39.901642	-121.228504	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Temporary				0.012		114
					Permanent				0.006		106
Lake/Reservoir	39.901642	-121.228504	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Temporary				9.259		1,148
					Permanent				10.486		1,333

CENTRAL VALLEY WATER BOARD CONTACT:

Lynn Coster
364 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 205
Redding, CA 96002
Lynn.Coster@waterboards.ca.gov
(530) 224-2437

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION:

I hereby issue an Order amending the existing Clean Water Act, Section 401 Water Quality Certification and Order for Pacific Gas & Electric Company, Lower Bucks Dam Geomembrane Project (WDID No. 5A32CR00197A3). All other conditions and provisions of the original Water Quality Certification and any previously approved amendments remain in full force and effect, except as modified based on the conditions of this Order. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the original Water Quality Certification, previously approved amendments, or of this Order may result in suspension or revocation of the Water Quality Certification.

Original Signed by Clint Snyder AEO (for)
PATRICK PULUPA, Executive Officer
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

7/7/20
Date

LC: db

cc

via email: Sam Ziegler, United States Environmental Protection Agency, San Francisco
Water Quality Certification Program, SWRCB, Sacramento
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Redding
California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 1, Redding