

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

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In the Matter of Water Quality Certification For  
**EL DORADO IRRIGATION DISTRICT**  
**EL DORADO HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT**

**FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION PROJECT NO. 184**

**SOURCES:** South Fork of the American River and Tributaries

**COUNTY:** El Dorado County, and parts of Alpine and Amador Counties

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**WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION FOR FEDERAL PERMIT OR LICENSE**

BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

The **EL DORADO IRRIGATION DISTRICT** (EID) has applied to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) for a new license for the El Dorado Hydroelectric Project (Project 184).

**Project Background**

On February 22, 2000, EID filed an application for a new license with the Commission for the continued operation and maintenance of the existing 21-megawatt (MW) Project 184. Project 184 is located on the South Fork of the American River (SFAR) and its tributaries in El Dorado, Alpine, and Amador counties, California, and occupies private lands and federally owned lands administered by the El Dorado National Forest and the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit.

Portions of Project 184 were built from 1860 to 1876 for gold mining operations. After 1884, water from the project was used for industrial, irrigation, and domestic purposes in the Placerville area. Although the project was initially constructed to provide irrigation water, hydroelectric generation capability was added from 1922 to 1924. Hydroelectric operations began in 1924. EID purchased Project 184 from the Pacific Gas and Electric Company. On April 2, 1999, the Commission approved the transfer to EID of the federal license to operate Project 184, and on September 16, 1999, the California Public Utilities Commission approved the transfer to EID of project facilities and related assets, including water rights.