

Notice of Determination

To: Office of Planning and Research

From: State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 2000

For U.S. Mail:
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Street Address:
1400 Tenth St., Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95814

Sacramento, CA 95812-2000
Contact: Brionna Drescher, Project Manager
Phone: (916) 341-5369 or
Brionna.Drescher@waterboards.ca.gov

County Clerk
County of El Dorado
360 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667

Lead Agency (if different than above):
El Dorado Irrigation District
Address: 2890 Mosquito Road
Placerville, CA 95667
Contact: Mr. Brian Deason
Phone: (530) 642-4064

SUBJECT:

Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.

State Clearinghouse Number: 2013032036

Project Title: El Dorado Forebay Dam Modification Project (Project)

Project Applicant: El Dorado Irrigation District (EID)

Project Location: The Project is located on an off-stream reservoir, which receives water from the South Fork American River via the El Dorado Canal, near Pollock Pines in El Dorado County, California.

Project Description:

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is responsible for issuance of a water quality certification (certification) for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license amendment for the Project, which is owned and operated by EID. EID, as lead agency, prepared an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and filed a Notice of Determination on March 13, 2013. The State Water Board considered the EIR during development of its certification for the Project.

Implementation of the Project will: (1) increase dam stability through seismic improvements; (2) meet Department of Water Resources Division of Dam Safety (DSOD) and FERC dam safety requirements; (3) provide freeboard sufficient to relieve regulatory reservoir level operating restrictions; and (4) improve and maintain the drinking water and hydroelectric facilities. Other Project elements include: drawdown of the El Dorado Forebay (Forebay) to allow for construction of an earthen stability buttress on the dry side (i.e., non-reservoir side) of the Forebay dam; raising the dam 10 vertical feet to meet DSOD and FERC dam safety stability/freeboard requirements; remediation of the emergency spillway structure and outfall; stabilization of the slope along the spillway channel; repair of the reservoir inlet; relocation of the drinking water valve house and dam seepage pump back station; abandonment of two unused penstocks within the dam; installation of a control valve on the active penstock within the reservoir; reinforcement of the reservoir side of the dam; and replacement of the drinking water intake structure.

Conditions of the certification for the Project include monitoring of the benthic macroinvertebrate populations and the protection of water quality through use of best management practices.

APR 22 2015 This is to certify that the State Water Board (Responsible Agency) has approved the above described project on _____ and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project:

1. The Lead Agency for the project has found that the project [will will not] have a significant effect on the environment.
2. An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
 A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures [were were not] made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A mitigation monitoring and reporting plan [was was not] adopted for this project.
5. A statement of Overriding Considerations [was was not] adopted for this project.
6. Findings [were were not] made by the Lead Agency pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the Final EIR with comments and responses Initial Study/Negative Declaration and record of project approval, is available to the General Public at: 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814.

Signature (Public Agency): Thomas Howard

Title: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Date: 4/22/15

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code.

