



Briefing on Oroville FERC Relicensing Process and Community Relations Activities

Since 1968, the Oroville Facilities have provided power generation, water supply, flood management, water quality improvement in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, recreation, and fish and wildlife enhancement benefits. The facilities operate under a license issued by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). The original license was a 50-year license that expired on January 31, 2007.

DWR began the process to apply for a new license in the 2001 timeframe. A key part of that process was working with stakeholders, including regulatory agencies, on a Settlement Agreement that included measures that are intended to satisfy the respective authorities of the State and Federal regulatory agencies under the Federal Power Act and Clean Water Act. Using FERC's Alternative Licensing Process (ALP), DWR contacted over 1,000 stakeholders representing local interests and governments, State and Federal resource agencies, water agencies, non-governmental organizations and Native American tribes to help develop proposed terms and conditions for a new license. The resulting Settlement Agreement identified actions by DWR that will benefit environmental, recreational, cultural, land use, and engineering and operations resources.

DWR submitted its application for a new license for the Oroville Facilities in 2005. Issuance of the final license is pending completion of a biological opinion under the Endangered Species Act by the National Marine Fisheries Service. The Oroville facilities continue to operate under 1-year extensions that are issued by FERC.

Ralph Torres of the State Water Project will provide an update on the status of the license process and the settlement agreement.

Contact

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