

# Initial Study Report Meeting

# SOUTH SWP HYDROPOWER RELICENSING

A stylized graphic of a dam structure with multiple spillways, rendered in light blue and white, set against a dark blue background. The dam is positioned behind the main title text.

FERC Project No. 2426

Courtyard by Marriott, Valencia, CA

May 23, 2018

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

# Meeting Purpose

## SOUTH SWP HYDROPOWER RELICENSING



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For Licensees to discuss the status of the Relicensing Studies described in the Initial Study Report (ISR) and to discuss variances, questions, and proposals for modification (if any) of the FERC-approved study plans.

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# SOUTH SWP HYDROPOWER RELICENSING



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## Licensees' Goals and Objectives

To obtain a new license for South SWP Hydropower operations to provide safe and cost-effective operation of licensed facilities while protecting existing FERC Project No. 2426 water supply, power generation, and energy storage functions and addressing Project impacts in an accountable and responsive manner.



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### STOP & TALK: SPRING ALLERGIES

Health, Safety, Security and Environment

Spring is beautiful, but it's also a key time of year for seasonal allergies. As plants release pollen, millions of people with allergies experience symptoms such as itchy eyes and skin, sneezing, nasal congestion, wheezing and rash. There's no cure, but you can take steps to curb springtime allergies, from medication to household habits.

There are many medicines that can ease the symptoms of allergies. They include:

- **Antihistamines** reduce sneezing, sniffing, and itching by lowering the amount of histamine in your body.
- **Decongestants** shrink the blood vessels in the nasal passageways to relieve congestion and swelling.
- **Antihistamine/decongestant combos** combine the effects of both drugs.

These drugs can be found in a variety of over-the-counter medicines or in prescription strength. If you suffer from spring allergies, start by contacting your local physician.

#### 5 Tips to Keep Pollen at Bay

1. Try to stay indoors whenever the pollen count is very high. The counts usually peak in the mornings.
2. Keep your doors and windows closed during the spring months to keep allergens out. An air purifier may also help.
3. Clean the air filters in your home often. Also, clean bookshelves, vents, and other places where pollen can collect.
4. Wash your hair after going outside, because the allergen can collect there.
5. Vacuum twice a week. Wear a mask, because vacuuming can kick up pollen, mold, and dust that were trapped in your carpet.



If you have questions, please contact your supervisor, [Office Safety and Environment Coordinator \(OSEC\)](#), or local HSSE representative

HSSE Stop & Talk are written for educational purposes and are not intended to replace safe work practices or procedures.  
ver. April 2018

# SOUTH SWP HYDROPOWER RELICENSING



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## Agenda

- Relicensing Schedule
- Study Progress
- Study Progress Questions
- Study Modifications and New Studies
- ISR Meeting Summary
- Adjourn

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# Relicensing Schedule

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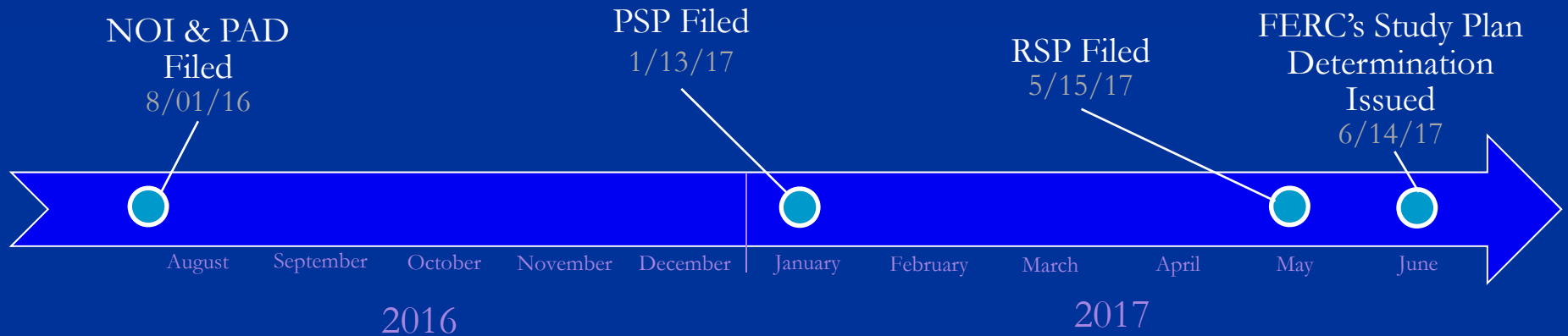
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## Previous Milestones Achieved



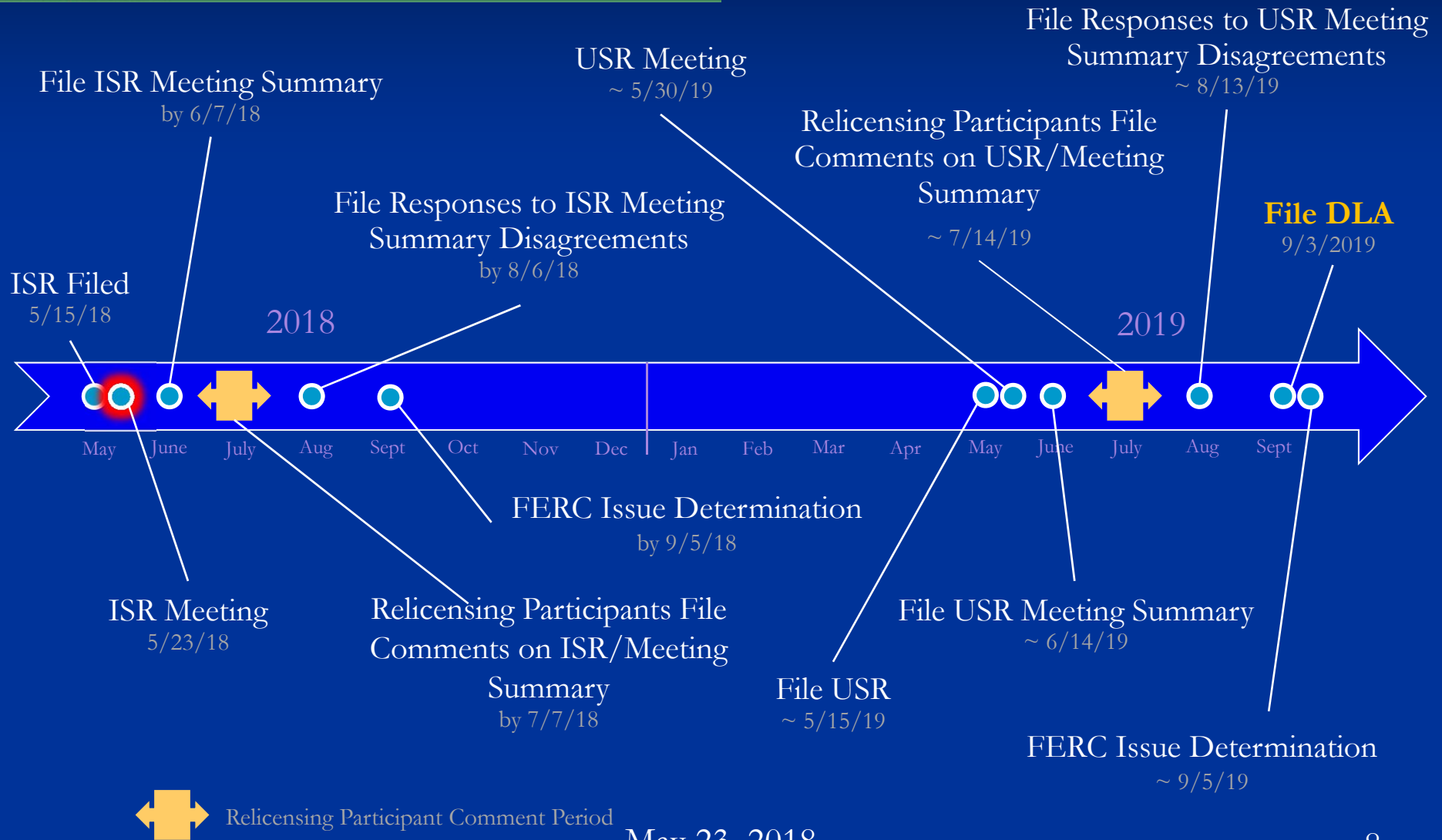
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## Milestones Through DLA



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# Study Progress

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## Data Availability

- Beginning May 10, 2018, per FERC's Determination and consistent with the Communication Guidelines and Goals in the PAD, the Licensees have provided the following on the Relicensing Website (<http://south-swp-hydropower-relicensing.com/>):
  - Study Plans
  - Study Results
  - Field Results and Data Summaries
  - Raw Data
- Relicensing Participants were notified of data availability via email on May 11, 2018



## Study Status

- 22 FERC-approved studies
  - 1 study complete
  - 18 studies underway
  - 3 studies not yet initiated



## Study Variances

- 14 studies did not vary from the FERC-approved study plans
- 8 studies involved one or more variances
  - 7 studies involved variances related to scheduling – see next slide
  - 1 study (Indicators of Hydrologic Alteration) involved a minor variance that will not affect remaining work or study schedule



## Schedule Variances

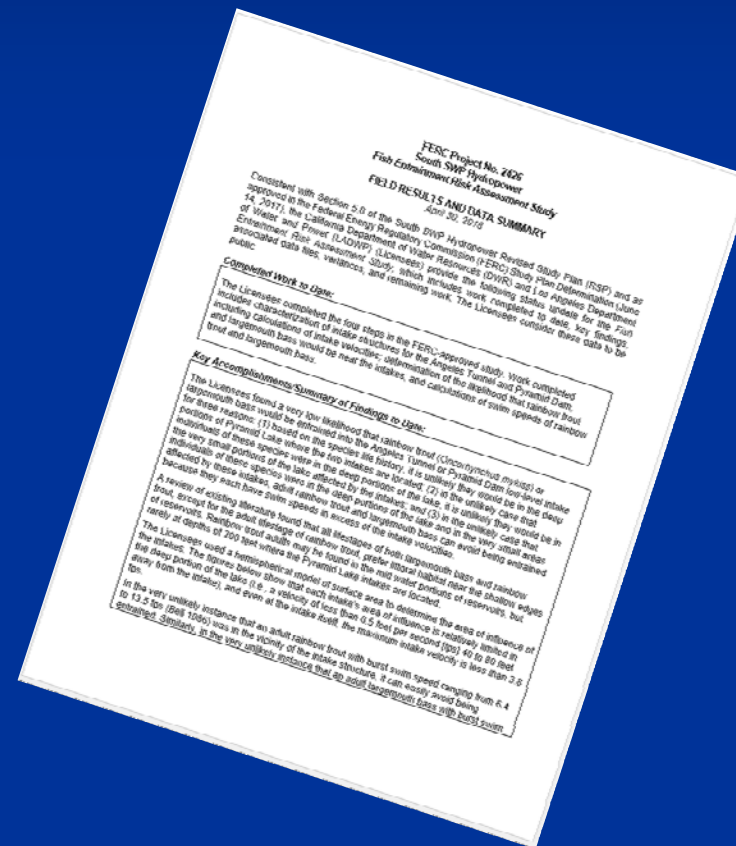
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- Four studies included schedule variances, but are still on track to finish by completion dates in the FERC Study Plan Determination:
  - Pyramid Reach Fish Populations
  - Cultural Resources
  - Tribal Resources
  - Water Quality and Temperature
- Three studies included schedule variances that resulted in a delay of their completion date as stated in the FERC Study Plan Determination:
  - Quail Lake Fisheries Assessment (delayed from August 2018 to November 2018)
  - Scenic Integrity (delayed from November 2017 to June 2018)
  - Pyramid Lake Tributaries Fish Passage Barriers (delayed from November 2017 to July 2018)



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### 17) Fish Entrainment Risk Assessment



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## Studies Underway

- 2) Quail Lake Fisheries Assessment
- 3) Pyramid Reach Fish Populations
- 4) Special-Status Aquatic Amphibians and Semi-Aquatic Snakes
- 5) Botanical Resources
- 6) Non-Native Invasive Plants
- 7) Special-Status Terrestrial Wildlife Species—California Wildlife Habitat Relationships
- 8) ESA-Listed Plants
- 9) ESA-Listed Amphibians – California Red-legged Frog
- 10) ESA-Listed Riparian Bird Species
- 11) Recreation Facilities Demand Analysis and Condition Assessment
- 12) Cultural Resources
- 13) Tribal Resources
- 14) Indicators of Hydrologic Alteration
- 15) Scenic Integrity
- 16) Water Quality and Temperature
- 19) Whitewater Boating
- 20) Special-Status Raptors
- 22) Pyramid Lake Tributaries Fish Passage Barriers

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## 1) Aquatic Invasive Species:

- Anticipate initiating study in July 2018

## 18) ESA-Listed Terrestrial Wildlife Species – California Wildlife Habitat Relationships:

- Anticipate initiating study in September 2018

## 21) Pyramid Reach Benthic Macroinvertebrates:

- Anticipate initiating study in May 2018



# Study Progress Questions

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# Study Modifications and New Studies

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## FERC's Criteria for Study Modification

FERC's criteria for proposing a modification to a FERC-approved study are provided at 18 CFR 5.15(d), which states:

*(d) Criteria for modification of approved study.* Any proposal to modify an ongoing study pursuant to paragraphs (c)(1)-(4) of this Section must be accompanied by a showing of good cause why the proposal should be approved, and must include, as appropriate to the facts of the case, a demonstration that:

- (1) Approved studies were not conducted as provided for in the approved study plan; or
- (2) The study was conducted under anomalous environmental conditions or that environmental conditions have changed in a material way.



## Study Modifications Licensees

- Licensees are performing studies in conformance with FERC-approved study plans
  - Variances will have no effects on outcomes of the studies
  - Licensees did not conduct studies under anomalous environmental conditions
- ❖ As a result, the Licensees do not propose study modifications



## FERC's Criteria for New Studies

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FERC's criteria for proposing new studies are provided at 18 CFR 5.15(e), which states:

(e) Criteria for new study. Any proposal for new information gathering or studies pursuant to paragraphs (c)(1)-(4) of this Section must be accompanied by a showing of good cause why the proposal should be approved, and must include, as appropriate to the facts of the case, a statement explaining:

- (1) Any material changes in the law or regulations applicable to the information request;
- (2) Why the goals and objectives of any approved study could not be met with the approved study methodology;
- (3) Why the request was not made earlier;
- (4) Significant changes in the project proposal or that significant new information material to the study objectives has become available; and
- (5) Why the new study request satisfies the study criteria in § 5.9(b).



## New Studies Licensees

- Licensees are not aware of material changes in laws or regulations
- Licensees are not aware of significant changes in the Project
- Licensees are not aware of significant new information that has come to light since FERC issued its Study Plan Determination that would warrant a new study
- ❖ As a result, the Licensees do not propose any new studies

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## Study Modifications and New Studies Relicensing Participants

### Relicensing Participants Input

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# ISR Meeting Summary

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## ISR Meeting Summary

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- Licensees will File ISR Meeting Summary with FERC -  
*Within 15 days of this ISR meeting (by 6/7/18)*
  - The summary will highlight topics discussed at this meeting and identify changes, if any, to the Licensees' proposed modifications to the FERC-approved studies or new studies described in the ISR
  - The meeting summary is not intended to be a meeting transcript or to characterize each party's position on a topic



## Next Steps

- Relicensing Participants file comments on ISR Meeting Summary - *Within 30 days from Meeting Summary file date (by 7/7/18)*
- Licensees file response to Relicensing Participants' comments – *Within 30 days (by 8/6/18)*
- FERC will make its determination – *By 9/5/2018*

Adjourn

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