

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) this Pre-Application Document (PAD) in support of DWR's and LADWP's relicensing for a portion of the existing South SWP Hydropower, FERC Project Number (No.) 2426. DWR and LADWP (Licensees) jointly hold the initial FERC license, which expires on January 31, 2022, for the South SWP Hydropower.

1.1 LICENSEES AUTHORIZED AGENTS

The applicants for this renewal, or new license, are DWR and LADWP. In accordance with Commission regulations,¹ Licensees identify the physical addresses, mailing addresses and telephone numbers for DWR and LADWP as follows:

DWR's Physical Address:

California Department of Water Resources

2033 Howe Avenue, Suite 220
Sacramento, CA 95825
Tel: (916) 557-4550

DWR's Mailing Address:

California Department of Water Resources

P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

LADWP's Physical and Mailing Addresses:

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

Power Planning and Development

111 North Hope Street, Room 921
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Tel: (213) 367-2525

¹ 18 C.F.R. § 5.6(d)(2)(i) (2015).

DWR's designated agent for the Project relicensing is Mr. Ted Craddock, Chief of DWR's Hydropower License Planning and Compliance Office (HLPCO), Executive Division. Mr. Craddock's telephone number and e-mail address are (916) 557-4555 and Ted.Craddock@water.ca.gov.

LADWP's primary contact for the Project relicensing is Mr. Simon Zewdu, Manager of Strategic Initiatives, Power Planning and Development. Mr. Zewdu's telephone number and e-mail address are (213) 367-2525 and Simon.Zewdu@ladwp.com.

1.2 BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF PAD

1.2.1 Brief Description of the South SWP Hydropower

The facilities addressed in this PAD are located along a larger water storage and delivery system, the State Water Project (SWP), which is the largest state-owned and operated water supply project of its kind in the United States (U.S). The SWP provides southern California with many benefits, including affordable water supply, reliable regional clean energy, opportunities to integrate green energy, accessible public recreation, and environmental benefits. The facilities addressed in this PAD, have a licensed installed capacity of 1,350 megawatts (MW), and are located in Los Angeles County along the West Branch of the SWP.

The South SWP Hydropower facilities addressed in this PAD range in elevation from 3,537 feet to 1,369 feet, and include Quail Lake, Lower Quail Canal, Peace Valley Pipeline Intake Embankment, Peace Valley Pipeline, Gorman Bypass Channel, William E. Warne Powerplant, Warne Transmission Line and associated structures (i.e. Warne Power Development facilities) and Pyramid Dam, Pyramid Lake, Angeles Tunnel and penstocks, Castaic Powerplant, Elderberry Forebay Dam, Elderberry Forebay, and Castaic Transmission Line (i.e. Castaic Power Development facilities).² Together these facilities are referred to as the "Project" in this PAD.

Excluding the transmission lines, the Project's existing Project boundary includes 6,927.8 acres of land, of which 2,807.25 acres are federal lands. Of the federal lands, 2,790.25 acres are on National Forest System (NFS) lands within the Angeles National Forest (ANF) and Los Padres National Forest (LPNF) under the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service (USFS). The ANF manages recreation on NFS lands within both forests surrounding Pyramid Lake. The remaining 17 acres of federal lands are administered by the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

Figure 1.2-1 shows the general location of the Project.

² On March 10, 2016, LADWP filed an application with FERC to amend the existing license to add an additional circuit to the Castaic Transmission Line. LADWP anticipates that FERC will issue the amendment in 2016. Therefore, this additional circuit is considered a part of the Project for the purposes of the PAD and is discussed as such in the remainder of the PAD.

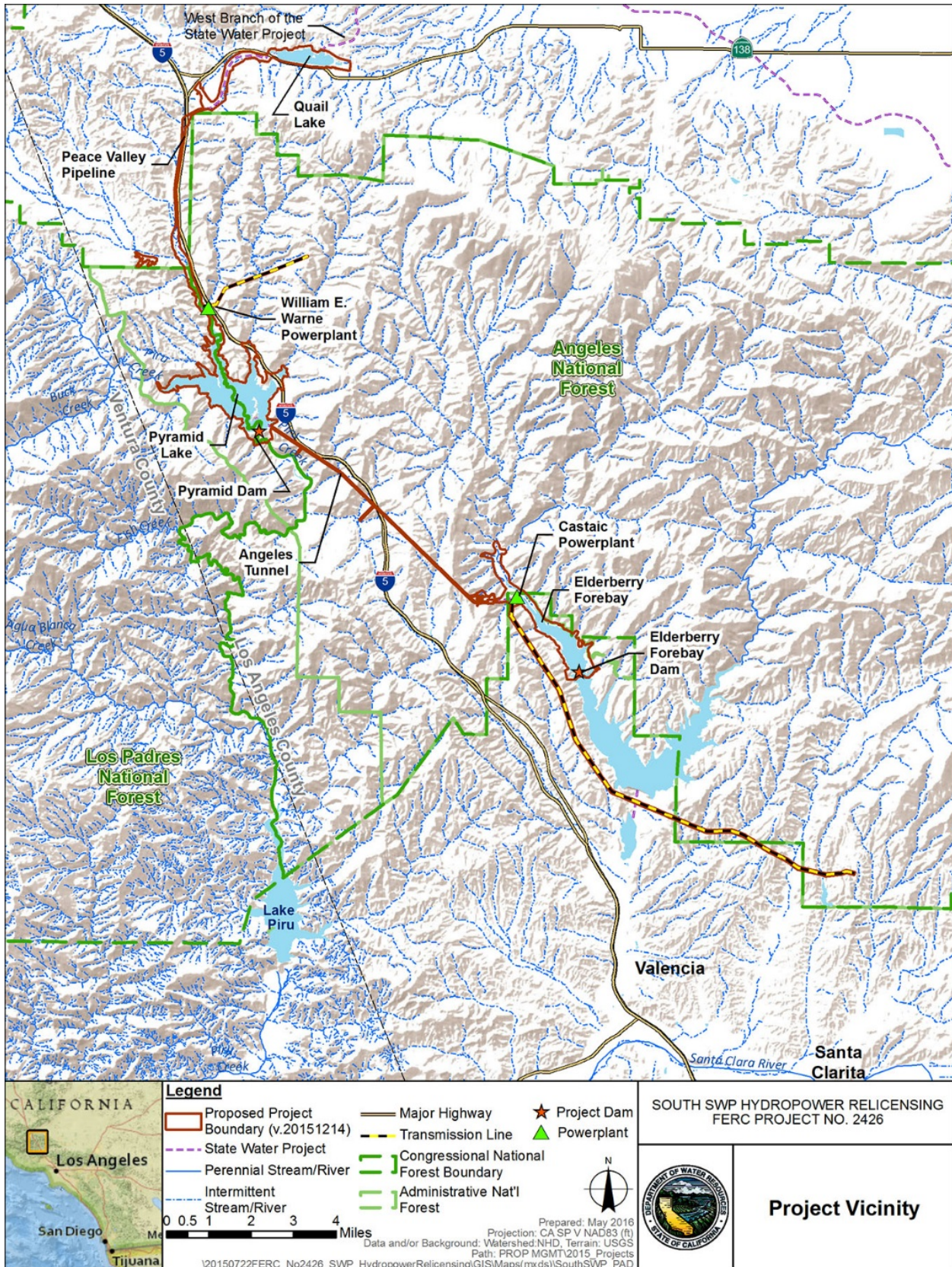


Figure 1.2-1. Project Vicinity Map

1.2.2 Purpose of the PAD

This PAD provides FERC, federal and State of California (State) resource agencies, Native American tribes, local governments, non-governmental organizations (NGO), businesses, members of the public, and others interested in the Project relicensing (i.e., these parties are collectively referred to as “relicensing participants”) with summaries of existing, relevant, and reasonably available information. This information, which was (and remains) in the Licensees’ possession at the time the PAD was filed, is related to the Project and potentially affected resources. In addition, the PAD presents the Licensees’ preliminary proposal for gathering additional information that may be needed to meet the information requirements for issuance of the new license.

Licensees exercised due diligence in acquiring information included in the PAD. Licensees contacted appropriate governmental agencies, Native American tribes, and others that potentially have relevant information; conducted extensive searches of publicly available databases and its own records; and broadly distributed a comprehensive questionnaire specifically designed to identify existing, relevant, and reasonably available information related to the Project. Section 9.0 lists the parties contacted by Licensees to gather information for this PAD. Appendix A lists the information identified by the parties contacted by Licensees, and other information used by Licensees to prepare this PAD. Appendix B contains all pre-PAD Questionnaires returned to Licensees.

1.3 QUALIFYING PLANS

FPA § 10(a)(2)(A) requires FERC to consider in relicensing the extent to which a project is consistent with federal and State comprehensive plans for improving, developing, or conserving waterways affected by the Project. Licensees have reviewed the current FERC-filed comprehensive plans and concluded that 20 of the 76 plans for California may pertain to the Project relicensing. Section 6.0 of this PAD provides more detail on these qualifying plans and Section 7.0 provides information on other plans that may also be relevant to Project relicensing.

1.4 DOCUMENT ORGANIZATION

The PAD is organized in general alignment with the requirements in the Integrated Licensing Process (ILP) regulations. Section 2.0 presents the relicensing process plan and schedule, and includes the Licensees’ proposed communication guidelines for the relicensing. Section 3.0 summarizes information about the Project facilities, operations, and compliance history. Section 4.0 describes existing information. Section 5.0 identifies relicensing issues, known or potential adverse impacts and proposed studies based on the Licensees’ analysis of the existing information and discussions with relicensing participants. Sections 6.0 through 8.0 fulfill additional PAD requirements, including documentation of due diligence in gathering reasonably available existing information and a list of all references used in preparing the PAD.