DEPARTMENT: Administration BY: Rick Benson
PHONE: 966-3222

RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION: Approve County's comments regarding PG&E's FERC relicensing pre-application document for the Merced Falls hydroelectric project.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS: The Pacific Gas & Electric Company is in the process of relicensing their Merced Falls hydroelectric project. In preparing their pre-application document (PAD) they have requested comments from interested parties. Since much of the project is within the boundaries of Mariposa County, the County has an interest in alerting PG&E to potential impacts. Attached is a draft of comments regarding the project. This is similar, but much smaller in magnitude, to the relicensing of the MID Exchequer Dam.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION: Mariposa County will not be on record regarding the relicensing of this facility.

Financial Impact? ( ) Yes (x) No Current FY Cost: $ Annual Recurring Cost: $
Budgeted In Current FY? ( ) Yes ( ) No ( ) Partially Funded
Amount in Budget: $ Additional Funding Needed: $
Source: List Attachments, number pages consecutively
Internal Transfer
Unanticipated Revenue 4/5's vote
Transfer Between Funds 4/5's vote
Contingency 4/5's vote
( ) General ( ) Other

CLERK'S USE ONLY:
Res. No.: 58-537 Ord. No. ______
Vote – Ayes: ______ Noes: ______
Absent: ______
Approved ______ Minute Order Attached ( ) No Action Necessary

The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office.
Date: ______
Attest: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
County of Mariposa, State of California
By: Deputy

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:
✓ Requested Action Recommended
( ) No Opinion
Comments: ______

CAO: [Signature]

Revised Dec. 2002
November 10, 2008

Shawn Flynn
Kleinschmidt Associates
251 South Auburn Street, Suite C
Grass Valley, CA 95945

REF: PG&E's Merced Falls Hydroelectric Project, FERC No. 2467,
    Preliminary Application Document

Mariposa County appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on the referenced
PAD. Although the project is not located within Mariposa County, the facility borders on
the County and has potential effects. In addition, Mariposa County is the source of the
water feeding the project. Due to the proximity of the project, the County wishes to be on
record regarding the following areas of concern.

1. Public Safety/Law Enforcement
   If recreational enhancement project improvements result from re-licensing requirements,
   they may impact the Mariposa County Sheriff's Office. Sheriff's services are paid by the
   General Fund of the County. In the event that enhanced recreational activities are
   contemplated, further study by the Sheriff's Office and PG&E should take place as the re-
   licensing progresses.

2. Roads
   The Mariposa County Department of Public Works is responsible for the maintenance of
   most public roads with the exception of State highways within Mariposa County.
   Additional recreational enhancements and project improvements that may result from
   relicensing requirements may add additional use and accelerate deterioration of the
   Mariposa County roads adjacent to the project. In the event that enhanced activities are
   contemplated, additional study by the Mariposa County Public Works Department and
   PG&E should take place during the project relicensing process.

3. Fisheries
   Mariposa County is aware that there are recommendations for the study of reintroducing
   migratory anadromous fish to the "upper" Merced River. Mariposa County wishes to be
   involved in any decisions related to the "upper" Merced River as it is entirely within
   Mariposa County.
In general, Mariposa County is interested in participating in the process when contemplated activities either impact services to be provided by Mariposa County or will have an effect on the resources of Mariposa County, most notably the upper Merced River. Mariposa County has listed some resources and services that are affected by the project that the County wishes to study further with a review of current and potential impacts with PG&E. In addition, there may be other studies and investigations that evolve as the project progresses. Mariposa County is interested in participating in those studies and investigations, as well.

Mariposa County generally supports the re-licensing project and looks forward to a positive working relationship with PG&E.

Please include this letter and attachments as response to the PAD questionnaire.

Sincerely,

Lyle Turpin
Chair, Board of Supervisors