

## State Water Resources Control Board

### Notice of Exemption

To: Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: State Water Resources Control Board  
P.O. Box 2000  
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

Project Title:

Amendment to the Poe Hydroelectric Project Water Quality Certification Conditions 1 and 9 for Minimum Instream Flows and Monitoring

Project Applicant: Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Project Location – Specific: North Fork Feather River

Project Location – City: Pulga, CA

Project Location – County: Butte

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) is receiving an amendment to the water quality certification (certification) for the Poe Hydroelectric Project (Project; Federal Energy Regulatory Commission [FERC] Project No. 2107). The amendment allows for temporary changes to minimum instream flows (Condition 1 Minimum Instream Flows) and monitoring requirements (Condition 9 Poe Bypass Reach Biological Monitoring) of the Project certification. Changes to Condition 1 provide flexibility for PG&E to temporarily reduce minimum instream flows to support facility maintenance and repairs. Changes to Condition 9 (1) update the Poe Bypass Reach Fish and Benthic Macroinvertebrate Monitoring Plan monitoring schedule and (2) remove the required temperature trigger from the Poe Amphibian Monitoring Plan.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: State Water Resources Control Board

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Pacific Gas and Electric Company

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | ERIC OPPENHEIMER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Exempt Status (check one):

|   |                                                                                           |
|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|   | Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268)                                                     |
|   | Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a))                                           |
|   | Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))                                         |
| X | Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Class 1 § 15301(m), Class 6 § 15306 |
|   | Statutory Exemption. State code number:                                                   |

Reasons why project is exempt:

The Project is categorically exempt from the requirements to prepare environmental documents under California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301, subdivision (m) (Existing Facilities), and section 15306 (Information Collection). The Project involves adding language to the Project's water quality certification to allow temporary reduction of minimum instream flows to support facility maintenance and repairs but does not consist of actual facility maintenance or repairs, which means there is negligible or no expansion of existing use. The Project updates data collection schedules and methodologies for biological monitoring, which will not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. None of the exceptions to the categorical exemptions apply.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Jessica Dyke

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (916) 341-5448

*Parker Thaler*

Parker Thaler - Environmental Program Manager I

December 18, 2025

Signed by Lead Agency

*Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.*

*Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.*