

September 28, 2023

Stephanie Moreno, Executive Director
Guadalupe-Coyote Resource Conservation District
888 N First Street, Room 204
San Jose, CA 95112

Subject: Valley Water’s Draft Petition for Surrender of the Hydroelectric Exemption at Anderson Dam (Project No. 5737), Morgan Hill, California

Dear Stephanie,

The Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) proposes to decommission the hydroelectric facility located at Anderson Dam in Morgan Hill, California. The decommissioning of the hydroelectric facility will occur as a part of the Anderson Dam reconstruction to meet federal and state dam safety requirements, known as the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project (ADSRP).

In 1984, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission issued Valley Water a small hydroelectric facility “exemption” from licensing (a form of federal permit). Valley Water is filing for the surrender of this federal exemption and as part of this surrender process, Valley Water is making the Draft Petition for Surrender of Exemption (Draft Petition) available for a 90-day review period. The Draft Petition is a document that explains Valley Water’s plan and reasoning for surrendering the existing exemption for operation of the hydroelectric facility. The action will include decommissioning of the hydroelectric facility, retrofitting Anderson Dam, and incorporating environmentally beneficial components into ADSRP. The Draft Petition also includes four environmental reports as appendices to the petition to disclose Valley Water’s evaluation of the effects of ADSRP on the environment and stakeholders. Links to the Draft Petition and each of its appendices have been provided below.

The comment review period for the Draft Petition will begin on September 28, 2023, and conclude on December 28, 2023. Email and written comments will be accepted until 5 p.m. on December 28, 2023. Please provide email comments to Anderson_FERC@valleywater.org or written comments to the following address:

Tiffany Chao
Senior Environmental Planner
Santa Clara Valley Water District
5750 Almaden Expressway
San José, CA 95118.

As a reminder, Valley Water prepared the draft Environmental Impact Report in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act¹, which is also included as a link in Appendix A to the Draft Petition. Valley Water made the draft Environmental Impact Report available for public review on September 1, 2023, and public comments on that document are due on November 1, 2023.

Should you require additional information, please contact Tiffany Chao at (408) 630-3107.

Sincerely,



Ryan McCarter, P.E.
Acting Deputy Operating Officer
Dam Safety and Capital Delivery Division



John Bourgeois
Deputy Operating Officer
Watershed Stewardship and Planning Division

Electronic Enclosures:

- Draft Petition for Surrender of Exemption
https://fta.valleywater.org/fl/iQFfT3MDKh/Anderson_Draft_Petition
- Draft Petition Appendices:
 - Appendix A. Draft Environmental Impact Report Volume 1
<https://fta.valleywater.org/dl/c40F1Is00W>
Draft Environmental Impact Report Appendices Volume 2
<https://fta.valleywater.org/fl/4tGnwP6Jdh>
 - Appendix B. Draft Biological Evaluation for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
https://fta.valleywater.org/fl/KTSrhZ1L6A/Draft_BE_for_USFWS
 - Appendix C. Draft Biological Evaluation for National Marine Fisheries Service
https://fta.valleywater.org/fl/BFDtq5ZyNr/Draft_BE_for_NMFS
 - Appendix D. Draft Environmental Justice Technical Memorandum
https://fta.valleywater.org/fl/0HpByOdHs3/Draft_Environmental_Justice_TM

CC: Anderson_FERC@valleywater.org

¹ <https://www.valleywater.org/public-review-documents>