



Feasibility Study Report of Potential Licensing Proposal for the Potter Valley Project

June 5, 2020



**TWO-BASIN
PARTNERSHIP**
POTTER VALLEY

Overview of Feasibility Study Report

🌍 Prepare Feasibility Study

- Regional Entity
- Project Plan
- Fisheries Restoration Plan
- Application Study Plan
- Financial Plan



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Journey to the Project Plan

• Many long, honest and difficult discussions

• *Shared Objectives*

- *Reliance on best available science and engineering analyses as the basis for evaluating options for restoration, water delivery, and hydroelectric generation pursuant to a new license*
- *Economic welfare of both basins*
- *Collaboration on funding*
- Protecting tribal, cultural, economic, and other interests in both the Eel and Russian River basins.

• Strong belief that we are better together



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Project Plan

FERC Project Plan Elements

- Scott Dam Removal
- Lake Pillsbury Sediment Management
- Lake Pillsbury Vegetation Management
- Van Arsdale Diversion Modifications
- Cape Horn Dam Fish Passage Modifications
- Revised Operational Plan

Non-FERC Element (example)

- Potter Valley Irrigation District Water Supply



Next Steps before FERC (May – July 2020)

- Partners filed Feasibility Study Report on May 13
 - For information only
 - No sufficiency review, hearing, or decision on proposed Project Plan at this time
- Public comments on the proposed modifications to PG&E's Study Plan that FERC approved in 2018
 - Comments due June 28
- FERC posted Revised Process Plan and Schedule this week



Next Steps before FERC (August 2020 -)

• On current schedule, Partners will:

- File Initial Study Report this September, to summarize results of PG&E's studies through 2018
- Conduct second year of studies in 2021
- File draft license application in November 2021
- File final license application in April 2022

• Schedule subject to adjustment based on funding for relicensing studies and process



Potential Licensing Proposal, Not a Commitment

- **Planned Project based on the Shared Objectives**
 - Protecting tribal, cultural, economic, and other interests
 - Reliance on best available science and engineering analyses
 - Improving fish passage and habitat on the Eel River
 - Continued hydroelectric generation
 - Economic welfare of both basins and collaboration on funding
 - Minimizing or avoiding impacts to water supply reliability, fisheries, water quality & recreation
- **Moving Forward - Active participation of tribes and other stakeholders supportive of the Shared Objectives**
 - Initiation of a FERC relicensing process
 - Very preliminary technical information at this time
 - Several technical and economic issues need further study
 - Studies and stakeholder input will shape the project moving forward
 - Parties are committed to working with other interested parties to become equal partners in the process
- **Proposal will become a commitment only when license application is submitted and approved**



Formal Submittals to FERC

- FERC is not accepting mail due to Covid-19
- Stakeholders must use FERC's online system, <https://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ferconline.asp>
- Once registered in online system, stakeholder may e-File and e-Serve their comments on Feasibility Study Report and subsequent steps

