

BISHOP CREEK WATER ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 1273

Bishop, California 93515

May 27, 2014

Ms. Deborah Hess
Southern California Edison
3001 Chateau Road
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93526

Mr. Dan Golden
Southern California Edison
4000 Bishop Creek Road
Bishop, CA 93514

Dear Ms. Hess and Mr. Golden:

Subject: Water Releases below Southern California Edison (SCE) Plant 6

In accordance with its by-laws (enclosed), the Bishop Creek Water Association (BCWA) represents the users and appropriators of the waters of Bishop Creek, including the City of Los Angeles. In its capacity as representative of the Bishop Creek water users and in consideration of the current state-wide drought, the BCWA is hereby calling for SCE to implement a modified Bishop Creek flow regime as called for by Section 18 of the 1933 Sales Agreement between the Southern Sierra Power Co. (predecessor to SCE) and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) or, as an alternative, the reduced flow requirements prescribed under Section II of the Chandler Decree (page 69, paragraph 2).

As you are well aware, we are currently in the third year of a very severe drought. As we understand this will be the third year of what is expected to be the driest 3 years on record. Based on projections the runoff this year in the Bishop Creek drainage will peak late June or early July and then plummet to baseflow within about two weeks from then. With current operations we are estimating that storage in SCE reservoirs will be essentially zero at that time, leaving the members of the BCWA with only the baseflow at an amount that is inadequate to meet even minimum flows from about August 1st through the end of the irrigation season. In most dry years this type of a situation is avoided because of carryover storage in your reservoirs, however because of the work done on your dams over the past few years water storage in the Bishop Creek drainage is essentially non-existent.

The Chandler Decree (Section II, page 69, paragraph 2) recognizes that causes beyond SCE's control allow for modification of the normal runoff year flow schedule identified on page 68 of the decree. The BCWA Board has found the current severe drought to qualify as being a cause beyond SCE's control and allows for the modification of the normal Bishop Creek flow schedule.

The Bishop Creek flow regime preferred by the BCWA is prescribed by Section 18 of the 1933 Sales Agreement. This flow regime has been previously agreed to by LADWP as party to the 1933 Sales Agreement and is presently endorsed by the BCWA Board on behalf of its membership (which includes LADWP). By invoking the minimum flow provisions found in

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Section 18 of the 1933 Sales Agreement excess runoff water can be impounded in your reservoirs and made available for use later in the season.

As a secondary alternative, the BCWA requests SCE to adhere to the modified flow provisions prescribed by Section II of the Chandler Decree itself during periods beyond SCE's control and allow for Bishop Creek flows to be maintained at approximately 90 cfs during June and July (85% of the flows outlined by the Section II flow schedule), approximately 80 cfs during August (75% of the flow outlined by the Section II flow schedule), and approximately 57 cfs during the first two weeks of September (75% of the flow outlined by the Section II flow schedule).

Because of the dire situation it is of utmost importance that you immediately respond to this request by reducing flow out of SCE's Power Plant #6 to be consistent with the minimum flow provisions outlined by the 1933 Sales Agreement, or as an alternative the reduced flows prescribed by the Chandler Decree Section II, page 69, paragraph 2.

If you have any questions please contact me at the phone number below. Please let me know your response to our request as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Steve Stevens

Board of Trustees

Steve Stevens (760) 873-4847

Henry Means (760) 872-6826

George Johnston (760) 873-1133

Robert Prendergast (760) 873-0209

Enclosure