Responses to Comments from a Member of the Ad Hoc Group on the CNA Public Summary Report

Comment			
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1	Cover	1.1. The Ad Hoc Group appreciates the opportunity to be included in Oroville's Comprehensive Needs Assessment, a lot was learned, and looks forward to continued dialog at the Citizen Advisory Commission meetings. Just as DWR was tasked by regulators to complete the CNA study, the Ad Hoc members are equally accountable to the downstream communities we represent, and thus act with both oversight and communicational responsibility.	1.1. Comment noted. The CNA project was not many undertaken by DWR.1.2. Comment noted.
		1.2. The attached document contains information for suggested edits to the CNA public report. These suggested edits speak not only to DWR, but our downstream constituents demonstrating we did our due diligence in looking out for their concerns. If the final report is determined to not be a fair representation of the Ad Hoc involvement and ongoing concerns, we retain the option to release a final report of our own.	1.3. Comment noted, but respectfully disagree. Ever was publicly possible at the eight Ad Hoc meetings h an Independent Review Board to represent public sa documentation of the CNA Project. The overall concl independent review by a separate panel of experts – (report dated July 2020).
		 1.3. The general concerns with the draft report could be summarized into three categories: Distrust in the risk analysis and O&M prioritization of risk verses water delivery projects. Omission of relevant information from both past and present to the general public. Misleading statements to control the narrative towards less safe/non-urgent next steps, despite uncertainties. 	1.4. DWR will move forward, taking the recommend overall SWP dam safety and Capital Improvement Propresented at the last Ad Hoc Group meeting.
		1.4. Within the body of the report is great work by the CNA task teams in developing alternative plan 1- 10 and the engineering work that guided those plans. We applaud their effort. But as we have stated before, the best of plans are only stated intent, and safety can only be achieved when people actually implement the plans. Time will tell, regarding the people making the decisions at DWR, and if justice can finally be achieved for both southern and northern California citizens.	
2	ix	2.1. Although the analysis of the Oroville Facility is being termed "comprehensive," this report is not. The report is clearly written to omit critical information that the general public needs to make an informed decision. What was omitted from the report is very telling of DWR's lack of transparency that the Ad Hoc Group was tasked to prevent.	2.1. The CNA was a comprehensive planning project evaluate what enhancements are necessary to ensur reliability compared to modern standards. DWR does the report. The CNA Project Team responded to que information requested about critical Potential Failure
		2.2. The flood events of 1986 and 1997 that resulted in over \$500,000 in settlement payments by DWR are just as important historical event as the spillway. Having the 150,000 AF of flood storage that Marysville Dam would have provided, these levee failures may have been avoided. Instead of hard storage, DWR adapted a WCM with surcharge flows over the unprotected emergency spillway during certain standard floods (1/200 yr). Task 2 of the CNA - new Water Control Manual is intended to address this shortcoming, thus inclusion of this information is very relevant to Oroville's history within the public CNA report.	CNA Summary Report is an effort to provide informa by FERC or any other regulatory agency. With regard Independent Review Board (IRB) stated in their final DWR and its consultants completed a world-class stu DWR leadership with decisions about potential invest of Oroville Dam and its appurtenances. The study ap to apply this approach, or a scaled version of this app A copy of the final IRB report was attached to the Pu
		2.3. Three major disasters within a thirty one year period (1986-2017) add [perspective] to the term "likelihood of occurrence" used in the risk analysis within this report. Disaster every ten years is fact. Making occurrence determinations in ranges from 1/100 - 1/10,000 is simply guess work.	2.2. The premise of this comment is incorrect. In 199 Feather River failed a levee protecting Yuba City and the benefits that Oroville Dam provides is to reduce the dam has been very successful reducing flood flow from peak flows of approximately 190,000 to 300,00 downstream communities down to only about 150,0 not related to the operation of Oroville Dam and we

sponses andated by regulatory agencies; it was voluntarily

very attempt was made to share as much information as is held over the course of the project. DWR also retained safety in reviewing the procedures, results, and nelusion of the CNA Project is consistent with another is – the 2019 FERC Part 12D Independent Consultant

ndations from the CNA planning level report, into the Projects (CIP) process as described in the reports and as

Act which DWR committed to FERC and DSOD to sure Oroville Dam's operational and dam safety bes not agree that critical information was omitted from uestions from the Ad Hoc Group and provided ure Modes and what facilities they affected. The entire nation to the public – a report that was not mandated rd to the quality of the CNA evaluation, the al report (Report No. 10) that *"The IRB believes that* study that will provide valuable information to assist estments that will help assure the safety and reliability approach was innovative and the IRB encourages DWR pproach, to other projects in the State Water Project." Public Release Summary Report as Appendix B.

.955, a flood of approximately 200,000 cfs down the ad flooded the basin – 38 people lost their lives. One of e flood risks to downstream communities. To this end, ows for four flood events (1964, 1986, 1997, and 2017) 2000 cfs that would likely have flooded numerous 0,000 cfs, or less. The 1986 and 1997 levee failures were vere not overtopping failures of the levees. These levee

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π			failures were related to underseepage and weakness not related to the State Water Project or Oroville Da of California (actually the Reclamation Board, now re considered to be a de facto owner of these State-Fee control projects from the Corps of Engineers, and the During the last decade the State committed \$5B in b spent in Northern California. The Urban and Non-urk improvement projects were funded by these funds, have significantly improved levees. These levee impr The CNA report provided status updates on potentia 2.3. Comment noted. Though not identified it is like to Oroville Dam, but rather with the levee system. N communities during the 2017 Oroville Spillway Incide uncontrolled release of the reservoir, and in fact, Or 1986 and 1997 flood events.
3	ix	 3.1. The significant head cutting erosion that initiated the evacuation occurred with less than 2 ft of flood water [that] over-topped the emergency spillway. However the current water control manual allowed 11 ft surcharge flows to overtop the unprotected hillside during certain standard floods (1/200) event. 3.2. The stability of the hillside to handle surcharge flow during a standard flood was sold to FERC and ACOE on a flawed report. 3.3. Appendix F3 of the IFT Report made these statements about the geology report for the emergency spillway - " none of the reports covering Oroville assets that were prepared for regulatory purposes identified the design inadequacies" "there were cutting and pasting of accurate geological descriptions from previous report" "inaccurate characterization of sound rock conditions over the entire area of the spillway was perpetuated by truncating earlier, more complete descriptions" "Normalization of deviance (where departure from desirable conditions become expected and accepted)." 	 methodologies. 3.1. The erosion experienced on the Emergency Spill The hillside downstream of the Emergency Spillway I long structural RCC apron and 40-70 ft deep Secant F protection to the spillway crest structures and a port structures. DWR is currently using an enhanced flood the emergency spillway during a standard project flood the emergency spillway during a standard project flood 3.2. The reservoir operation was designed to handle approximately 440,000 cfs and reduce this to a disch manage the SPF as designed without experiencing the improvements provided by the newly constructed RC The PMF update report has been submitted to FERC with these agencies. 3.3. These fragmented comments are not represent investigations and evaluations contained in the num described characterizations representative of the commentation.
4	ix	4.1. The rapid down ramping of discharge flow extended the damage downstream to include: levee damage and near-miss flooding of Yuba City, 100 year old riparian habitat and orchard ground slouching into river, sedimentation, loss of navigability, damaged spawning beds and stranded juvenile salmon.	Spillway and FCO chute following the 2017 event and4.1. This statement is the subject of current litigatio4.2. This statement is the subject of current litigatio
		4.2. Several lawsuits were filed by downstream stakeholders as a result of DWR's mismanagement of [its] facility.	

esses in the levee itself. The settlements referred to are Dam. Rather they were related to the fact that the State renamed the Central Valley Flood Protection Board) is rederal Project levees because it accepted the flood the federal government cannot be successfully sued. bond funds to flood management, most of which was urban Levee Evaluation projects and numerous levee s, and many communities along the Feather River now provement projects continue today.

tial WCM revisions through the USACE process.

kely that two of the inferred disasters were not related No levees failed or resulted in flooding of protected ident. None of the incidents inferred represent an Droville Dam performed well and as intended during the

vith federally established and industry leading

pillway in the 2017 event was over unarmored terrain. y has been greatly modified since, protected by a 750 ft t Pile Wall. The buttress will provide significant prtion of the hillside downstream of the crest od pool that prevents the routing of flood waters over flood.

lle the Standard Project Flood (SPF) with an inflow of charge flow of only 150,000 cfs. The reservoir can still the headcutting erosion observed in 2017 due to the RCC apron and Secant Pile Wall.

C and DSOD, and is in the process of final resolution

ntative of the extensive geologic and foundation merous original site geology reports. Nor are the comprehensive geologic studies done on the Emergency and used to design subsequent repairs. ion and DWR has no comment.

ion and DWR has no comment.

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5	іх	It still lacks the spillway capacity required to pass a new probable maximum flood (PMF) without damage to the facility, CNA Task 1 - Spillway Capacity.	5. Passing a PMF (an extremely rare event associated to the unlined portion of the spillway channel is not t Spillway. The primary requirement is to prevent failu with both FERC and DSOD. Both agencies have review comments is nearly complete.
			Deciding whether to provide additional armoring or informed decision. Nine of the ten CNA recommende measure options for future DWR consideration.
6	ix	Most of the CNA tasks originated from recommendations identified during the 2014 FERC Part 12 inspections and DSOD inspections, thus satisfying a regulatory requirement that preceded the spillway event.	6. This comment is inaccurate. The CNA project was DWR's commitment to the project in 2017 – see Janu the CNA Public Release Summary report. Part 12D an project work, but were not fundamental to project so DWR and was not mandated by either FERC or DSOD
7	ix	7.1. Key members of the Ad Hoc Group expressed frustration at DWR for not being forthright in providing requested information during meetings, or including relevant information in the public report. Reports that were public in the past were being withheld for CEII protection.	7.1. Every effort was made to share as much informations were also made at each meeting by the documents, including those classified as Critical Energy
		7.2. The Ad Hoc Group plans to retain its option to draft a final CNA report for public circulation. Thus the effort to lay out the basic information within these comments, for the general public and media to understand. DWR may want to incorporate these recommended additions to their report prior to the release of the Ad Hoc report to prevent further examples of lack of transparency.	7.2. Comment noted. DWR has issued a public version
8	х	8.1. Based solely on DWR's self- ranking CNA risk analysis process	8.1. Comment noted. CNA recommendations were b described in the report.
		8.2. The 2019 FERC part 12 process that utilizes independent consultants and incorporated the IFT recommendations is not provided for comparison in this report or Appendix.	8.2. FERC requires independence of these efforts H included a summary of the risk results from the independence of the results from the two different risk
			It should be noted that the CNA included an Indepen and formal comments requiring the CNA to address, reported the results of its reviews throughout the CN meeting. Moreover, the CNA risk evaluations also ind the IFT to improve PFM workshops that the L2RA inc
			Separate from the CNA project, DWR will be required FERC-required Part 12D Independent Consultants.
9	х	9.1. The word "unacceptable" refers to risk that are only justified under extraordinary circumstances. It does not mean Oroville's risk are tolerable, or acceptable by downstream citizens.	9.1. Unacceptable risk in this report is in the context guidelines and criteria established by FERC and other
		9.2. The word "identified" is used here to omit the fact that there are 25 studies requested to address risk uncertainties, and until these studies are complete, we don't know the risks at Oroville.	9.2. The risk assessment findings were on current ex ongoing studies with the exception being the FCO str fortunate to have more information on risk factors th example, detailed studies of the hydrologic and seisn incident. Ongoing studies are typical in dam safety. R

ed with a 21,000-year return period) without damage t typically a design objective for an Emergency lure of the dam. DWR has filed an updated PMF report ewed and commented. Resolution of agency

r constructing a new Emergency Spillway is a riskded plans include additional spillway improvement

as conceptualized in founding documents following nuary 12, 2018, letter from DWR to FERC in Figure 5 of and DSOD inspections were reviewed during the CNA scoping. The CNA Project was a voluntary effort by DD.

mation as was permitted under CEII restrictions. the IRB whose panel members reviewed all of the CNA ergy Infrastructure Information (CEII).

sion of the CNA report.

based on the CNA team's analytical results as

However, DWR's CNA Public Release Summary report dependent L2RA evaluations. This provides a sk analyses.

endent Review Board (IRB) providing formal oversight s, something the L2RA did not incorporate. The IRB CNA Project at the beginning of each Ad Hoc Group ncorporated every single recommendation made by ncorporated.

ed to respond to the recommendations made by the

ext of dam safety and system reliability and follows ner federal agencies.

existing conditions and were typically independent of structural analysis. The CNA risk evaluations were than is commonly available in such risk evaluations; for ismological hazards were begun before the 2017 . Reevaluations never end.

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		9.3. Although this statement is not false, it is not forthright in providing the reader with the amount [of] remaining uncertainties, or what uncertainties the studies are to address. Thus the wording of this statement creates a "False Narrative."	 9.3. Recommended future studies are briefly summ report as follows: <i>"hydrologic, scour, landslide, mech</i> A full listing is found in the CEII CNA report reviewed most part, these studies are updates of previous evaluation estimates. Such studies are updated on a continuing
10	Х	The L2RA study categorized consequences of risk simply in terms of fatalities without any consideration for financial consequences. Within that context it still identified three unacceptable risks and three others that straddled the line. Therefore the statement that the parallel reports were in general agreement is also misleading to the public.	10. The statement of general agreement is accurate to both the CNA and L2RA were within one-order of uncertainty for a semi-quantitative risk assessment i estimates were within the range of estimates made estimates, all of the higher risk Potential Failure Mod were targeted for risk reduction examinations and the within the CNA report.
11	X	 11.1. The original cost of the dam's construction was amortized over the life of the 50 year water contract, thus making annual water charges affordable. The same financial method would make affordable billions of dollars in improvement projects to provide an acceptable level of public safety, and [dependable] water deliveries for the life of the next 50 year contract. 11.2. DWR is suggesting downstream communities accept higher levels of "tolerable risk" for a 50 year old dam, due to the cost of implementing retrofit safety projects. 11.3. Additionally regulators are encouraged by dam owners to grandfather safety requirements dating back to the time of construction, such as the [requirement] to have the capacity to rapidly draw down the reservoir during an emergency event. 11.4. Thus residents downstream of Oroville are going to be asked by DWR to accept a much lower level of safety than the current standards within the industry today. 	 11.1. DWR will utilize standard funding processes for Projects. 11.2. This statement is inaccurate. The acceptability has nothing to do with the age of the dam. For risks there are reasonable and practicable efforts made to referred to as "ALARP" which prescribes lowering riss Practicable." This too is part of risk management procagencies and others over the last 3 decades. The Ear recommended by the CNA Project incorporate this p be quickly addressed, but the CNA found no such ris loading conditions, were on the border of being Una Safety (overtopping of Parish Camp Saddle Dam for Risk Reduction Project. The other, flooding of the Hy consequences and will be examined under the Long-CNA. 11.3. This comment is inaccurate. The report is strict independent regulatory agencies who are bound to CNA report highlighted the limitations in current ress Alternative Risk Reduction Plans included Measures reservoir drawdown, with 7 of the recommended Plate 11.4. The CNA project was chartered to evaluate da modern standards. Risk evaluations were determine whether a deterministic standard was met.
12	x	 12.1. The early implementation, of installing piezometers, raising the saddle dam 3 ft, and conducting a state of the art seismic study were risks identified by the IRB team for immediate action, since the cost of further study wasn't warranted. 12.2. Then we wait several more years for the completion of 25 pending studies needed to reduce uncertainties for other intolerable risk the CNA was unable to identify. 	 12.1. Comment is inaccurate. The CNA Project Team completion of a seismic stability evaluation of the m implemented. DWR agreed to this and has complete and has started initiating the work for the seismic st Camp Saddle Dam by 3 feet was developed by the C had identified, and this Measure was incorporated in

marized at the end of the CNA Public Release Summary chanical reliability, and seismic stability investigations."

red by the IRB and submitted to FERC and DSOD. For the evaluations which provided a basis for making the risk ng basis throughout the lifetime of a dam project. The and detailed in the report. 82% of the PFMs common of magnitude of matching. The accepted range of not is up to three orders of magnitude. All of the CNA risk de by the L2RA. Regardless of who made the risk Modes, whether estimated by CNA or by the L2RA team, d the development of risk reduction Measures and Plans

for future dam safety and Capital Improvement

ity or tolerability of the risk for a potential vulnerability ks that are <u>not</u> **Unacceptable**, they are only **Tolerable** if e to reduce risk further. This process/concept is often risks to a level that is As Low As Reasonably procedures and acceptance criteria developed by federal early, Interim, and Long-term risk reduction plans s process. Risks that are **Unacceptable** generally need to risks. Two PFMs, which would occur under extreme nacceptable – the only one of the two related to Public or a 40,000 year flood) will be addressed by the Interim Hyatt PP, has substantial operational and financial ng-term risk management strategy recommended by the

rictly fact-based and has no ability to influence to their responsibilities by statutes and regulations. The reservoir drawdown capabilities and all 10 of the es that would improve the reliability/capacity of Plans including a new Low Level Outlet (tunnel).

lam safety and system reliability with respect to ned on estimated likelihoods of occurrence, not

am identified the installation of piezometers and the main dam, and recommended that they be ted the installation of most of the planned piezometers stability evaluation. The Measure for raising Parish CNA Task 5 Team to address a risk that the Task 5 Team I into every Alternative Risk Reduction Plan. The IRB

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#	Page #	Comment	Resp encouraged DWR to consider this Measure, along wi
		12.3. The statement "there is not a need for any immediate risk reduction actions" negates this information and furthers a false narrative.	since their costs were relatively low. The CNA Team
			12.2. Implementation of all or part of any one of the completion of the recommended future studies. The
			vulnerabilities with the higher, but not Unacceptable
			regard to which risk reduction measures have higher
			studies (e.g. landslide, hydrologic, seismic stability) v relatively low dam safety risks.
			12.3. We disagree that this is a false narrative. The C
			Unacceptable, and in keeping with federal guidelines measures that will reduce risks even further. The IRB
			relatively low risk, and the 2019 FERC Part 12D Indep
			suitable for continued safe and reliable operation
			<i>for continued safe operation.</i> " These results are in efforts for the entire SWP.
13	х	13.1. The SWC association has long been critical of DWR's cost of operations and the 2018 IFT report	13.1. The SWC are briefed on annual and long-term
		agreed.	sentence in the report which states the risks and prid at all other SWP facilities. Any element of Oroville Da
		13.2. Even before the 2000 California Energy Crisis that nearly doubled the electrical cost for pumping	require remediation on a schedule acceptable to the
		water through the SWP, the SWCs were pressuring DWR for rate reductions in their contract, such as the 1997 Monterey Agreement, and the 2020 Water Contract Extension.	timeframes for SWP routine budget planning proces
			13.2. Comment noted. This comment is not directly
		13.3. Years of cost constraints and lack of human resources created the need for the 2016 Extraordinary Fund to address a backlog of O&M projects. The \$224,000,000 capital plan addresses over 40 projects,	13.3. This comment is inaccurate and not related to
		about 12 of the projects Oroville and thirty some down south.	scheduled 2020-2025 Infrastructure Improvements of meetings are within the Oroville Complex.
		13.4. Due to the 2017 Spillway Event most of this work is scheduled over the next 5 years, competing	
		with the newly identified safety projects within the CNA process.	13.4. All projects recommended in the CNA report w another. There may be overlap but no conflict or cor
14	2	14.1. Failure to mention the immediate seismic stability study request of the FCO gates is misleading since one would assume the gates to be part of the FCO structure quoted as meeting modern engineering standards. CNA Task #3 - FCO enhancement.	14.1. Ongoing analysis of the FCO headworks and its classified Task 3 and overall Project reports. This con commenting on the reconstructed FCO Spillway Chur
		14.2. Modern engineering standards would lead one to believe that the regulatory requirement of the	14.2. Regulatory requirements do not require passir
		combined spillway capacity to pass the PMF without damage to the facility was met, and that should be mentioned here to introduce Task 1 Spillway Capacity.	without breaching the reservoir. A PMF would result Emergency Spillway apron and secant pile wall. The 3 consideration include measures to limit or eliminate
		14.3. Another false narrative minimizing the current risk conditions.	
			14.3. DWR disagrees with this comment.
15	2	15.1. The 2005 EP Act increased FERC's jurisdiction and its penalty authority, thereby increasing the importance of the Commission's enforcement program. As a result the 2014 Part 12 was the most in depth regulatory investigation preformed on Oroville Dam at the time.	15.1. Comment noted.

with two others, for implementation in the near term n adopted the IRB recommendation.

he 10 recommended plans is not contingent on the he studies being recommended address those potential ole, risks and will help DWR make better decisions with er priorities. It is expected that many, if not all, of these) will confirm that the Oroville Dam Complex overall has

e CNA Project found no vulnerabilities considered to be les, DWR is moving to implement risk reduction RB concurred that the Oroville Dam facilities have ependent Consultant found that "*The project is ion. No emergency remedial measures are necessary* important in prioritizing DWR's risk management

m SWP budgets. The comment is tangential to the priorities at Oroville will be considered along with those Dam that is found deficient by FERC or DSOD will hose agencies and will be managed outside of normal esses.

ly related to the CNA project.

to the CNA project. Further, all \$224 million of the 40 s described in the project reports and at the Ad Hoc

will work in parallel and will be complimentary to one ompetition between the recommendations. its gate systems is detailed extensively in the CEII-

omment is made on a passage in the report that is nute that is downstream of the headworks.

sing the PMF without damage. The PMF can be passed ult in large scour of the hillside downstream of the e 10 plans recommended by the CNA for future te hillside scour under the PMF.

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		15.2. Most of the concerns contained in the CNA originated from the FERC recommendations following the 2014 Part 12 inspections and thus the leading reason for the CNA was regulatory compliance before the spillway event.	15.2. The CNA project was conceptualized in foundir and DSOD in June 2017 to complete the project. Part project scoping.
		15.3. The omission of this information furthers a false narrative of, "look what we are doing for you." In actuality both citizens and regulators need to look at what DWR did not do for us.	15.3. Comment noted.
		15.4. During the 2014 Part 12 independent consultants suggested three Probable Failure Modes that were nearly identical to the what occurred during the 2017 Spillway event. DWR staff argued the improbability of occurrence and all three were never carried forward.	15.4. The three failure modes mentioned were index were not carried forward by decision of the FERC-app Workshop was conducted by an Independent Facilitat forward was that it was considered unlikely that scout to failures of the crest structures and result in an unco
		15.5. Despite this, the recommendations included calls for stability studies of both spillways. Due to the acceptable lack of urgency within the dam industry to identify uncertainties, the spillway instabilities were not identified in the three years leading up to the 2017 event.	did not result in an uncontrolled release of the reserve Engineers resulted in a conclusion that failure of the
			15.5. The structural stability evaluations recommend Consultant report were for the FCO Headworks and t not for scour erosion such as what occurred in 2017. Headworks prior to the 2017 incident. Structural ana monoliths during the Spillways Recovery Project and for the FCO Headworks are nearly complete as descri
16	2	16.1. The statement, "major dam safety projects commonly take a decade or more to design and complete" is not justification to reduce the urgency for public safety. It was a lack of urgency and complacency to FERC 2014 recommendations that contributed to the 2017 event.	16.1. The typical 10-year timeframe to complete desproject was made to communicate the typical require remediation project, not offered as a justification.
		16.2. The historic reconstruction of the spillways within two years of the event demonstrated what is possible if there is the will and reason to do so.	16.2. The Spillways Recovery project was completed extraordinary permitting and approvals, dam safety r procedures, e.g., a Governor's Executive Order and o
		16.3. Standard industrial practices were scrapped for innovative processes, such as; accelerate the contract selection process, start demolition and excavation for foundation prep, design phases allowing work before final design, daily coordination between DWR, regulators and consultants, could be	was recently denied similar requested provisions. Du was approximately a decade.)
		incorporated again.	16.3. The described approaches are not ideal but we There are no risks currently identified at Oroville that
		16.4. A former Director of DWR went further to say "it may even be cheaper in the long run to consolidate projects and implement the above approach."	16.4. DWR is not aware of this quote from a former made, however emergency work usually is complete
		16.5. This statement of "taking a decade or more" attempts to control the narrative and DWR's perceived agenda of buying time to first fix water delivery issues identified in the 2016 Extraordinary Fund, while	calling for such a repair or action.
		waiting for CNA uncertainties to be resolved.	16.5. The 10-year timeframe is typical and may indee longer include Folsom Dam Spillway, Lake Isabella se
		16.6. With the completion of the CNA and the 2019 FERC Part 12, we are now beginning to know what we don't know.	remediation. Again, there are no risks requiring such 16.6. Comment noted.
		16.7. The other concern of the Ad Hoc Group is the acceptable lack of urgency within the dam industry to	
		reduce uncertainties. The 2017 Spillway event demonstrates what can occur during just 3 years of wait time.	16.7. The CNA and L2RA processes are the most com a non-federal dam. The CNA planning study was a vo FERC or DSOD. Early, Interim, and Long-term risk man

ding documents following DWR's commitment to FERC art 12D and DSOD inspections were not fundamental to

deed included in the 2014 PFMA report, however, they approved Independent Consultants. The PFMA itator. A principal reason why they were not carried cour erosion on the spillway chute/channels would lead incontrolled release of the reservoir. The 2017 incident ervoir, and post-incident risk analyses by the Corps of the crest structures was a very low risk.

ended in the 2014 Ninth Part 12D Independent d the Emergency Spillway Crest Monolith Structures, .7. Structural analyses had been initiated for FCO nalyses were completed for the Emergency Spillway nd a new buttress was constructed. Structural analyses scribed in the CNA report.

lesign, permitting, and construction of a major dam uired timeframe required for a major dam safety

ed under emergency conditions and required y regulatory and engineering processes and d other waivers. (Anderson Dam in Santa Clara County Duration for the Folsom Dam Auxiliary Spillway project

were required by the emergency nature of the project. nat would call for such actions.

er director nor of the context in which it may have been ted at higher costs. Again, there is no risk or need

deed be optimistic. Examples for comparison taking seismic remediation, and Anderson Dam seismic ch action at Oroville.

omprehensive ever undertaken in the United States for voluntary effort by DWR, not one mandated by either nanagement actions are planned and starting.

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		16.8. In this DWR statement, "Major dam safety projects commonly take a decade or more to design and complete," tells us the DWR and possibly its regulators have not learned the lessons of the past.	16.8. Please see responses to 16.5 and 16.7.
17	4	 17.1. The IRB was not tasked to review all the studies and reports. They instead made a recommendation for an internal peer review by another DWR engineer. 17.2. DWR committed verbally to the Ad Hoc Group that the lead engineer and review engineer would sign the documents that will be retained as part of the STID. 	17.1. The IRB members reviewed all reports in draft evaluations that were provided to them in advance of Team at each IRB meeting. Internal peer reviews we to IRB reviews, including multiple reviews by the Inter completed by separate CNA task teams.
		17.3. The Ad Hoc Group has not received confirmation that this commitment has been completed.	17.2. All project work was reviewed extensively by to organization had no designation for lead engineer or documenting technical analyses to support the CNA signed and stamped by the lead engineers performing the lead engineers performed engineers performe
- 10			17.3. Please see response to 17.2.
18	4	18.1. The IRB tracking log of the 79 formal comments and recommendations was omitted from the Appendix and should be included so as to demonstrate where the IRB felt the need to intervene or question DWR's thinking.	18.1. All 79 formal comments and recommendation following each of the IRB meetings. The Ad Hoc was of the areas where the IRB made comments. The IRB comment at each Ad Hoc meeting and often summa
		18.2. The IFT report stated, "DWR had a strong sense of pride in the organization and its historic achievement likely contributed to DWR overestimating its capabilities in recent decades with respect to dam engineering and safety many DWR staff didn't know what they didn't know, which created an	those Ad Hoc meetings. The IRB stated that they we were able to close their comments.
		issue of "unknown unknowns."	18.2. Comment noted.
19	6	19.1. The Downstream Consequences Report (Ford) was requested by the Ad Hoc Group and like many other requests, never provided.	19.1. The content of the referenced downstream co safety information and is therefore information DWF information available to law enforcement agencies in
		19.2. Since financial consequences of occurrence is a key measurement for categorizing risks as; unacceptable, tolerable, or acceptable it's important for the report to include all indirect financial consequences the downstream communities would have to bear, including: Highways, roads, public and private infrastructure, lost crops and business revenue, sales, property and income tax revenue, future development and growth, [personal] wages, belongings, and cleanup cost.	19.2. Direct and indirect costs were included in the r comment would be indirect costs and high-level estimevaluations.
		19.3. Failure to provide the report for Ad Hoc review, and omitting it from the appendix calls into question the very categorization of financial consequences and thus the final scoring of the risk analysis	19.3. Please see response to comment 19.1. Details Report submitted to the FERC.
		itself. 19.4. Additionally regulators and citizens alike must question the categorization of risk for an event with financial cost up to \$1 Billion, such as spillway reconstruction. Under the CNA risk [matrix] such an event	19.4. The stated combination of Financial Impacts and risk. This appears to be a misreading of the CNA Risk area far above the Tolerable Risk Reference Line – it
		could happen between 1/10 and 1/30 years and still [be] considered tolerable.	19.5. The CNA risk matrix and risk analyses did not p fact, SWP water delivery consequence levels only co
		19.5. It's critical that DWR is just as forthright and transparent regarding the risk analysis used in the O&M [matrix] to prioritize the scheduling of water delivery projects over safety projects, and the urgency for their completion.	in the CNA Risk Matrix). On the other hand, Public Sa in the CNA Risk Matrix). In the CNA risk evaluations, water delivery consequences.
20	6	20.1. Regulators know that past PFM risk analysis failed to [identify] the spillway problems and are in the process of making improvements.	20.1. Lessons learned from past PFM evaluations an the CNA PFM evaluations.

It and final form and the supporting technical e of the meetings with presentations given by the CNA vere performed as recommended by the IRB in addition integration Team, of the reports and risk evaluations

y the CNA Integration Team. The CNA project or review engineer. The technical memoranda A risk analyses and development of measures were ning those studies.

ons made by the IRB were included in their reports as provided these reports so the Ad Hoc could be aware RB presented summary updates of the status of each narized the content of those comments at a high level at vere satisfied with DWR's responses to comments and

consequence report prepared by HDR contains public WR cannot make publicly available. DWR has made this is in the region and will continue to do so.

e risk assessments. The elements identified in the stimates of these costs were made in the risk

Is of the consequences were included in the CNA

and likelihood would not be considered a tolerable sk Matrix – the combination cited is actually in the red it would not be considered to be Tolerable.

t prioritize SWP water delivery over Public Safety. In could reach a Consequence Level 5 (Major – Column 5 Safety could rise to a Consequence Level 11 (Column 11 s, Public Safety consequences always dominated SWP

and recommendations by the IFT were incorporated in

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		20.2. During the 2014 FERC Part 12 Inspection three of the PFMs suggested were nearly identical to what occurred during the 2017 Spillway Event yet never carried forward.	20.2. Please see response to comment 15.4. The thr report, however, they were not carried forward by d Consultants. The PFMA Workshop was conducted by
		20.3. The 2019 FERC Part 12 incorporated recommendations from the IFT report addressing some of these concerns. As a result the 2019 FERC inspection developed its own list of recommendations and	were fully developed as input to the CNA risk evalua
		requested some 20 additional studies be [performed] to reduce numerous areas of uncertainty. DWR has yet to publicly release the FERC recommendations from this investigation.	20.3. The FERC Part 12D Independent Consultant re Information and is therefore not releasable to the p DWR is preparing a summary of these recommendation
		20.4. The CNA risk analysis and risk ranking were only developed internally without independent consultants, but simply guidance from the IRB.	20.4. The CNA risk evaluation results were reviewed the risk evaluations performed by the independent I
		20.5. The lead IRB member made these comments at Ad Hoc Meeting# 7 -	There has never been a dam safety risk evaluation w contemporaneous evaluations for the same dam and
		20.5.1. "When you begin to look at things in a risk context, then you start asking many more questions than are asked through standard deterministic analysis that lead to factors of safety. And you can make errors both ways with factors of safety."	unprecedented independent quality control check. A review of the CNA evaluations from the Independen recommendations, the IRB stated in their final repor to be commended for their effort to carefully consider
		20.5.2. "In a large number of cases where factors of safety are computed, they are only computed for those things that we know how to [analyze], and it a significant risk to believe that just because someone has computed a factor of safety that that is adequate for a full understanding of the risks posed by a dam."	our comments and recommendations during the pro have been closed or otherwise addressed as appropr addressed the IRB's comments and recommendation Public Release Summary Report as Appendix B.
			20.5.1. Comment noted.
			20.5.2. Comment noted.
21	7	21.1. Independent consultants in the L2RA were asked to only consider loss of life consequences and not financial consequences to facility owners or downstream citizens.	21.1. Comment noted. However the CNA risk analys
		21.2. Even within this more lenient criteria they ranked 3 PFMs as unacceptable and another 3 PFMs straddling the line of unacceptable as shown on page 53.	21.2. The CNA risk estimates were within the ranges The CNA report included measures in the 10 recomn scenarios.
		21.3. The statement "general agreement" between the reports furthers DWR's false narrative.	21.3. Please see response to comment 10. The state in the report. 82% of the PFMs common to both the
		21.4. A more accurate comparison would have been the 2019 FERC part 12 inspection which produced recommendations for 20 some studies to reduce uncertainties. Unlike previous Part 12 inspections, DWR has not released the redacted PFM study and its list of recommendations.	of matching. Additional details of the comparison are 21.4. The 2019 Tenth FERC Part 12D Inspection Repo
		21.5. The Ad Hoc Group thanks FERC for not simply taking their best guess, but [ordering] actual studies on uncertainties for Oroville.	did not make separate risk evaluations, so there wou L2RA. Many of the 20 or so studies recommended ov 12D report comments on and endorses several CNA
			21.5. The CNA Project was a voluntary effort by DW
22	8	22.1. Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) is a division within DWR and thus in the difficult position of being the oversight regulator for its own parent organization.	22.1. Requirements for DSOD independence are inclinctudes the requirement for an independent review engineers and geologists for every DWR dam within

hree failure modes mentioned were in the 2014 PFMA decision of the FERC-approved Independent by an Independent Facilitator. All three of these PFMs dations.

reports contain Critical Energy Infrastructure public due to the sensitive nature of that information. ations that will be made available to the public.

ed by the IRB, and detailed comparisons were made to t L2RA team. The IRB reviewed these comparisons. where two parallel teams made separate nd Potential Failure Modes – it represents an . With regard to receiving guidance and independent ent Review Board (IRB), and then implementing those ort (Report No. 10) that *"The project team and DWR are der the input of the IRB and for consistently addressing rocess of finalizing the reports...All of the comments priate. The IRB appreciated how the Project Team ons." A copy of the final IRB report was attached to the*

ysis did consider downstream financial impacts.

es of estimates developed by the L2RA for these PFMs. nmended plans that responded to all L2RA high risk

tement of general agreement is accurate and detailed are CNA and L2RA were within one-order of magnitude are provided in the report.

port included the results of the L2RA evaluations, but ould not be anything to compare to other than the overlap those recommended by the CNA, and the Part A efforts, including the installation of new piezometers.

WR. It was not mandated by FERC or DSOD.

ncluded in Division 3 of the California Water Code. This ew by a Consulting Review Board composed of expert n the jurisdiction of DSOD.

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		22.2. In the past it has been questioned on its effectiveness to enforce violations and recommendations regarding the safety at Oroville Dam.	22.2. Comment unrelated to the CNA project.
		22.3. Additionally a recent peer review of DSOD expressed concerns on its ability to enforce	22.3. Comment unrelated to the CNA project.
		recommendations or [levy] fines on violations. There was even a bill introduced into state legislation which would move DSOD away from DWR and into the Department of Natural Resources to eliminate influence and increase DSOD independence.	22.4. Comment unrelated to the CNA project. Reserption potential vulnerabilities of the radial gates were propotential risk reduction measures were developed for vulnerabilities.
		22.4. Given the age of the FCO gates, active earthquake faults, seepage concerns, and minimal low-level outlet capacity, Oroville's inability to rapidly draw down the lower 2/3 of the reservoir according to DSOD current standard will be a real test of its independence and authority over its parent organization.	22.5. This is a CNA finding and conclusion based on kind ever performed for a non-federal dam. It is basi 10 th FERC Part 12D Independent Consultant.
		22.5. For DWR to make numerous statements of "no unacceptable risks" within this CNA report, is telling DSOD they expect to receive an exception to the draw down requirement, due to preexisting conditions.	
23	9	23.1. Even before the 2000 California Energy Crisis, which nearly doubled the electrical cost of pumping water through the SWP, the SWC association was pressuring DWR for rate reductions, as was signed in the 1997 Monterey Agreement and the 2020 State Water Contract Extension.	23.1. Comment noted. This comment is not directly23.2. Please see response to comment 13.3.
		23.2. In 2016 the SWCs agreed to \$224 million of capital expenditures to address a backlog of O&M safety and delivery projects. The 2016 Extraordinary Fund has scheduled an average of \$45 million worth of projects over the next 5 years. This is 9 times the \$5M / yr. of safety projects completed from 2011-2013.	23.3. Dam safety projects required by FERC and DSC agencies and not under control of DWR.23.4. Comment noted. This comment is not related and the second second
		23.3. The delay has created the need to prioritize these long standing delivery projects against recently discovered safety projects. Even FERC studies needed to reduce uncertainties will have to compete for human /financial resources.	23.5. Comment noted. The 25 recommended invest of the CNA risk analyses completed this year.
		23.4. Within the water contract agreement, the SWCs pay all cost for O&M projects. DWR is said to have authority to "do what they deem necessary" and SWC reserves the right to challenge later.	
		23.5. DWR waited for SWC to agree to extraordinary financing to address this backlog of O&M concerns rather than when the issue is first identified, as was [intended] in the original contract and "pay as you go" in the new contract. Thus what was pushed back for funding concerns is now pushing back safety concerns, such as the urgent need to resolve 25 uncertainties at Oroville.	
24	70	24.1. The statement - "with respect to traditional dam safety engineering requirements, the plans that show the most risk reduction and improved resilience may represent an excessive effort." This suggestive statement is an attempt to lower downstream citizens expected level of safety.	24.1. The statement is intended to clarify that the pl include overlapping redundancies that are not all new
		24.2. For downstream citizens who lived through 3 major disasters within the 31 years between 1986 - 2017, we have lost our "respect for traditional dam safety engineering requirements."	24.2. It is important to note that Oroville Dam did its 1986 and 1997 floods, and several communities alon the flood reduction it provided. Even during the 2013 flows from 190,000 cfs to approximately 100,000 cfs
		24.3. The Ad Hoc Group greatly appreciates the efforts of FERC Dam Safety in their renewed effort and realization that past traditional requirements have failed and should not be the standard going forward.	24.3. Comment noted.
25	77	25.1. A Probable Maximum Flood (PMF) hydrology study is required for FERC Part 12 inspections. In preparation for a recent Part 12 inspection, DWR requested and received an exemption for a new PMF study.	25.1. An updated PMF study is complete, has been s final agency comment resolution.

ervoir drawdown capacity through low-level outlets and rominently considered in the CNA evaluations and for future consideration to address these potential

n probably the most comprehensive risk analysis of its asically the same conclusion reached by the recent 2019

ly related to the CNA project.

SOD are subject to schedules approved by those

d to the CNA project.

stigations were developed by the CNA teams as a result

plans with the greatest number of measures may also necessary for dam safety.

its job and provided immense flood relief during the ong the Feather River would have been flooded without D17 incident, the damaged spillways reduced peak river cfs. No levees failed during the 2017 event.

submitted to FERC and DSOD, and is in the stages of

Comment	Dess #	Commont ¹	
#	Page #	Comment ¹	Resp 25.2. DWR has responded to all FERC comments and
		25.2. The PMF hydrology study submitted in 2019 was challenged by FERC for not following new methodology. Atlas 12 was adapted as the new standard years before DWR created this latest PMF study	of the methods and procedures used in the PMF eval
		used for the CNA, L2RA and FERC Part 12.	25.3. There is no new standard for HMR 58/59. Pleas
		25.3. Since DWR helped to develop this new methodology, its adaptation as the new standard should not have been a surprise. When last asked DWR said they are still negotiating with FERC over the study.	25.4. Comment noted.
			25.5. Comment noted.
		25.4. One [of] the changes in Atlas 12 takes into consideration the duration of an event similar to the Great Flood of 1862 when San Francisco recorded 33" of rain during a 10 week period.	25.6. The Probable Maximum Flood report contains therefore not releasable to the public due to the sense.
		25.5. The Biblical Flood That Will Drown California	
		https://www.wired.com/story/the-biblical-flood-that-will-drown-california/	25.7. There is no major regulatory requirement to parequirement is to not fail the dam. Please see respon
		What they found was stunning. The Great Flood of 1862 was no one-off black-swan event. Summarizing	
		the science, Ingram and USGS researcher Michael Dettinger deliver the dire news: A flood comparable to—and sometimes much more intense than—the 1861–1862 catastrophe occurred sometime between 1235–1360, 1395–1410, 1555–1615, 1750–1770, and 1810–1820; "that is, one megaflood every 100 to 200 years."	25.8. DSOD maintains drawdown guidelines, not riginand in the CNA reports. The CNA considered drawdow discussed this in the reports. 7 of the 10 alternative r for future consideration.
		25.6. In the past PMF information has been available to the public. When the Ad Hoc Group requested the current PMF, DWR denied that request for CEII concerns.	25.9. DWR has completed an updated hydrologic stu DSOD. Final resolution of comments is underway.
		25.7. A major regulatory requirement for dam safety is the ability of the spillways to pass PMF inflows without damage to the facility. It's questionable that Oroville's current spillways have that capacity.	25.10. DWR just completed one of the most compre non-federal dam and has thoroughly looked into the consequence categories considered, leading to over 2
		25.8. A current requirement of DSOD is dams must [have] the low-level outlet capacity to rapidity draw down the reservoir during an emergency event, such as FCO failure, earthquake, uncontrolled seepage, [etc.]	
		25.9. Given this new realization that past hydrology estimates are not adequate for establishing dam	
		safety requirements, one must ask why DWR asked for the past exception to not update their PMF study	
		and attempted to enter into these parallel investigations without using Atlas 12.	
		25.10. Are we seeing a continuation of what the IFT Report called "Normalization of Deviation?"	
26	85	[Note: The following text was highlighted and then commented upon: "It may be that no further risk-	26.1. Comment noted.
		reduction projects beyond the Interim Implementation Project and Other Interim Measures will be	
		warranted for the near future, or even foreseeable future, particularly if there are major safety or	26.2. Comment noted.
		operational needs elsewhere in the SWP."]	26.3. Comment noted. DWR will continue to monito
		Comment text:	mitigate any significant risks that are identified. Addi would also mandate a quick response to any dam saf
		26.1. The statement - "no further risk-reduction projects may be warranted, particularly if there are	26.4. Comment noted. This comments appears unre
		major safety or operational needs elsewhere in the SWP" can be [interpreted] as there is only a limited	

and has provided justifications and substantiation for all evaluations. Responses are currently under final review.

ease see response to comment 25.2.

ns Critical Energy Infrastructure Information and is ensitive nature of that information

pass the PMF without damage to the facility. The onse to comment 14.2.

rigid requirements, as described on the DSOD website down capabilities in its risk analyses and prominently re risk reduction plans included a new low-level outlet

study and PMF estimates as required by FERC and

prehensive risk analyses of its kind ever performed for a he risks. Over 400 PFM scenarios were developed and 5 er 2000 risk estimates being completed.

itor and assess the condition of the facility and quickly dditionally, Federal and State dam safety regulators safety risk.

related to the CNA project.

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		amount of human and financial resources in the foreseeable future. Again DWR is creating [a] false narrative to reduce expectations.	
		26.2. DWR as the operator of the SWP retains the authority to maintain the SWP as they deem necessary or as required by its regulators and should exercise its independence and authority.	
		26.3. If it's found that water delivery projects require a misappropriate amount of human and financial resources, then one must question DWR on their ability to continue to act as an independent owner and operator of the state water project for allowing such a backlog of known and unknown risks to exist.	
		26.4. The Ad Hoc Group made a request to DWR to provide a list of just the known projects that created the need for the 2016 Extraordinary Fund. For each of the projects we requested the description and purpose of the project, risk ranking on the O&M [matrix], and the date first identified. Like many other requests made by the Ad Hoc Group, DWR has yet to comply.	
27		27.1. CNA Task #2 - New Water Control Manual - The Task 2 work demonstrated that forecast-informed reservoir operations (FIRO) at Lake Oroville is viable, with the potential to yield both flood risk reduction and water supply benefits.	27.1. Comment noted.27.2. Comment noted.
		27.2. Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations (FIRO) is a departure from the traditional hard flood storage ACOE has used in the past. It creates a sliding flood pool depending on the annual precipitation,	27.3. Comment noted.
		wetness index, and forecast.	27.4. Comment noted.
		27.3. A major advantage for the SWCs is during drought years, the flood pool will be reduced from its current 900,000 AF, which sometimes prevents the lake from filling thus causing reduced water deliveries.	27.5. Comment noted.
		27.4. The advantage for downstream communities is by incorporating new forecasting tools, early releases through low-level outlets can increase the flood pool days before the storm event arrives. It's within this area of operations DWR hopes to meet some of the unknowns of climate change.	27.5.1. Comment noted.27.5.2. Comment noted.
		27.5. The three basic requirements for implementation of FIRO [are]: good science, capable and resilient facility, [knowledgeable] and unbiased human decisions.	27.5.3. Comment noted.27.6. Comment noted.
		27.5.1. Good science goes beyond the great work being done by the [Scripps] Institution and others, it starts within DWR. Do they know, what they don't know? Do they have an aggressive plan to reduce uncertainties? Will they commit to state of the art studies as requested for the FCO gates? Or will they continue the practice of "normalization of deviation" demonstrated in past geology and current hydrology reports?	27.7. Comment noted.
		27.5.2. Capable and resilient facility is what this CNA report hoped to demonstrate. Although this report's narrative was written to portray such conditions may currently exist, it's now obvious that a lot more may still need to be done. FIRO will test the resilience of 50 year old FCO gates and troubled river value outlet, both lacking redundancy. And the downstream levee system that may experience additional outflows exceeding the river channel with FIRO.	
		27.5.3. Knowledgeable and unbiased human decision making in probably the greatest unknown, as was discussed within the Independence Forensic Team (IFT) Report. FERC in their April 11, 2018, letter to	

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		Director Nemeth requested more clarity on how DWR's multi-year plan addresses findings and	
		recommendations of the forensic report. Her response and the progress of the plans [were] not shared	
		with the Ad Hoc Group.	
		Dam Safety Organization and Practices	
		Excerpts from IFT Report - Appendix K	
		"there are investigations proposed by the Dam Safety Branch that had not made the DWR Director's	
		Board of FERC recommendation lists. This is due to a general lack of resources, with the result being that	
		"things that aren't broken" are not being investigated" " It is apparent from the IFT that does not have	
		the background expertise to be knowledgeable on all aspects of engineering involved with dam safety.	
		General Organizational, Regulatory And Industry Factors. Excerpts from IFT report Chapter 6:	
		"the IFT found that DWR was likely subject to significant pressure by the SWC to control costs" "there	
		was a well-intentional desire within DWR to focus on operations, to meet the water delivery needs of the	
		SWC" "DWR needed to balance these goals of production versus safety and lacked leadership and	
		authority at the executive level."	
		27.6. Regardless of whether or not DWR moves to FIRO Operations to address climate change, DWR has	
		not demonstrated knowledgeable and unbiased human decision making in the past. Can their	
		unbiasedness be trusted during a FIRO storm event to make the necessary early releases for safety	
		that might jeopardize water deliveries in the summer?	
		27.7. It's advised that similar to the CNA process that examined Capable and Resilient Facilities, another	
		independent investigation of Human and Organizational issues be completed and then shared with the	
		Citizens Advisory Commission in the near future.	

1. Spelling, punctuation, and word choice have been lightly corrected.

esponses