PUBLIC SCOPING SESSIONS SCHEDULED FOR DWR OROVILLE FACILITIES RELICENSING

SACRAMENTO - The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has scheduled two public scoping meetings associated with relicensing the Oroville Facilities (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission project No. 2100). The meetings will be held on October 29, 2001 in Oroville and October 30, 2001 in Sacramento.

These meetings are intended to provide the public with an understanding of the project and to encourage active participation in the relicensing process. The purpose of scoping is to:

- Identify important environmental and developmental issues related to the proposed project relicensing.
- Identify reasonable alternatives that should be evaluated in the Environmental Assessment.
- Determine the scope and depth of analysis for project purposes and environmental issues identified for evaluation in the Environmental Assessment.
- Identify issues that do not require detailed analysis.

The scoping meetings are set for:

**Monday, October 29, 2001**

6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
The State Theater
1498 Myers Street
Oroville, CA

**Tuesday, October 30, 2001**

1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Secretary of State Building Auditorium

1500 11th Street

Sacramento, CA

DWR constructed and operates the Oroville Facilities in the public interest. The Oroville Facilities operate under a 50-year license issued on February 11, 1957. That license will expire in January, 2007. Under requirements of the Federal Power Act and FERC regulations, DWR is required to file an application for a new license on or before January 31, 2005.

**Background**

The Oroville-Thermalito complex is a key water storage and electrical generation facility for the State Water Project (SWP), the largest State-built, multipurpose water project in the United States. That complex includes Lake Oroville and Oroville Dam, the Edward Hyatt Powerplant, Thermalito and Thermalito Diversion Dam powerplants, Thermalito Forebay and Afterbay, Thermalito Diversion Dam, the Feather River Fish Hatchery and a fish barrier dam.

Lake Oroville is the largest reservoir of the SWP, covering 15,858-acres with the capacity to hold 3,537,577 acre-feet of water. In addition to water storage, Lake Oroville provides flood control and numerous recreational opportunities. At 770 feet, Oroville Dam is the tallest dam in the United States.

The FERC license, due in January, 2007, is the first renewal since the initial license was issued at the beginning of Oroville Dam construction in 1957.

To obtain a copy of Scoping Document 1, contact DWR at (866) 820-8198; by email at orovillep2100@water.ca.gov; or visit our web site at [http://OrovilleRelicensing.water.ca.gov](http://OrovilleRelicensing.water.ca.gov).

SD1 can be viewed at the Butte County and City of Oroville Planning Departments and at the Oroville Branch of the Butte County Library.

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The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.
Visit Archived News Releases or return to the DWR California Water Page.

Write or phone the DWR Office of Water Education for more information about DWR's water activities.