1	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
2	FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
3	Office of Energy Projects
4	x
5	Lundy Project : Project No. P-1390
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12	Lee Vining Community Center
13	296 Mattly Avenue
14	Lee Vining, CA 93541
15	Tuesday, May 14, 2024
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17	A public scoping meeting was held, pursuant to notice.
18	starting at 6:05 p.m.
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1	PROCEEDINGS
2	MR. ANDERSON: All right, everybody, if you'll
3	take your seats and we'll get going. Welcome everybody to
4	the scoping meeting for the Lundy Lakes Hydroelectric
5	Project. This is a meeting hosted by FERC. My name is
6	Finlay Anderson. I'm a consultant helping Southern
7	California Edison relicense the project. I'm just going to
8	be a little bit of a microphone bunny this afternoon.
9	And the intent is to make sure that the court
10	reporter and everybody else can hear you clearly. So, just
11	a couple of housekeeping items, in the case of an emergency,
12	just exit straight out the back. We'll rally at the end of
13	the parking lot. There's an AED over here at the corner.
14	Anybody know how to use it? Raise your hand. Bathrooms are
15	just down the hallway. Please don't hesitate to take care
16	of yourself. And beyond that, I'll just turn it over to
17	Jess to kick us off.
18	MS. FEFER: Thank you. Oh, you're holding on to
19	that. All right. Hi everyone. Is it on now? All right.
20	There we go. All right. Hi everyone, my name is Jess
21	Fefer. I am with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission,
22	FERC, as you probably all know it. I am the project
23	coordinator for the Lundy Project and also I'm an
24	environmental protection specialist.
25	And my specialties are outdoor recreation, land

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1 use aesthetics and environmental justice. And there are two 2 other FERC staff here with me today that I'd like to give 3 the opportunity to introduce. So if you guys could just use your little live mics there and introduce yourself real 4 5 quick, that would be awesome. 6 MS. KIPP: Is it on? MS. FEFER: Maybe Finlay can. Yeah, there you 7 8 go. 9 MR. ANDERSON: Let's try this. How about we try 10 that. MS. KIPP: Okay. Hi my name is Becky Kipp, and 11 12 I am a wildlife biologist with FERC. 13 MR. SIDIBE: Hey, I'm Ousmane Sidibe, I go by Sid. I'm a civil engineer with FERC. 14 15 MS. FEFER: All right. Thank you so much. And 16 then I was also going to have SE introduce. You want to 17 introduce yourself real quick? 18 MR. WOODHALL: I'm Matthew Woodhall with Southern California Edison. I'm the project manager 19 20 overseeing the relicensing. 21 MS. FEFER: Awesome. Thank you. All righty. 22 So just a little bit of an agenda for what to expect today. 23 I'll start with just a couple additional housekeeping items. 24 I saw a lot of you signing in, but if you haven't signed in 25 already, please make sure to do so. We just want to make

sure that we're capturing everybody here. And we also have
 Finlay with the microphone.

3 And when you have a comment or question, if you have a comment or question, if you could remember to state 4 5 your name and your affiliation when you do that, also to 6 help out our court reporter, that would be great. Just a bit more of an overview, I'm first going to just start by 7 8 going over kind of the broad licensing process so you all 9 sort of know where we are in the process and where we're 10 going. And then SCE will jump in and share a little bit 11 about their project proposal.

12 And then I will come back and we'll talk about 13 some of the expected or potential resource issues that we 14 highlighted in our Scoping Document One. And through that, 15 there'll be opportunities for you all to speak up as well. 16 I do want to note, even though you do make comments and you 17 are stating your name and your affiliation, and we will have 18 that on the record with the court reporter, if you have 19 comments that you really want on the public record, please 20 go and put that on the public record as well.

Even if you say it here, we want to hear it. Try not to talk with my hands today. We want to hear it twice. So I will give you directions for how to do that a little bit later in this presentation. I also have a handout over there that has a QR code that you can just use

1 the QR code and you get right to our website to make that 2 easier for you all.

3 So just to dive right in to sort of the 4 overview, as you know, probably, FERC is a Federal agency 5 that regulates the interstate transmission of natural gas, 6 oil and electricity, and additional responsibilities like 7 licensing and inspecting non-federal hydropower dams. My 8 colleagues here and I are in the division of hydropower 9 licensing.

And so, you know, you really deal with us only 10 during the licensing process. Our other colleagues in 11 12 headquarters in DC, our division of hydropower 13 administration and compliance and division of dam safety and 14 inspections, and SCE gets to deal with them for the rest of 15 the time when they're not in licensing. So now for the 16 licensing process just kind of, this is just a bird's eye 17 broad overview of sort of where we are in our licensing 18 process and where we're going.

19 So SCE did file their pre-application document 20 in the end of February. And we have already issued our 21 scoping document. That's why you're all here. And we are 22 here to scope. So that's sort of where we are in the 23 process. The next step in the process is going to be 24 studies. So putting together what's the information that 25 we're seeking here?

1 So studies and consultation, and that takes, you 2 know, two to three years and the public is very involved in 3 that piece of the process as well. And then SCE will file 4 their re-license application. Now I have the FERC reviews 5 SCE application and project record in yellow, because that's 6 where the timeline becomes a little bit more wonky. It's 7 pretty tight until we get to that point.

8 And then it, you know, it will take FERC however 9 long it takes, right? To review that because we need to 10 make sure we have all the information we need. So sometimes 11 there's some back and forth between FERC and SCE. And then 12 we will issue our REA notice and begin our environmental 13 analysis. And my next slide just sort of shows that 14 throughout all of that you have opportunities to comment.

15 So I'm just going to lay that out here real 16 quickly for you. So again, we are in this scoping phase. 17 After this meeting, you'll have the opportunity to comment 18 on the pad Scoping Document One and any study requests you 19 have. And that's due June 24th. Technically it's due June 20 22nd, but that's a weekend. So we put it to the following 21 Monday.

And then FERC will issue a second scoping document as needed based on your comments. And then we'll get into the study planning process. So SCE will file a proposed study plan. You all will have opportunity to

1 comment on that and make study requests, and that will
2 happen by November 4th. SCE will respond to those and file
3 a revised study plan.

And you'll also have an opportunity to respond to that in mid-December of 2024. And then FERC will go ahead and issue the study plan determination, which really directs what those studies are going to look like. And that will happen in early January of 2025, right after the holiday season, you know. And then we're in the study seasons.

And so this takes some time, it takes about two 11 12 years, right? But you will have chance again to comment 13 during that time. So SCE when they're completing their studies they're required to submit an initial study report. 14 15 You'll be able to comment on that. They'll then file a 16 revised study report. You can comment on that. So all 17 sorts of comment opportunities here. Again, when they file 18 their preliminary proposal, you'll have another opportunity 19 to comment.

And then I'd really just have this slide here, this is post filing where the dates are a little bit more wonky, but the soonest we will have our environmental analysis ready for review is April 29th. And this slide is really just to show you that you are going to continue to have opportunities to comment even after filing has

occurred. Okay. And, you know, all of that is in the
 scoping document.

3 I don't expect you to remember those dates. Those are in the scoping document. I also have a handout 4 5 that at least outlines the upcoming comment dates for you 6 all. So not all of them, but the ones that are upcoming. 7 All right. So the purpose of scoping, you know, of course 8 it is a regulation, it's part of NEPA. It's a legal 9 requirement based on NEPA and FERC regulations and other 10 applicable laws. But, you know, I think more importantly, 11 it's a time for us to engage with the public and hear what 12 you all think of potential issues or concerns that you have 13 about the project.

14 So really what we're doing here is we're here to 15 understand public perspectives and any concerns you have, 16 identify potential resource issues, reasonable alternatives, 17 identify available information relevant to the project and 18 our environmental analysis, and to identify cumulatively 19 affected resources. So that's what we're doing here today. 20 So we hope that we can hear from some of you. So with that, 21 I'm going to hand it over to SCE to talk about their 22 proposal.

23 MS. WILLIAMS: Hi guys. My name is Audry 24 Williams. I'm a archeologist for Southern California 25 Edison. Before we get started today, we'd just like to take

a moment to acknowledge that the Lundy project, as well as
 where we are meeting right now, is the homeland of the
 Caseticate Paiute tribe that they have steward for
 generations. Thanks.

5 MR. WOODHALL: Thanks, Audry. Okay. Well first 6 of all, just on behalf of Southern California Edison, I just 7 want to thank everyone for being here tonight for this 8 scoping and for FERC coming out to hold the meeting. 9 Looking forward to talking a little bit about operations of 10 the Lundy project. But before that, just wanted to give you 11 a few names of the team members, most of which are in the 12 room today. Although a couple, one of them is not.

13 But on the SCE side, I've already introduced 14 myself, Matthew Woodhall. I am the project manager of the 15 Lundy Relicensing. We also have Martin Ostendorf, who's in 16 the back. You can just raise your hand when I call your 17 name. Yeah. And you just met Audry Williams, cultural 18 resources. Seth Carr, which I don't think he made it 19 tonight, but he is the operations manager that runs the 20 Lundy Project, runs all of our hydro operations here in the 21 Mono Basin.

On the consulting team, you met Finlay, who's going to be running the microphone for us tonight. We also have Angela Whelpley, she's in the back there, Kelly Larimer over on the side. We've got Brad Blood and Allison. There

they are. Heather Neath doing our fish and aquatics, Lynn Johnson on the tribal over there. And I don't think Jay and Meta are here, but they're part of our cultural historic properties. And then we've got Edith, which there she is right there.

6 So there's actually more people behind even 7 those individuals that are on the consulting team. But just 8 wanted to give you the key players from the Edison side. 9 Before we get into the describing and talking a little bit 10 about operations, we've got a video that we want to play 11 that will kind of give you a good visual before we actually 12 start talking about the operations on the ground. And so we'll start with the video, and then we'll proceed from 13 there. So let me see here. 14

15

[Video shown]

16 Hello and thank you for joining us on this video 17 tour of Southern California Edison's Lundy Project. 18 Southern California Edison owns and operates the Lundy 19 Project in Mono County, California. This video will provide 20 a brief overview of the project and its principle features. 21 Lands in and around the project include a combination of 22 federal and non-federal lands. The watershed has a total 23 drainage area of approximately 135 square miles.

24The Mono Basin and the Mill Creek watershed25includes the crest of the Sierra Nevada, with maximum

elevations extending up to 12,400 feet to approximately
6,400 feet at the shoreline of Mono Lake. The Lundy project
originates in Lundy Canyon and flows directly into Mono Lake
four miles downstream. The Lundy Project is authorized by a
30 year license issued by the Federal Energy Regulatory
Commission or FERC in 1999.

7 This authorization expires on February 28th, 8 2029. The current FERC license contains measures to protect 9 key resources, and these measures will be reevaluated as 10 part of the process we are starting. The vicinity of the 11 Lundy project was historically sculpted by glaciers, and is 12 currently characterized by rounded granitic outcrops, 13 U-shaped glacial valleys, glacial lakes, and tele slops.

The stunning visual and natural features of the 14 15 area lend themselves to recreational opportunities, 16 including camping, hiking, and fishing. A campground is 17 located below Lundy Lake. Lundy Lake and Mill Creek are 18 stocked by California Department of Fish and Wildlife for 19 fishing. There are trails and trail heads that are 20 accessible from the Lundy project. Boating, sightseeing, 21 and picnicking are also popular in this area.

Lundy Lake is the intake for Lundy Powerhouse. The lake has historically been drawn down in the winter to provide storage capacity for spring runoff. Water is conveyed from Lundy Lake to the powerhouse via the flow line

and penstock water is managed in the basin according to
 established water rights that have been adjudicated by the
 Superior Court of Mono County.

4 Spill and power generation are largely 5 incidental to these water rights and secondarily by SCE's 6 Power Sales Agreement with Los Angeles Department of Water 7 and Power, which specifies annual drawdown requirements. 8 SEC's FERC license requires that minimum flows be provided 9 to stream reaches between the reservoir and the powerhouse. 10 But these are also limited by preexisting water rights. 11 Lundy Lake receives its water from Lundy Canyon, which has a 12 drainage area of approximately 16 square miles. 13 The gravel at Rockville Dam measures 14 approximately 690 feet long, with a structural height of 48 15 feet from the base of the core wall to the top of wall. The 16 dam impounds the 132 acre Lundy Lake, which has a net 17 storage capacity of 4,113 acre feet. The spillway is a 150 18 foot long by 7.7 foot deep notch in the concrete core wall. 19 An additional water release structure known as 20 the Farmer's Gate operates when the lake level is above 21 7,779 feet to provide additional flow to the base of Lundy 22 Dam. Generally operation of the Farmer's Gate is possible

23 during wetter spring periods or wet water years. On the 24 west end of Lundy Lake, there is a two-Lane bone launch 25 available for recreationists. The site offers parking for 1 approximately five boats with trailers.

2 At Lundy Dam, there is a day use area with a 3 gravel parking lot. This site offers a restroom facility along with access to local trails. Lundy Canyon Campground 4 5 is located downstream approximately one mile northeast of 6 the Lundy Lake Dam. The campground is operated under a lease from SCE to Mono County. The campground offers 37 7 sites for recreationists, nine 10 sites and 28 sites that 8 9 can fit a 35 foot recreational vehicle.

10 Sites offer a cleared area for camping, a picnic 11 table, a parking area, and several sites offer a bear proof 12 box for storage. There are four day use areas located east 13 of Lundy Canyon Campground. These day use sites provide parking areas and picnic tables for recreationists to enjoy 14 15 views of Mill Creek. Mill Creek flows into Mono Lake, below 16 Lundy Lake downstream to the 7,200 foot contour. The creek 17 is densely vegetated causing frequent log jams.

18 Wood and boulders are frequent. And channel bed 19 material is a mix of gravel, cobbles and boulders with some 20 sand. Below the 7,200 foot contour, the creek extends 21 downstream for another 3.5 miles outside of the project 22 boundary to Mono City, and is under laid by gravels and 23 silts. After leaving Mono City, the creek is under lane by 24 gravels and cobbles for the remaining 2.5 miles downstream 25 where it flows into Mono Lake.

1 The Lundy Powerhouse is a reinforced concrete 2 building constructed in 1911. It is located on the Wilson 3 drainage east downstream of Lundy Lake. The building is 66 4 feet long, 32 feet wide, 31 feet high, and has a 5 substructure that is nine feet deep. The powerhouse 6 contains two canyon turbines, each directly connected to an 7 Allis Chalmers generator rated at 15,000 kilowatts.

8 Below the Lundy powerhouse water discharge from 9 the powerhouse tail race is sent to a splitterbox, which 10 directs flows either to the Wilson Drainage System, Wilson 11 System, or returns water to Mill Creek via the Mill Creek 12 return ditch. This return ditch shown here and the point at 13 which it rejoins Mill Creek represents the end of the FERC 14 project boundary.

15 The allocation of water between the Wilson 16 System and Mill Creek is determined based on existing 17 adjudicated water rights and flows through the powerhouse 18 are set to ensure those water deliveries to water rights 19 holders are met. Once water is returned to Mill Creek, it 20 is outside the Lundy project boundary and continues towards 21 Mono Lake.

Thank you for your time and interest in SEC's Lundy project. If you are interested in learning more about the project and the FERC relicensing process, please visit the project website at www.ce.com/lundy for more

1 information.

2 MR. WOODHALL: Okay. Let's see if we can get 3 this to advance here. Okay. So I think that video really 4 gives a good snapshot of the project, but we do have a few 5 slides to talk about, a little bit of additional information 6 concerning the operation of the Lundy project. Some points 7 of highlight. The 30 year license expires February 28th, 8 2029.

9 The formal FERC process, as Jess alluded to 10 earlier, began in February, 2024 when we filed our 11 pre-application document and notice of intent. We will be 12 filing a draft license application in the fall of 2026, and 13 we're not anticipating any changes in operations or to the facilities. So the project itself is on the east slope of 14 15 the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range within a very small portion 16 of the Inyo National Forest.

17 It's in Mono County, and the private lands that 18 are within the project are primarily held by SCE and the --19 the body of water that is dammed up by Lundy Dam creating 20 Lundy Lake is Mill Creek. The main project facilities are 21 the dam and the lake, which are just below the headwaters of 22 Mill Creek. It's a 23 acre reservoir.

The Lundy powerhouse has a capacity of three megawatts. There's two units that are megawatt and a half each. Flow line in the penstock connecting the Lundy Lake

and the powerhouse. And then below the powerhouse, we have a facility called the splitterbox, which separates the water flows to manage the flows for the water right holders either going into the Wilson drainage or into the return ditch. We saw that in the video as well.

6 The operations, in terms of the water that we 7 use to make power is driven by the adjudicated water rights. 8 We pass that water through the powerhouse, and then we 9 deliver the water in varying quantities to the water right 10 holders via the return ditch, the Wilson system. And then 11 there's an additional release point at the Upper Conway 12 Ditch.

The Adair Ditch is also an old historic ditch 13 14 that can provide some flows over to the Wilson system if the 15 powerhouse is offline for operation purposes, maintenance or 16 what have you, we can move water over to the Wilson system 17 through the Adair Ditch. This is just a schematic just to 18 put everything in one frame. In terms of all of those 19 features that I just mentioned. The reservoir has several 20 release points up at the dam where water can be released. 21 The Farmer's gate we saw in that video was 22 actually releasing water. Water can also go over the 23 spillway when the flows get high enough. And then 24 downstream of that, we have a specified release point for

25 the minimum in-stream flow. And then we also have an

additional release point that comes right off the penstock. 1 2 That's the rock drop valve where additional 3 water can be released if necessary in small quantities. On the powerhouse side water goes directly down to the 4 5 powerhouse. From there, there's actually two places that 6 can go; directly out of the powerhouse, one to the splitterbox. The second one would be out to Matley Ranch 7 through the Upper Conway Ditch. 8

9 And once the water gets to the splitterbox, 10 there's two more directions that can go there. One would be 11 over to the Wilson system, and the other would be through 12 the return ditch that would take the water back to Mill 13 Creek. And you can also see the depiction of the Adair Ditch, which does allow us to move that water over to Wilson 14 15 if we're unable to put water through the powerhouse for any 16 reason.

17 So the Mill Creek water rights were adjudicated 18 in Mono County Superior Court long ago, back in November 19 30th, 1914. These are longstanding water rights. SCE has a 20 non-consumptive, right? So the water rights just to pass 21 through for us for the purposes of hydro generation. This 22 just gives you a snapshot of what those water rights look 23 like. They are in priority order one through 11 and varying 24 quantities.

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And so oftentimes, depending on the quantity of

1 the water coming into the lake, we'll have water that needs 2 to go to Mill Creek, water that needs to go to the Wilson 3 system, all happening at the same time. But by using this priority table we're able to direct that water to the 4 5 appropriate water right holders. And we have communication 6 with the water right holders on an annual basis letting them know what the operations are looking like for a certain 7 8 year.

9 And they have the opportunity to communicate 10 with us if they have any particular needs or timing or 11 issues that they're going to have in terms of receiving 12 their water. Here's some of the milestones. I think we 13 already saw some of those in Jess's table, but just to 14 highlight them again, I won't go through them all, but as 15 you can see there, it's a multi-step process and we've got a 16 lot of work to do still ahead of us.

But we're looking forward to getting this thing kicked off and starting to gather that necessary information for the process. Any questions for me on the operations of the Lundy project? Pretty straightforward. Yeah. Tristan.

22 MR. LEONG: Tristan, US Forest Service. Is 23 there no synchronous bypass at the penstock? Or I'm sorry, 24 at the Powerhouse? So if it goes offline, you were saying 25 you had to use the Adair Ditch to return. So that means Conway Ranch or the Conway Ditch does not get water in that
 scenario.

3 MR. WOODHALL: The Upper Conway Ditch cannot be4 utilized during those conditions.

MR. LEONG: Okay.

6 MR. WOODHALL: But the Upper Conway Ditch only has water in it periodically at the request of Mono County, 7 which holds that water right. So we'll direct water in 8 9 there at their request. If we are going to use the Adair ditch, it's something we communicate ahead of time so that 10 Mono County would know that during that time period of 11 12 powerhouse outage that the upper Conway will be unusable. 13 So, yeah.

14

5

MR. ANDERSON: Questions?

MR. MEESE: Graham Meese, CDFW. I was wondering, it's just out of curiosity, when the footage that you showed in the video, if you know, like what year? What time of year, just like a lot of the shots of the creek looked great. I'm just curious --

20 MR. WOODHALL: What time of year did we shoot 21 the video?

22 MR. MEESE: Correct.

MR. WOODHALL: It would've been spring. Yeah,
right after we were able to access it. Spring time. Early
spring.

1		MR.	MEESE: Spring 2023?				
2		MR.	WOODHALL: Yeah. Early three. Yeah.				
3		MR. MEESE: Thank you.					
4		MR.	WOODHALL: Okay. Any other questions?				
5	That's it.	All	right. Back to you, Jess.				

6 MS. FEFER: I think so. Let's see. Oh, it went back to the beginning. Okay. Sorry. Bear with me here. 7 All right. Now that we've learned a little bit about the 8 9 Lundy project, we are going to go into the preliminary 10 resource issues that were identified in Scoping Document One. So really what I'm going to do right now is go through 11 12 each resource and for each resource, if you have a comment 13 or question about that resource, I will open it up after 14 that resource.

15 So just keep your comments or questions now to 16 the specific resource we're talking about, and then we'll 17 have time to open it up to more general comments and 18 questions after we've gone through all of that. So I will 19 just go ahead and basically read the slide to you. Sorry. 20 But so geology and soils resources, what we 21 found is potentially project impacts would be effects of 22 continued project operation on shoreline erosion and 23 sediment transport downstream of Mill Creek, potential 24 effects of sediment movement from or within Deer Creek to 25 the project shorelines and stream banks along Mill Creek and

effects of Hill slope erosion downstream of Lundy Lake and
 Deer Creek.

Would anybody like to add any potential effects for geology and soil resources? And I should say, if you think about it like later, you don't have to think about it right now, if it comes up later when we're in the discussion stages, that's fine as well. But figure, I'll open it up here as well. All right.

9 So water resources; effects of continued project 10 operation on water quality in the project bypass reach and 11 downstream of the powerhouse effects of continued project 12 operation on water quality in Lundy Lake and effects of 13 continued project operation on downstream water rights and 14 users. Any additional water resource potential issues you'd 15 like to bring up?

16 All righty. Aquatic; effects of continued 17 project operation on fish habitat and fish resources in the 18 project and impoundment bypass reach and downstream of the 19 powerhouse, effects of fish entrainment at the Lundy 20 powerhouse on fish resources in the project area. Effects 21 of continued project operation on fish stranding, effects of 22 project water diversion and instream flow on fish habitat in 23 the project bypass reach and effects of continued project 24 operation on aquatic inverter rates downstream of the Lundy 25 Dam. Anybody like to add anything to aquatic?

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1 MR. LEONG: I don't know if it's captured here, 2 but where do you have amphibians? Is that --3 MS. FEFER: Go ahead and ask that again. Sorry. 4 5 MR. LEONG: I'm sorry. This Tristan, US forest 6 service. I don't know if within the project sphere, if there are amphibians that might be affected, is that 7 captured in aquatics or some other section? 8 9 MS. FEFER: Would that be captured in? 10 Terrestrial. MR. LEONG: Terrestrial. Okay. 11 12 MS. FEFER: Except I'm about to go to that and we'll see if we have it there. So we'll add it there if we 13 don't. So, effects of continued operation on maintenance on 14 15 special status botanical resources, effects of the 16 introduction and or spread of invasive plant populations 17 potentially occurring due to maintenance activities. 18 Effects of continued operation and maintenance 19 on special status wildlife species and effects of continued 20 operation and maintenance on including vegetation management 21 and herbicide use on native vegetation and wildlife, game 22 species, and the special status species identified in SEC's 23 pad including in near national forest species of 24 conservation concern and nesting migratory bird species. So 25 we will add invertebrates into --

1 MR. LEONG: Amphibians. 2 MS. FEFER: Sorry, amphibians into where they 3 should. 4 MS. WASHINGTON: Fish are part of special status 5 wildlife as we analyze them. Sorry --6 MS. FEFER: Amphibians. 7 MR. LEONG: There you go. 8 MS. WASHINGTON: Not fish. There are part of 9 special status wildlife. 10 MR. LEONG: Okay. MS. WASHINGTON: We would include it there. 11 12 MR. LEONG: Okay. MS. FEFER: Okay. So covered in terrestrial. 13 We'll get there eventually. All right. So and threatening 14 15 and endangered species here. Effects of continued project 16 operation and maintenance activities on species designated 17 as federally threatened, endangered, proposed or candidates 18 for listing and designated critical habitat, proposed and 19 final under the Endangered Species Act. 20 I don't have all of those listed here, but they 21 are in Scoping Document One. Recreation resources, we're going to look at effects of continued project operation and 22 23 maintenance on recreation resources and adequacy of existing 24 recreation facilities to meet current and future recreation

demand. Anyone want to add anything to recreation?

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1 MS. WASHINGTON: I have a question. 2 MS. FEFER: Sure. 3 MS. WASHINGTON: Jameisha Washington, US Forest service? Question would be, I mean are we talking about 4 5 recreation both summer, spring and fall, winter? 6 MS. FEFER: Uh-huh. 7 MS. WASHINGTON: Okay. 8 MS. FEFER: Yeah. As long as long as we are, 9 you know, we know during the scoping that there is recreation during all of those times and we would look at 10 11 all of that recreation. 12 MS. WASHINGTON: We have heavy recreation used 13 during winter. MS. FEFER: That's great. We will definitely 14 15 look at that then. All right. Land use and aesthetics. 16 Effects of continued project operation and maintenance on 17 land use. And effects of continued project operation and 18 maintenance on the aesthetic quality of the project area. 19 Cultural and tribal resources. So effects of continued 20 project operation and maintenance on historic or 21 archeological resources and traditional cultural properties 22 that may be eligible for inclusion in the National Register 23 of Historic Places or on other areas or places of 24 religious, cultural and traditional importance to Indian 25 tribes. Anything to add there? Oh, yeah.

Document Accession #: 20240531-4000 Filed Date: 05/31/2024 1 MS. BOLTON: What about (Off mic -- Inaudible) 2 MS. FEFER: I'm going to have you repeat that 3 question, sorry. 4 MS. BOLTON: So --5 MR. ANDERSON: Identify your name and --6 MS. BOLTON: And Lyn Bolton. Local resident. So what about adding tribal beneficial uses to that list of 7 things to consider? 8 9 MS. FEFER: Yeah sure. We'll take that. 10 MS. BOLTON: That's a recent state water board 11 thing. 12 MS. FEFER: Okay. Absolutely. Thank you. Okay. Socioeconomic; effects of continued project 13 operations and flow diversions on agriculture and other 14 15 consumptive uses in Mono city. Effects of any reduction in 16 the amount of water available for irrigation on agricultural 17 production and pasture land for livestock in Mono Lake 18 watershed. Any additions there? 19 Okay. And lastly, environmental justice effects 20 of project operation and maintenance on identified 21 environmental justice communities. And I lied that wasn't 22 lastly, we still have cumulative effects. So for cumulative 23 effects, which just to remind everyone, you probably know 24 what that is, but it's essentially the impact on the 25 environment that results from incremental impact of actions

from past, present, or future that may not be super impact on their own, but when they're incremental they become these cumulative impacts and we have identified water and aquatic resources that could be cumulatively impacted by the continued operation and maintenance of the Lundy project.

6 Does anyone see any of the other resources we've 7 talked about today as potentially cumulatively impacted? 8 Okay. Okay. So now I'm going to just switch gears a tiny 9 bit for us to think again about your comment periods that I 10 was talking about so much prior. So some of the information 11 that really FERC is requesting from you because we want your 12 help in learning about this project in this area. So Section Seven of the Scoping Document One includes a list 13 of comprehensive plans on file with the commission that are 14 15 relevant to the Lundy project.

16 And as part of scoping, we request that agencies 17 and the public review the list and file any new updated 18 plans that you might know about that might be helpful for us 19 that we can add to the scoping document too. And we also 20 ask that anyone who is not yet on the mailing list and would 21 like to be added to the mailing list to make sure to go 22 ahead and do that. And of course we want you to comment 23 about any significant environmental issues that should be 24 addressed in the EA. And here probably not super helpful 25 to have the QR code on the presentation board for you.

1 But just so you know, we have that and it's on 2 the handout. And that will just take you right to FERC 3 online and you can do everything there. You can leave comments, you can subscribe. If you want to know everything 4 5 that's going on the public record for the Lundy project, you 6 can subscribe to the Lundy project and have that sent to your email. And you can do that all by following the QR 7 code that is on the table over there or the website that I 8 9 have here.

Just a reminder, comments are due for scoping 10 11 June 24th. And then again the next comment periods, I'm 12 just kind of reminding you for the study proposal. So 13 November 4th will be another time that you can comment on 14 there on their proposed study plan. And then SCE will 15 submit a revised study plan based on your comments. So your 16 comments are very important. And then you'll be able to 17 comment on that again before we issue our study plan 18 determination.

So I sort of already went through that, but just wanted to make you aware since those there are upcoming this year. And again, for kind of things we're looking for. So especially in when we are commenting about these studies, right? The SCE may not be doing studies that you think need to be done or maybe they're not covering what you think needs to be covered. And so there's sort of a process that

1 we have for requesting studies.

2 And it's the same as commenting. You just go 3 into e-Library and comment. However, we ask for kind of specific things if you're going to request a brand new 4 5 study. So I'm just going to go ahead and kind of brush over 6 these really quickly just so that in case you want to do 7 that. You know, you just want to make sure to follow the requirements so that we can take it into account in the 8 9 right way so that we have all in the information we need to 10 do that.

So making sure that you're describing the goals 11 12 and objectives of each study. If applicable, explain 13 relevant resource management goals. If you're not a resource agency yourself, explain any relevant public 14 15 interest considerations. Describe existing information 16 concerning the subject of study and the need for additional 17 information. Explain the nexus between product operations 18 and effects on the resource to be studied.

And then really six and seven here are the ones that we find most often people miss. So just these are the ones, if you only take two things home today, number six and seven. Explain how any proposed study methodology is consistent with generally accepted practice in the scientific community. So if you have methods, let us know why we should use them. And then this one, most people

usually miss, describe considerations of level of effort and
 cost as applicable.

3 So just make sure to have all of those pieces in there and then we will have all the information that we need 4 5 in order to work it into our analysis. So with that, that's 6 really all I have for you. I have my information here if 7 you want to reach out and I can open it up to questions for 8 me or for SCE or just any comments about any resource issues 9 that you think we didn't bring up here today. All right, I'm seeing none. Oh, yeah, we've got one. 10

11 MR. MEESE: Graham Meese, California Fish and 12 Wildlife. I was wondering, I noticed on the FERC project 13 boundary map that you showed the boundary cuts off at the 14 Adair Ditch and the section of Mill Creek then from the 15 Adera ditch to the return ditch is not included.

16 MS. FEFER: Okay.

MR. MEESE: Would be curious why that's notincluded.

MR. WOODHALL: So Adair Ditch is not in the FERC boundary. It's not part of our project. It's an old historic ditch that we utilize for the water right holders. It's basically a water right holder ditch. So it's not a project feature. We don't need it for our project operations, it's solely a project water right holder ditch. Does that make sense?

1 MR. MEESE: Sure. My question is really why 2 there was a section of Mill Creek between, maybe it wasn't 3 the Adair ditch then, between some -- yeah, if you could pull, maybe that'd be --4 5 MS. FEFER: Yeah, I think it was in the other 6 presentations of SCE. So let's see. Why is this so difficult today? 7 MR. ANDERSON: Name (Off mic -- Inaudible) 8 9 talking about Graham? 10 MS. FEFER: You had it up here? MR. MEESE: Yeah, I think it might be the one 11 12 below, maybe it was in the conceptual diagram. 13 MS. FEFER: Oh, maybe it was in the video. It might've been in the video. 14 15 MR. MEESE: In the video. I think it's the one 16 right above the --17 MR. ANDERSON: Right there. 18 MS. FEFER: Oh, there we go. MR. MEESE: There we go. 19 20 MS. FEFER: It's just part of it. Okay. There 21 we go. We found it. 22 MR. MEESE: Yeah, so you can see like Mill Creek 23 goes down and then there's something that peels off towards 24 the penstock line, but then there's a section of Mill Creek

25 above the return ditch that is not included in the project

reach where and I'm just curious why that is. If you could
 explain that. Seems like Mill Creek is not in the project
 boundary.

MR. ANDERSON: Yeah, if I could speak to this. 4 5 MR. MEESE: Sure. 6 MR. ANDERSON: I believe this is a --7 MR. MEESE: A campground. MR. ANDERSON: -- these are include because 8 9 they're part of the campground. So these are part of the Exhibit R's. And then this is included because it's access 10 road to the penstock. So this is not the Adair ditch. This 11 12 is not part of the project boundary because it's not water 13 conveyance for the project. So this water is not necessary for the operation of the project, so it's not included in 14 15 the project boundary.

16 MR. MEESE: I see. Okay.

MR. ANDERSON: So these, what you're seeing here is basically project facilities, these are necessary for the operation of the project. It's access road and penstock, but also campgrounds and day use areas that are part of the Exhibit R.

22 MR. MEESE: I think there's confusion maybe that 23 the red lines encompass the bypass reach, but just to 24 confirm it's not. But once you end at Lundy Dam, the bypass 25 reach below is not part.

1 MR. ANDERSON: Correct. 2 MR MESS: Right. Okay. That makes, well, yeah, 3 thank you for clearing that up. 4 MR. ANDERSON: Yeah. Yeah, no problem. I just 5 want to mention maybe just tomorrow is the site visit, I'm 6 just curious, do you want to talk about that or? 7 MS. FEFER: Yeah, I mean, I was just going to mention it just to note that, you know, the site visit is 8 9 happening at 8:30 and was just going to remind you all to 10 come if you wanted to, but if you have anything else to say 11 about it, that's really all I was going to say. 12 MR. ANDERSON: No. We'll just be convoying. So 13 we'll condense into as few cars as we can. Wear, you know, sturdy shoes, be ready for whatever weather we might have. 14 15 MS. FEFER: Meet at Gus Hess Park. Is that 16 right? That's Gus Hess? Yeah. 17 MR. ANDERSON: And hopefully, I think we're 18 going to try to be done by 12 or 12:30. So it should, you 19 know, it's a small project, so it shouldn't take that long, 20 but, you know, but if people get involved in conversation, 21 you never know. MS. FEFER: That's true. All right. Well if 22 23 there's no other questions, then we can, we can call it and 24 hopefully see a lot of you tomorrow. All right. Thank you 25 so much for being here. We appreciate it.

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                      This is to certify that the attached proceeding
           before the FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION in the
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           was held as herein appears, and that this is the original
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           transcript thereof for the file of the Federal Energy
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           Regulatory Commission, and is a full correct transcription
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           of the proceedings.
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                                          Bala Chandran
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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION Office of Energy Projects - - - - - - x Lundy Project : Project No. P-1390 - - - - - - - x Lee Vining Community Center 296 Mattly Avenue Lee Vining, CA 93541 Tuesday, May 14, 2024 A public scoping meeting was held, pursuant to notice. starting at 6:05 p.m. 

2

1 PROCEEDINGS 2 MR. ANDERSON: All right, everybody, if you'll 3 take your seats and we'll get going. Welcome everybody to the scoping meeting for the Lundy Lakes Hydroelectric 4 Project. This is a meeting hosted by FERC. My name is 5 Finlay Anderson. I'm a consultant helping Southern 6 California Edison relicense the project. I'm just going to 7 be a little bit of a microphone bunny this afternoon. 8 And the intent is to make sure that the court 9 reporter and everybody else can hear you clearly. So, just 10 11 a couple of housekeeping items, in the case of an emergency, just exit straight out the back. We'll rally at the end of 12 the parking lot. There's an AED over here at the corner. 13 Anybody know how to use it? Raise your hand. Bathrooms are 14 just down the hallway. Please don't hesitate to take care 15 of yourself. And beyond that, I'll just turn it over to 16 17 Jess to kick us off. MS. FEFER: Thank you. Oh, you're holding on to 18 19 that. All right. Hi everyone. Is it on now? All right. There we go. All right. Hi everyone, my name is Jess 20 21 Fefer. I am with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, FERC, as you probably all know it. I am the project 22 coordinator for the Lundy Project and also I'm an 23 environmental protection specialist. 24 25 And my specialties are outdoor recreation, land

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use aesthetics and environmental justice. And there are two
 1
    other FERC staff here with me today that I'd like to give
 2
     the opportunity to introduce. So if you guys could just use
 3
     your little live mics there and introduce yourself real
 4
     quick, that would be awesome.
 5
                MS. KIPP: Is it on?
 6
 7
                MS. FEFER: Maybe Finlay can. Yeah, there you
 8
     go.
                MR. ANDERSON: Let's try this. How about we try
 9
     that.
10
11
                MS. KIPP: Okay. Hi my name is Becky Kipp, and
     I am a wildlife biologist with FERC.
12
                MR. SIDIBE: Hey, I'm Ousmane Sidibe, I go by
13
    Sid. I'm a civil engineer with FERC.
14
                MS. FEFER: All right. Thank you so much. And
15
     then I was also going to have SE introduce. You want to
16
     introduce yourself real quick?
17
                MR. WOODHALL: I'm Matthew Woodhall with
18
19
     Southern California Edison. I'm the project manager
20
    overseeing the relicensing.
21
                MS. FEFER: Awesome. Thank you. All righty.
     So just a little bit of an agenda for what to expect today.
22
     I'll start with just a couple additional housekeeping items.
23
     I saw a lot of you signing in, but if you haven't signed in
24
     already, please make sure to do so. We just want to make
25
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sure that we're capturing everybody here. And we also have 1 2 Finlay with the microphone. And when you have a comment or question, if you 3 have a comment or question, if you could remember to state 4 your name and your affiliation when you do that, also to 5 help out our court reporter, that would be great. Just a 6 bit more of an overview, I'm first going to just start by 7 going over kind of the broad licensing process so you all 8 sort of know where we are in the process and where we're 9 going. And then SCE will jump in and share a little bit 10 11 about their project proposal. 12 And then I will come back and we'll talk about 13 some of the expected or potential resource issues that we highlighted in our Scoping Document One. And through that, 14 there'll be opportunities for you all to speak up as well. 15 16 I do want to note, even though you do make comments and you are stating your name and your affiliation, and we will have 17 18 that on the record with the court reporter, if you have 19 comments that you really want on the public record, please go and put that on the public record as well. 20 21 Even if you say it here, we want to hear it. Try not to talk with my hands today. We want to hear it 22 twice. So I will give you directions for how to do that a 23 little bit later in this presentation. I also have a 24 25 handout over there that has a QR code that you can just use

the QR code and you get right to our website to make that 1 2 easier for you all. So just to dive right in to sort of the 3 4 overview, as you know, probably, FERC is a Federal agency that regulates the interstate transmission of natural gas, 5 oil and electricity, and additional responsibilities like 6 licensing and inspecting non-federal hydropower dams. My 7 colleagues here and I are in the division of hydropower 8 licensing. 9 And so, you know, you really deal with us only 10 11 during the licensing process. Our other colleagues in headquarters in DC, our division of hydropower 12 administration and compliance and division of dam safety and 13 inspections, and SCE gets to deal with them for the rest of 14 the time when they're not in licensing. So now for the 15 licensing process just kind of, this is just a bird's eye 16 broad overview of sort of where we are in our licensing 17 18 process and where we're going. 19 So SCE did file their pre-application document in the end of February. And we have already issued our 20 21 scoping document. That's why you're all here. And we are here to scope. So that's sort of where we are in the 22 23 process. The next step in the process is going to be studies. So putting together what's the information that 24 25 we're seeking here?

1 So studies and consultation, and that takes, you know, two to three years and the public is very involved in 2 that piece of the process as well. And then SCE will file 3 their re-license application. Now I have the FERC reviews 4 SCE application and project record in yellow, because that's 5 where the timeline becomes a little bit more wonky. It's 6 pretty tight until we get to that point. 7 And then it, you know, it will take FERC however 8 long it takes, right? To review that because we need to 9 make sure we have all the information we need. So sometimes 10 11 there's some back and forth between FERC and SCE. And then we will issue our REA notice and begin our environmental 12 analysis. And my next slide just sort of shows that 13

15 So I'm just going to lay that out here real 16 quickly for you. So again, we are in this scoping phase. 17 After this meeting, you'll have the opportunity to comment 18 on the pad Scoping Document One and any study requests you 19 have. And that's due June 24th. Technically it's due June 20 22nd, but that's a weekend. So we put it to the following 21 Monday.

throughout all of that you have opportunities to comment.

And then FERC will issue a second scoping document as needed based on your comments. And then we'll get into the study planning process. So SCE will file a proposed study plan. You all will have opportunity to

25

comment on that and make study requests, and that will 1 2 happen by November 4th. SCE will respond to those and file a revised study plan. 3 4 And you'll also have an opportunity to respond 5 to that in mid-December of 2024. And then FERC will go ahead and issue the study plan determination, which really 6 directs what those studies are going to look like. And that 7 will happen in early January of 2025, right after the 8 holiday season, you know. And then we're in the study 9 seasons. 10 11 And so this takes some time, it takes about two years, right? But you will have chance again to comment 12 during that time. So SCE when they're completing their 13 studies they're required to submit an initial study report. 14 You'll be able to comment on that. They'll then file a 15 revised study report. You can comment on that. So all 16 sorts of comment opportunities here. Again, when they file 17 18 their preliminary proposal, you'll have another opportunity 19 to comment. 20 And then I'd really just have this slide here, 21 this is post filing where the dates are a little bit more wonky, but the soonest we will have our environmental 22 analysis ready for review is April 29th. And this slide is 23

really just to show you that you are going to continue to

have opportunities to comment even after filing has

occurred. Okay. And, you know, all of that is in the 1 2 scoping document. I don't expect you to remember those dates. 3 4 Those are in the scoping document. I also have a handout that at least outlines the upcoming comment dates for you 5 all. So not all of them, but the ones that are upcoming. 6 All right. So the purpose of scoping, you know, of course 7 it is a regulation, it's part of NEPA. It's a legal 8 requirement based on NEPA and FERC regulations and other 9 applicable laws. But, you know, I think more importantly, 10 11 it's a time for us to engage with the public and hear what you all think of potential issues or concerns that you have 12 13 about the project. 14 So really what we're doing here is we're here to 15 understand public perspectives and any concerns you have, 16 identify potential resource issues, reasonable alternatives, identify available information relevant to the project and 17 18 our environmental analysis, and to identify cumulatively 19 affected resources. So that's what we're doing here today. So we hope that we can hear from some of you. So with that, 20 21 I'm going to hand it over to SCE to talk about their proposal. 22 MS. WILLIAMS: Hi guys. My name is Audry 23 Williams. I'm a archeologist for Southern California 24 25 Edison. Before we get started today, we'd just like to take

a moment to acknowledge that the Lundy project, as well as 1 where we are meeting right now, is the homeland of the 2 Caseticate Paiute tribe that they have steward for 3 generations. Thanks. 4 5 MR. WOODHALL: Thanks, Audry. Okay. Well first of all, just on behalf of Southern California Edison, I just 6 7 want to thank everyone for being here tonight for this scoping and for FERC coming out to hold the meeting. 8 Looking forward to talking a little bit about operations of 9 the Lundy project. But before that, just wanted to give you 10 11 a few names of the team members, most of which are in the room today. Although a couple, one of them is not. 12 But on the SCE side, I've already introduced 13 14 myself, Matthew Woodhall. I am the project manager of the Lundy Relicensing. We also have Martin Ostendorf, who's in 15 the back. You can just raise your hand when I call your 16 name. Yeah. And you just met Audry Williams, cultural 17 18 resources. Seth Carr, which I don't think he made it 19 tonight, but he is the operations manager that runs the Lundy Project, runs all of our hydro operations here in the 20 21 Mono Basin. 22 On the consulting team, you met Finlay, who's 23 going to be running the microphone for us tonight. We also have Angela Whelpley, she's in the back there, Kelly Larimer 24 25 over on the side. We've got Brad Blood and Allison. There

they are. Heather Neath doing our fish and aquatics, Lynn 1 Johnson on the tribal over there. And I don't think Jay and 2 Meta are here, but they're part of our cultural historic 3 properties. And then we've got Edith, which there she is 4 right there. 5 So there's actually more people behind even 6 7 those individuals that are on the consulting team. But just wanted to give you the key players from the Edison side. 8 Before we get into the describing and talking a little bit 9 about operations, we've got a video that we want to play 10 11 that will kind of give you a good visual before we actually start talking about the operations on the ground. And so 12 we'll start with the video, and then we'll proceed from 13 there. So let me see here. 14 15 [Video shown] 16 Hello and thank you for joining us on this video tour of Southern California Edison's Lundy Project. 17 18 Southern California Edison owns and operates the Lundy 19 Project in Mono County, California. This video will provide a brief overview of the project and its principle features. 20 21 Lands in and around the project include a combination of federal and non-federal lands. The watershed has a total 22 23 drainage area of approximately 135 square miles. The Mono Basin and the Mill Creek watershed 24 25 includes the crest of the Sierra Nevada, with maximum

elevations extending up to 12,400 feet to approximately 1 6,400 feet at the shoreline of Mono Lake. The Lundy project 2 originates in Lundy Canyon and flows directly into Mono Lake 3 four miles downstream. The Lundy Project is authorized by a 4 30 year license issued by the Federal Energy Regulatory 5 Commission or FERC in 1999. 6 7 This authorization expires on February 28th, 8 2029. The current FERC license contains measures to protect key resources, and these measures will be reevaluated as 9 part of the process we are starting. The vicinity of the 10 11 Lundy project was historically sculpted by glaciers, and is currently characterized by rounded granitic outcrops, 12 13 U-shaped glacial valleys, glacial lakes, and tele slops. 14 The stunning visual and natural features of the 15 area lend themselves to recreational opportunities, including camping, hiking, and fishing. A campground is 16 located below Lundy Lake. Lundy Lake and Mill Creek are 17 18 stocked by California Department of Fish and Wildlife for 19 fishing. There are trails and trail heads that are accessible from the Lundy project. Boating, sightseeing, 20 21 and picnicking are also popular in this area. 22 Lundy Lake is the intake for Lundy Powerhouse. The lake has historically been drawn down in the winter to 23 provide storage capacity for spring runoff. Water is 24 conveyed from Lundy Lake to the powerhouse via the flow line 25

and penstock water is managed in the basin according to 1 established water rights that have been adjudicated by the 2 Superior Court of Mono County. 3 Spill and power generation are largely 4 5 incidental to these water rights and secondarily by SCE's Power Sales Agreement with Los Angeles Department of Water 6 and Power, which specifies annual drawdown requirements. 7 SEC's FERC license requires that minimum flows be provided 8 to stream reaches between the reservoir and the powerhouse. 9 But these are also limited by preexisting water rights. 10 11 Lundy Lake receives its water from Lundy Canyon, which has a drainage area of approximately 16 square miles. 12 The gravel at Rockville Dam measures 13 14 approximately 690 feet long, with a structural height of 48 feet from the base of the core wall to the top of wall. The 15 16 dam impounds the 132 acre Lundy Lake, which has a net storage capacity of 4,113 acre feet. The spillway is a 150 17 18 foot long by 7.7 foot deep notch in the concrete core wall. 19 An additional water release structure known as 20 the Farmer's Gate operates when the lake level is above 21 7,779 feet to provide additional flow to the base of Lundy Dam. Generally operation of the Farmer's Gate is possible 22 23 during wetter spring periods or wet water years. On the west end of Lundy Lake, there is a two-Lane bone launch 24 25 available for recreationists. The site offers parking for

1 approximately five boats with trailers.

2 At Lundy Dam, there is a day use area with a gravel parking lot. This site offers a restroom facility 3 along with access to local trails. Lundy Canyon Campground 4 is located downstream approximately one mile northeast of 5 the Lundy Lake Dam. The campground is operated under a 6 lease from SCE to Mono County. The campground offers 37 7 sites for recreationists, nine 10 sites and 28 sites that 8 can fit a 35 foot recreational vehicle. 9

Sites offer a cleared area for camping, a picnic 10 11 table, a parking area, and several sites offer a bear proof box for storage. There are four day use areas located east 12 of Lundy Canyon Campground. These day use sites provide 13 parking areas and picnic tables for recreationists to enjoy 14 views of Mill Creek. Mill Creek flows into Mono Lake, below 15 Lundy Lake downstream to the 7,200 foot contour. The creek 16 is densely vegetated causing frequent log jams. 17

18 Wood and boulders are frequent. And channel bed 19 material is a mix of gravel, cobbles and boulders with some sand. Below the 7,200 foot contour, the creek extends 20 21 downstream for another 3.5 miles outside of the project boundary to Mono City, and is under laid by gravels and 22 silts. After leaving Mono City, the creek is under lane by 23 gravels and cobbles for the remaining 2.5 miles downstream 24 25 where it flows into Mono Lake.

1 The Lundy Powerhouse is a reinforced concrete building constructed in 1911. It is located on the Wilson 2 drainage east downstream of Lundy Lake. The building is 66 3 feet long, 32 feet wide, 31 feet high, and has a 4 substructure that is nine feet deep. The powerhouse 5 contains two canyon turbines, each directly connected to an 6 Allis Chalmers generator rated at 15,000 kilowatts. 7 Below the Lundy powerhouse water discharge from 8 the powerhouse tail race is sent to a splitterbox, which 9 directs flows either to the Wilson Drainage System, Wilson 10 11 System, or returns water to Mill Creek via the Mill Creek return ditch. This return ditch shown here and the point at 12 which it rejoins Mill Creek represents the end of the FERC 13 project boundary. 14 15 The allocation of water between the Wilson 16 System and Mill Creek is determined based on existing adjudicated water rights and flows through the powerhouse 17 18 are set to ensure those water deliveries to water rights holders are met. Once water is returned to Mill Creek, it 19 is outside the Lundy project boundary and continues towards 20 21 Mono Lake. 22 Thank you for your time and interest in SEC's 23 Lundy project. If you are interested in learning more about the project and the FERC relicensing process, please visit 24 25 the project website at www.ce.com/lundy for more

information. 1 2 MR. WOODHALL: Okay. Let's see if we can get this to advance here. Okay. So I think that video really 3 gives a good snapshot of the project, but we do have a few 4 slides to talk about, a little bit of additional information 5 concerning the operation of the Lundy project. Some points 6 7 of highlight. The 30 year license expires February 28th, 8 2029. The formal FERC process, as Jess alluded to 9 earlier, began in February, 2024 when we filed our 10 11 pre-application document and notice of intent. We will be filing a draft license application in the fall of 2026, and 12 we're not anticipating any changes in operations or to the 13 facilities. So the project itself is on the east slope of 14 the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range within a very small portion 15 of the Inyo National Forest. 16 17 It's in Mono County, and the private lands that 18 are within the project are primarily held by SCE and the --19 the body of water that is dammed up by Lundy Dam creating Lundy Lake is Mill Creek. The main project facilities are 20 21 the dam and the lake, which are just below the headwaters of Mill Creek. It's a 23 acre reservoir. 22 23 The Lundy powerhouse has a capacity of three megawatts. There's two units that are megawatt and a half 24 25 each. Flow line in the penstock connecting the Lundy Lake

16

and the powerhouse. And then below the powerhouse, we have 1 2 a facility called the splitterbox, which separates the water flows to manage the flows for the water right holders either 3 going into the Wilson drainage or into the return ditch. We 4 saw that in the video as well. 5 The operations, in terms of the water that we 6 7 use to make power is driven by the adjudicated water rights. We pass that water through the powerhouse, and then we 8 deliver the water in varying quantities to the water right 9 holders via the return ditch, the Wilson system. And then 10 11 there's an additional release point at the Upper Conway Ditch. 12 The Adair Ditch is also an old historic ditch 13 14 that can provide some flows over to the Wilson system if the 15 powerhouse is offline for operation purposes, maintenance or 16 what have you, we can move water over to the Wilson system through the Adair Ditch. This is just a schematic just to 17 18 put everything in one frame. In terms of all of those 19 features that I just mentioned. The reservoir has several 20 release points up at the dam where water can be released. 21 The Farmer's gate we saw in that video was actually releasing water. Water can also go over the 22 spillway when the flows get high enough. And then 23 downstream of that, we have a specified release point for 24

the minimum in-stream flow. And then we also have an

additional release point that comes right off the penstock. 1 That's the rock drop valve where additional 2 water can be released if necessary in small quantities. On 3 the powerhouse side water goes directly down to the 4 powerhouse. From there, there's actually two places that 5 can go; directly out of the powerhouse, one to the 6 splitterbox. The second one would be out to Matley Ranch 7 through the Upper Conway Ditch. 8 And once the water gets to the splitterbox, 9 there's two more directions that can go there. One would be 10 11 over to the Wilson system, and the other would be through the return ditch that would take the water back to Mill 12 13 Creek. And you can also see the depiction of the Adair Ditch, which does allow us to move that water over to Wilson 14 if we're unable to put water through the powerhouse for any 15 16 reason. 17 So the Mill Creek water rights were adjudicated 18 in Mono County Superior Court long ago, back in November 19 30th, 1914. These are longstanding water rights. SCE has a non-consumptive, right? So the water rights just to pass 20 21 through for us for the purposes of hydro generation. This just gives you a snapshot of what those water rights look 22 like. They are in priority order one through 11 and varying 23 quantities. 24 25 And so oftentimes, depending on the quantity of

the water coming into the lake, we'll have water that needs 1 2 to go to Mill Creek, water that needs to go to the Wilson system, all happening at the same time. But by using this 3 priority table we're able to direct that water to the 4 appropriate water right holders. And we have communication 5 with the water right holders on an annual basis letting them 6 know what the operations are looking like for a certain 7 year. 8

And they have the opportunity to communicate 9 with us if they have any particular needs or timing or 10 11 issues that they're going to have in terms of receiving their water. Here's some of the milestones. I think we 12 already saw some of those in Jess's table, but just to 13 highlight them again, I won't go through them all, but as 14 you can see there, it's a multi-step process and we've got a 15 lot of work to do still ahead of us. 16

17 But we're looking forward to getting this thing 18 kicked off and starting to gather that necessary information 19 for the process. Any questions for me on the operations of 20 the Lundy project? Pretty straightforward. Yeah. Tristan. 21

22 MR. LEONG: Tristan, US Forest Service. Is 23 there no synchronous bypass at the penstock? Or I'm sorry, 24 at the Powerhouse? So if it goes offline, you were saying 25 you had to use the Adair Ditch to return. So that means

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Conway Ranch or the Conway Ditch does not get water in that
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 2
     scenario.
 3
                 MR. WOODHALL: The Upper Conway Ditch cannot be
     utilized during those conditions.
 4
                MR. LEONG: Okay.
 5
                 MR. WOODHALL: But the Upper Conway Ditch only
 6
     has water in it periodically at the request of Mono County,
 7
 8
     which holds that water right. So we'll direct water in
     there at their request. If we are going to use the Adair
 9
     ditch, it's something we communicate ahead of time so that
10
11
     Mono County would know that during that time period of
     powerhouse outage that the upper Conway will be unusable.
12
13
     So, yeah.
14
                MR. ANDERSON: Questions?
                 MR. MEESE: Graham Meese, CDFW. I was
15
     wondering, it's just out of curiosity, when the footage that
16
17
     you showed in the video, if you know, like what year? What
18
     time of year, just like a lot of the shots of the creek
19
     looked great. I'm just curious --
20
                MR. WOODHALL: What time of year did we shoot
21
     the video?
                MR. MEESE: Correct.
22
23
                 MR. WOODHALL: It would've been spring. Yeah,
     right after we were able to access it. Spring time. Early
24
25
     spring.
```

1	MR. MEESE: Spring 2023?					
2	MR. WOODHALL: Yeah. Early three. Yeah.					
3	MR. MEESE: Thank you.					
4	MR. WOODHALL: Okay. Any other questions?					
5	That's it. All right. Back to you, Jess.					
6	MS. FEFER: I think so. Let's see. Oh, it went					
7	back to the beginning. Okay. Sorry. Bear with me here.					
8	All right. Now that we've learned a little bit about the					
9	Lundy project, we are going to go into the preliminary					
10	resource issues that were identified in Scoping Document					
11	One. So really what I'm going to do right now is go through					
12	each resource and for each resource, if you have a comment					
13	or question about that resource, I will open it up after					
14	that resource.					
15	So just keep your comments or questions now to					
16	the specific resource we're talking about, and then we'll					
17	have time to open it up to more general comments and					
18	questions after we've gone through all of that. So I will					
19	just go ahead and basically read the slide to you. Sorry.					
20	But so geology and soils resources, what we					
21	found is potentially project impacts would be effects of					
22	continued project operation on shoreline erosion and					
23	sediment transport downstream of Mill Creek, potential					
24	effects of sediment movement from or within Deer Creek to					
25	the project shorelines and stream banks along Mill Creek and					

8

21

effects of Hill slope erosion downstream of Lundy Lake and 2 Deer Creek. Would anybody like to add any potential effects 3 for geology and soil resources? And I should say, if you 4 think about it like later, you don't have to think about it 5 right now, if it comes up later when we're in the discussion 6 stages, that's fine as well. But figure, I'll open it up 7 here as well. All right.

So water resources; effects of continued project 9 operation on water quality in the project bypass reach and 10 11 downstream of the powerhouse effects of continued project operation on water quality in Lundy Lake and effects of 12 13 continued project operation on downstream water rights and 14 users. Any additional water resource potential issues you'd like to bring up? 15

All righty. Aquatic; effects of continued 16 17 project operation on fish habitat and fish resources in the 18 project and impoundment bypass reach and downstream of the 19 powerhouse, effects of fish entrainment at the Lundy powerhouse on fish resources in the project area. Effects 20 21 of continued project operation on fish stranding, effects of 22 project water diversion and instream flow on fish habitat in the project bypass reach and effects of continued project 23 operation on aquatic inverter rates downstream of the Lundy 24 Dam. Anybody like to add anything to aquatic? 25

1 MR. LEONG: I don't know if it's captured here, 2 but where do you have amphibians? Is that --MS. FEFER: Go ahead and ask that again. Sorry. 3 4 5 MR. LEONG: I'm sorry. This Tristan, US forest service. I don't know if within the project sphere, if 6 there are amphibians that might be affected, is that 7 captured in aquatics or some other section? 8 MS. FEFER: Would that be captured in? 9 Terrestrial. 10 11 MR. LEONG: Terrestrial. Okay. MS. FEFER: Except I'm about to go to that and 12 we'll see if we have it there. So we'll add it there if we 13 don't. So, effects of continued operation on maintenance on 14 special status botanical resources, effects of the 15 16 introduction and or spread of invasive plant populations potentially occurring due to maintenance activities. 17 18 Effects of continued operation and maintenance 19 on special status wildlife species and effects of continued operation and maintenance on including vegetation management 20 21 and herbicide use on native vegetation and wildlife, game 22 species, and the special status species identified in SEC's pad including in near national forest species of 23 conservation concern and nesting migratory bird species. So 24 we will add invertebrates into --25

```
1
                MR. LEONG: Amphibians.
 2
                 MS. FEFER: Sorry, amphibians into where they
 3
     should.
                MS. WASHINGTON: Fish are part of special status
 4
 5
     wildlife as we analyze them. Sorry --
                 MS. FEFER: Amphibians.
 6
 7
                 MR. LEONG: There you go.
 8
                 MS. WASHINGTON: Not fish. There are part of
     special status wildlife.
 9
10
                MR. LEONG: Okay.
                MS. WASHINGTON: We would include it there.
11
12
                 MR. LEONG: Okay.
                 MS. FEFER: Okay. So covered in terrestrial.
13
     We'll get there eventually. All right. So and threatening
14
     and endangered species here. Effects of continued project
15
     operation and maintenance activities on species designated
16
     as federally threatened, endangered, proposed or candidates
17
18
     for listing and designated critical habitat, proposed and
19
     final under the Endangered Species Act.
20
                 I don't have all of those listed here, but they
     are in Scoping Document One. Recreation resources, we're
21
     going to look at effects of continued project operation and
22
23
     maintenance on recreation resources and adequacy of existing
     recreation facilities to meet current and future recreation
24
     demand. Anyone want to add anything to recreation?
25
```

1 MS. WASHINGTON: I have a question. 2 MS. FEFER: Sure. MS. WASHINGTON: Jameisha Washington, US Forest 3 service? Question would be, I mean are we talking about 4 recreation both summer, spring and fall, winter? 5 MS. FEFER: Uh-huh. 6 MS. WASHINGTON: Okay. 7 8 MS. FEFER: Yeah. As long as long as we are, you know, we know during the scoping that there is 9 recreation during all of those times and we would look at 10 11 all of that recreation. MS. WASHINGTON: We have heavy recreation used 12 13 during winter. 14 MS. FEFER: That's great. We will definitely look at that then. All right. Land use and aesthetics. 15 Effects of continued project operation and maintenance on 16 land use. And effects of continued project operation and 17 18 maintenance on the aesthetic quality of the project area. Cultural and tribal resources. So effects of continued 19 project operation and maintenance on historic or 20 21 archeological resources and traditional cultural properties 22 that may be eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places or on other areas or places of 23 religious, cultural and traditional importance to Indian 24 tribes. Anything to add there? Oh, yeah. 25

```
1
                 MS. BOLTON: What about (Off mic -- Inaudible)
 2
                 MS. FEFER: I'm going to have you repeat that
     question, sorry.
 3
                MS. BOLTON: So --
 4
 5
                 MR. ANDERSON: Identify your name and --
                 MS. BOLTON: And Lyn Bolton. Local resident.
 6
 7
     So what about adding tribal beneficial uses to that list of
 8
     things to consider?
                MS. FEFER: Yeah sure. We'll take that.
 9
                MS. BOLTON: That's a recent state water board
10
11
     thing.
12
                 MS. FEFER: Okay. Absolutely. Thank you.
     Okay. Socioeconomic; effects of continued project
13
     operations and flow diversions on agriculture and other
14
     consumptive uses in Mono city. Effects of any reduction in
15
16
     the amount of water available for irrigation on agricultural
     production and pasture land for livestock in Mono Lake
17
     watershed. Any additions there?
18
19
                 Okay. And lastly, environmental justice effects
     of project operation and maintenance on identified
20
21
     environmental justice communities. And I lied that wasn't
     lastly, we still have cumulative effects. So for cumulative
22
     effects, which just to remind everyone, you probably know
23
     what that is, but it's essentially the impact on the
24
25
     environment that results from incremental impact of actions
```

from past, present, or future that may not be super impact 1 2 on their own, but when they're incremental they become these cumulative impacts and we have identified water and aquatic 3 resources that could be cumulatively impacted by the 4 continued operation and maintenance of the Lundy project. 5 Does anyone see any of the other resources we've 6 7 talked about today as potentially cumulatively impacted? Okay. Okay. So now I'm going to just switch gears a tiny 8 bit for us to think again about your comment periods that I 9 was talking about so much prior. So some of the information 10 11 that really FERC is requesting from you because we want your help in learning about this project in this area. So 12 Section Seven of the Scoping Document One includes a list 13 of comprehensive plans on file with the commission that are 14 relevant to the Lundy project. 15 16 And as part of scoping, we request that agencies 17 and the public review the list and file any new updated 18 plans that you might know about that might be helpful for us 19 that we can add to the scoping document too. And we also 20 ask that anyone who is not yet on the mailing list and would 21 like to be added to the mailing list to make sure to go ahead and do that. And of course we want you to comment 22 about any significant environmental issues that should be 23 addressed in the EA. And here probably not super helpful 24 25 to have the QR code on the presentation board for you.

1 But just so you know, we have that and it's on 2 the handout. And that will just take you right to FERC online and you can do everything there. You can leave 3 comments, you can subscribe. If you want to know everything 4 that's going on the public record for the Lundy project, you 5 can subscribe to the Lundy project and have that sent to 6 your email. And you can do that all by following the QR 7 code that is on the table over there or the website that I 8 have here. 9

Just a reminder, comments are due for scoping 10 11 June 24th. And then again the next comment periods, I'm just kind of reminding you for the study proposal. So 12 November 4th will be another time that you can comment on 13 there on their proposed study plan. And then SCE will 14 15 submit a revised study plan based on your comments. So your comments are very important. And then you'll be able to 16 comment on that again before we issue our study plan 17 18 determination.

19 So I sort of already went through that, but just 20 wanted to make you aware since those there are upcoming this 21 year. And again, for kind of things we're looking for. So 22 especially in when we are commenting about these studies, 23 right? The SCE may not be doing studies that you think need 24 to be done or maybe they're not covering what you think 25 needs to be covered. And so there's sort of a process that

1 we have for requesting studies.

2 And it's the same as commenting. You just go into e-Library and comment. However, we ask for kind of 3 specific things if you're going to request a brand new 4 study. So I'm just going to go ahead and kind of brush over 5 these really quickly just so that in case you want to do 6 7 that. You know, you just want to make sure to follow the requirements so that we can take it into account in the 8 right way so that we have all in the information we need to 9 do that. 10

11 So making sure that you're describing the goals and objectives of each study. If applicable, explain 12 relevant resource management goals. If you're not a 13 resource agency yourself, explain any relevant public 14 interest considerations. Describe existing information 15 concerning the subject of study and the need for additional 16 information. Explain the nexus between product operations 17 18 and effects on the resource to be studied.

19 And then really six and seven here are the ones 20 that we find most often people miss. So just these are the 21 ones, if you only take two things home today, number six and 22 seven. Explain how any proposed study methodology is 23 consistent with generally accepted practice in the 24 scientific community. So if you have methods, let us know 25 why we should use them. And then this one, most people

usually miss, describe considerations of level of effort and 1 2 cost as applicable. So just make sure to have all of those pieces in 3 there and then we will have all the information that we need 4 in order to work it into our analysis. So with that, that's 5 really all I have for you. I have my information here if 6 you want to reach out and I can open it up to questions for 7 me or for SCE or just any comments about any resource issues 8 that you think we didn't bring up here today. All right, 9 I'm seeing none. Oh, yeah, we've got one. 10 11 MR. MEESE: Graham Meese, California Fish and Wildlife. I was wondering, I noticed on the FERC project 12 boundary map that you showed the boundary cuts off at the 13 Adair Ditch and the section of Mill Creek then from the 14 Adera ditch to the return ditch is not included. 15 MS. FEFER: Okay. 16 MR. MEESE: Would be curious why that's not 17 18 included. MR. WOODHALL: So Adair Ditch is not in the FERC 19 boundary. It's not part of our project. It's an old 20 21 historic ditch that we utilize for the water right holders. It's basically a water right holder ditch. So it's not a 22 project feature. We don't need it for our project 23 operations, it's solely a project water right holder ditch. 24 25 Does that make sense?

```
1
                MR. MEESE: Sure. My question is really why
2
    there was a section of Mill Creek between, maybe it wasn't
     the Adair ditch then, between some -- yeah, if you could
 3
     pull, maybe that'd be --
 4
 5
                MS. FEFER: Yeah, I think it was in the other
     presentations of SCE. So let's see. Why is this so
 6
     difficult today?
7
 8
                MR. ANDERSON: Name (Off mic -- Inaudible)
     talking about Graham?
9
10
                MS. FEFER: You had it up here?
11
                MR. MEESE: Yeah, I think it might be the one
12
    below, maybe it was in the conceptual diagram.
                MS. FEFER: Oh, maybe it was in the video. It
13
14
    might've been in the video.
                MR. MEESE: In the video. I think it's the one
15
    right above the --
16
                MR. ANDERSON: Right there.
17
18
                MS. FEFER: Oh, there we go.
19
                MR. MEESE: There we go.
20
                MS. FEFER: It's just part of it. Okay. There
21
    we go. We found it.
                MR. MEESE: Yeah, so you can see like Mill Creek
22
23
     goes down and then there's something that peels off towards
     the penstock line, but then there's a section of Mill Creek
24
     above the return ditch that is not included in the project
25
```

reach where and I'm just curious why that is. If you could 1 2 explain that. Seems like Mill Creek is not in the project boundary. 3 MR. ANDERSON: Yeah, if I could speak to this. 4 5 MR. MEESE: Sure. MR. ANDERSON: I believe this is a --6 7 MR. MEESE: A campground. 8 MR. ANDERSON: -- these are include because they're part of the campground. So these are part of the 9 10 Exhibit R's. And then this is included because it's access 11 road to the penstock. So this is not the Adair ditch. This is not part of the project boundary because it's not water 12 conveyance for the project. So this water is not necessary 13 14 for the operation of the project, so it's not included in 15 the project boundary. 16 MR. MEESE: I see. Okay. 17 MR. ANDERSON: So these, what you're seeing here 18 is basically project facilities, these are necessary for the 19 operation of the project. It's access road and penstock, but also campgrounds and day use areas that are part of the 20 21 Exhibit R. MR. MEESE: I think there's confusion maybe that 22 the red lines encompass the bypass reach, but just to 23 confirm it's not. But once you end at Lundy Dam, the bypass 24 25 reach below is not part.

1 MR. ANDERSON: Correct. 2 MR MESS: Right. Okay. That makes, well, yeah, 3 thank you for clearing that up. MR. ANDERSON: Yeah. Yeah, no problem. I just 4 5 want to mention maybe just tomorrow is the site visit, I'm just curious, do you want to talk about that or? 6 7 MS. FEFER: Yeah, I mean, I was just going to 8 mention it just to note that, you know, the site visit is happening at 8:30 and was just going to remind you all to 9 come if you wanted to, but if you have anything else to say 10 11 about it, that's really all I was going to say. 12 MR. ANDERSON: No. We'll just be convoying. So we'll condense into as few cars as we can. Wear, you know, 13 sturdy shoes, be ready for whatever weather we might have. 14 MS. FEFER: Meet at Gus Hess Park. Is that 15 right? That's Gus Hess? Yeah. 16 MR. ANDERSON: And hopefully, I think we're 17 going to try to be done by 12 or 12:30. So it should, you 18 19 know, it's a small project, so it shouldn't take that long, but, you know, but if people get involved in conversation, 20 21 you never know. MS. FEFER: That's true. All right. Well if 22 there's no other questions, then we can, we can call it and 23 hopefully see a lot of you tomorrow. All right. Thank you 24 so much for being here. We appreciate it. 25

1		(Whereupon	the	above	proceedings	concluded	at
2	6:50 p.m.)						
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CERTIFICATE OF OFFICIAL REPORTER
 1
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                This is to certify that the attached proceeding
   before the FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION in the
 4
     Matter of:
 5
 6
                Name of Proceeding:
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                Lundy Project
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                Project No.: P-1390
16
                Place:
                             Lee Vining, CA
17
                Date:
                             Tuesday, May 14, 2024
     was held as herein appears, and that this is the original
18
     transcript thereof for the file of the Federal Energy
19
20
     Regulatory Commission, and is a full correct transcription
21
     of the proceedings.
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23
                                    Bala Chandran
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25
                                    Official Reporter
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1	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
2	FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
3	Office of Energy Projects
4	X
5	Lundy Project : Project No. P-1390
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12	Lee Vining Community Center
13	296 Mattly Avenue
14	Lee Vining, CA 93541
15	Wednesday, May 15, 2024
16	
17	A public scoping meeting was held, pursuant to notice.
18	starting at 2:00 p.m.
19	
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## PROCEEDINGS

2 MR. ANDERSON: All right. Just a reminder, if 3 you haven't signed in up front, please do so that we have a record of folks who have come to the meeting. A couple just 4 5 notes similar to yesterday. If they're in the case of 6 emergency, please just exit straight out the back. We'll rally at the back end of the parking lot. Restrooms are out 7 8 the door to the left. I really wanted to emphasize that if you're going to talk today make sure you use the 9 microphone, identify yourself. 10

11 I've been asked to sort of make it clear that if 12 you don't speak into the microphone, Chandra and can't get a 13 good record of it and can't have your thoughts on the 14 record. So I appreciate everybody starting here. We'll 15 start off with FERC and then Matt will have some comments 16 about how the project operates. We've got short video and then yeah, we'll just have the discussion from there, right? 17 18 So Jessica?

19 MS. FEFER: Yeah. Thank you. All right. How 20 does that work, sort of, is that okay? All right. All 21 right. Hi, everyone. Thanks for being here today. For 22 those of you who are out at the site visit, which I think 23 was everyone, thanks for being at the site visit. And sorry that I wasn't able to be a little bit more engaged in that, 24 25 but sorry, do you guys hear that too?

1 MR. SIDIBE: Little bit of background noise? 2 MS. FEFER: Yeah. All right. Awesome. Thank you. Maybe it's me. Is it close to that one? Let's see, 3 how's that? Oh, that might have been it. I think it needs 4 5 to be here for me to actually be able to talk into it. 6 Okay. All right, great. So, I'm Jess Fefer. I'm with FERC. I am the relicensing project coordinator. 7 And I am environmental protection specialist as well. My 8 specialty is outdoor recreation, land use, aesthetics and 9 10 environmental justice. And I am accompanied by two of my 11 colleagues here that I will also have introduce themselves. Go ahead, Sid. 12 13 MR. SIDIBE: I'm Ousmane Sidibe, Sid. Civil 14 engineer with FERC. 15 MS. FEFER: Oh, sorry. 16 MS. KIPP: Becky Kipp I'm a wildlife biologist 17 with FERC. MS. FEFER: All right. Thank you. And if I 18 19 could have SCE introduce yourself real quick. 20 MR. WOODHALL: We can try this one? Yeah, it 21 works. I'm Matthew Woodhall with Southern California 22 Edison. I'm the project manager overseeing the relicensing 23 of Lundy. 24 MS. FEFER: Awesome. Thank you. So just a 25 quick agenda for the meeting today. But before I do that, I do have a couple of housekeeping items I know we already mentioned to definitely make sure to sign in. And actually you already did it for me. I was going to say, state your name and affiliation when you're when you're speaking. So I think that's actually really the only housekeeping that I had.

7 Oh, one thing that I did want to make sure to 8 mention is that when you speak today of course we are going to have that on the record. We have our court reporter 9 10 here. But we also, you know, that doesn't take the place of 11 commenting online. And so I am going to, you know, to walk 12 through how to do that if you don't know already kind of how 13 to comment online. But make sure that with the comments 14 that you say out loud today, also put those on the record 15 for us.

16 So today I'm going to start by just going over the licensing process a quick overview of that. And then 17 18 SCE will jump in with their proposal. And then I will come 19 back and we'll identify resource issues that were identified 20 in scoping document one, and we'll have time for comments 21 and discussion from you all. So just really briefly kind of 22 a introduction to FERC, although you may all know this already. 23

We are a federal agency that regulates the interstate transmission of natural gas, oil and electricity.

And additional responsibilities including licensing and inspecting of non-federal hydroelectric projects. We are all in the division of hydropower licensing. That's why we're here because you're going through relicensing. But there's also the division of hydropower administration and compliance and dam safety and inspection that you all probably deal with when you're not in relicensing.

8 Kind of a bird's eye view of the relicensing schedule. SCE filed their pre-application document in the 9 10 end of February. We are now in scoping, that's what we're 11 here doing. And then the next stage will be study periods 12 and figuring out what the studies should be. And then SCE 13 will file their re-license application by February 28th, 14 2027. And then I have this FERC reviews SCE application in 15 yellow because that's when the timeline sort of gets a 16 little bit more wonky.

17 We might have some back and forth with SCE about 18 getting all the information that we need. And, you know, 19 then we move forward to the NEPA analysis. And my next 20 slide sort of walks you through all of the times that you 21 will be able to comment in during this period. So again, we 22 are in scoping season right now. Your comments for the pad scoping document one and any study requests are due on June 23 24th. So make sure to get those into us so that we can 24 25 incorporate those into a second scoping document as needed.

2 Our next phase will be putting the study plans 3 together and you all have two opportunities to comment there as well. SCE will file their proposed study plan in early 4 5 August of 2024, and then you all can comment on that before 6 November 4th. And then SCE will take those comments into account and file a revised study plan in December. And then 7 8 you will be able to comment on that as well before FERC issues the study plan determination. 9

10 Then we go into the study seasons and that can 11 take some time and you all will have time to comment on the 12 initial study report and the updated study report as well. 13 And then you'll also get a chance to comment on the 14 preliminary license proposal before SCE files their license 15 application. And this is just to point out that sort of at 16 the earliest right, this is a really long process and that's 17 just sort of my point with this slide is kind of at the 18 earliest we'll be ready for our environmental analysis by 19 the end of April of 2027.

And you'll have time to comment on that as well. All right. Oh, and all of those dates are also in the scoping document, so I don't expect you to, you know, remember all those. But so the purpose of scoping, right? It is obviously a requirement that's part of NEPA regulations FERC regulations and other applicable laws. But

I think more importantly, it's about understanding public perspectives and concerns of what's going on at the project.

We hope that you'll help us identify issues, 4 5 identify reasonable alternatives identify available 6 information that might be relevant to the project and our analysis and identify cumulatively affected resources. So 7 8 we're here to hear from you all and learn from you all. And so with that, we will go over SCE's proposal. Let's see. 9 10 Oops. Okay. Do you want me to get this slide show going? 11 Here we go.

MS. WILLIAMS: Hi guys. My name's Audry Williams. I'm an archeologist for Edison. We just wanted to start this meeting off with taking a moment to recognize that the Lundy project as well as where we're meeting today and everywhere we went today is within the Mona Lake Kootzaduka'a Tribes traditional land, which they have steward for generations. Thanks.

MR. WOODHALL: Thanks, Audrey. Okay. Well, thanks for being here, everyone on behalf of Southern California Edison, I just want to share my appreciation for everyone participating today. I think we had a good day in the field going up and seeing the project and looking forward to just talking a little bit more about those operations.

1 But before we do that, just want to introduce 2 some of the folks on the Edison side, on the Edison team 3 both from Edison and our consulting team as well. I've already introduced myself, Matthew Woodhall. We also have 4 5 Martin Ostendorf, who's in the back of the room there. He 6 is a senior manager in our regulatory licensing group, Audrey Williams, who we just have the land acknowledgement 7 8 from. And then we also have Seth Carr in the room today, 9 who's our operations manager that makes everything happen up 10 here and keeping Lundy running.

11 On the consulting side, we have Finlay Anderson, 12 who you've met earlier, who's going to be running the 13 microphone for us today. We have Angela in the back Kelly 14 over here. Brad Blood and Allison are here as well. And 15 you can see the subsequent areas of interest in the areas 16 that they'll be overseeing as part of the licensing we have. 17 Heather is here, Lynn --

18

MS. WILLIAMS: She is not here.

MR. WOODHALL: Lynn is not here. Jay and King are not here. And I think Edith is here as well. So aside from some of these leads that are going to be heading up the licensing activities, there's a, you know, a team of individuals even beyond that. So I just want to acknowledge those individuals. There might be names that you'll be seen as this process continues. Thought we'd also just share a

video that we have of the project. This will be a nice kind of cherry on the top from our field day. This will just be a quick overview of what we saw, but just a way to kind of put it all together. So we'll start with this video and then we'll do a little bit of review.

6 (Video played)

7 Hello and thank you for joining us on this video 8 tour of Southern California Edison's Lundy Project. Southern California Edison owns and operates the Lundy 9 Project in Mono County, California. This video will provide 10 11 a brief overview of the project and its principle features. 12 Lands in and around the project include a combination of 13 federal and non-federal lands. The watershed has a total 14 drainage area of approximately 135 square miles.

15 The Mono Basin and the Mill Creek watershed includes the crest of the Sierra Nevada with maximum 16 elevations extending up to 12,400 feet to approximately 17 18 6,400 feet at the shoreline of Mono Lake. The Lundy Project 19 originates in Lundy Canyon and flows directly into Mono Lake 20 four miles downstream. The Lundy Project is authorized by a 21 30-year license issued by the Federal Energy Regulatory 22 Commission or FERC in 1999.

This authorization expires on February 28th, 24 2029. The current FERC license contains measures to protect 25 key resources, and these measures will be reevaluated as

1 part of the process we are starting. The vicinity of the 2 Lundy project was historically sculpted by glaciers and is 3 currently characterized by rounded granitic outcrops, U-shaped glacial valleys, glacial lakes, and tele slopes. 4 5 The stunning visual and natural features of the 6 area lend themselves to recreational opportunities, including camping, hiking, and fishing. A campground is 7 8 located below, Lundy Lake. Lundy Lake and Mill Creek are stocked by California Department of Fish and Wildlife for 9 10 fishing. There are trails and trail heads that are 11 accessible from the Lundy project. Boating, sightseeing and picnicking are also 12 13 popular in this area. Lundy Lake is the intake for Lundy 14 Powerhouse. The lake has historically been drawn down in

the winter to provide storage capacity for spring runoff.
Water is conveyed from Lundy Lake to the powerhouse via the
flow line and Penstock. Water is managed in the basin
according to established water rights that have been
adjudicated by the Superior Court of Mono County.

20 Spill and power generation are largely 21 incidental to these water rights and secondarily by SCE's 22 Power Sales Agreement with Los Angeles Department of Water 23 and Power, which specifies annual drawdown requirements. 24 SCE's FERC license requires that minimum flows be provided 25 to stream reaches between the reservoir and the powerhouse, 1 but these are also limited by pre-existing water rights.

2 Lundy Lake receives its water from Lundy Canyon, 3 which has a drainage area of approximately 16 square miles. The gravel and Rockfield Dam measures approximately 690 feet 4 5 long with a structural height of 48 feet from the base of 6 the core wall to the top of wall. The dam impounds the 132-acre Lundy Lake, which has a net storage capacity of 7 8 4,113 acre feet. The spillway is a 150 foot long by 7.7 foot deep notch in the concrete core wall. 9

10 An additional water release structure known as 11 the Farmer's Gate operates when the lake level is above 12 7,779 feet. To provide additional flow to the base of Lundy 13 Dam. Generally, operation of the Farmer's Gate is possible 14 during wetter spring periods for wet water years. On the 15 west end of Lundy Lake, there is a two lane boat launch 16 available for recreationists. The site offers parking for approximately five boats with trailers at Lundy Dam. 17

18 There is a day use area with a gravel parking 19 lot. This site offers a restroom facility along with access 20 to local trails. Lundy Canyon Campground is located 21 downstream approximately one mile northeast of the Lundy 22 Lake Dam. The campground is operated under a lease from SCE to Mono County. The campground offers 37 sites for 23 recreationists 910 sites and 28 sites that can fit a 35-foot 24 25 recreational vehicle. Sites offer a cleared area for

camping, a picnic table, a parking area, and several sites
 offer a bear proof box for storage.

3 There are four day use areas located east of Lundy Canyon Campground. These day use sites provide 4 5 parking areas and picnic cables for recreationists to enjoy views of Mill Creek. Mill Creek flows into Mono Lake, below 6 Lundy Lake downstream to the 7,200 foot contour. The creek 7 8 is densely vegetated causing frequent log jams. Wood and boulders are frequent. And channel bed material is a mix of 9 10 gravel, cobbles and boulders with some sand. Below this 11 7,200 foot contour. The creek extends downstream for another 3.5 miles outside of the project boundary to Mono 12 13 City, and is under lane by gravels and silts.

14 After leaving Mono city the creek is under laid 15 by gravels and cobbles for the remaining 2.5 miles 16 downstream where it flows into Mono Lake. The Lundy Powerhouse is a reinforced concrete building constructed in 17 18 1911. It is located on the Wilson drainage east downstream 19 of Lundy Lake. The building is 66 feet long, 32 feet wide, 20 31 feet high, and has a substructure that is nine feet deep. 21 The powerhouse contains two canyon turbines, each directly 22 connected to an Alice Chalmers generator rated at 15,000 23 kilowatts.

24 Below the Lundy powerhouse water discharge from 25 the powerhouse tail race is sent to a splitterbox, which

directs flows either to the Wilson Drainage system, Wilson System, or returns water to Mill Creek via the Mill Creek return ditch. This return ditch shown here and the point at which it rejoins Mill Creek represents the end of the FERC project boundary.

6 The allocation of water between the Wilson 7 System and Mill Creek is determined based on existing 8 adjudicated water rights and flows through the powerhouse 9 set to ensure those water deliveries to water rights holders 10 are met. Once water is returned to Mill Creek, it is 11 outside the Lundy project boundary and continues towards 12 Mono Lake.

13 Thank you for your time and interest in SCE's 14 Lundy project. If you are interested in learning more about 15 the project and the FERC relicensing process, please visit 16 the project website at www.sce.com/lundy for more 17 information.

18 MR. WOODHALL: All right. Nice to see some 19 shots of the lake full of water, which today when we were 20 out there, it's still at low pool, so kind of kind of cool 21 to see the conditions when it's full. So it seems to be a 22 lag here. Oh, I got this. Oh. Too many times. There we 23 go. Got it. Thank you, Finlay.

All right. Well, from here we'll just do a, a little review. Some of this stuff we talked about today on

1 the field visit. I'm not sure if everyone made it to the 2 field visit, but a lot of great questions today. A lot of 3 great dialogue. This is just a quick kind of synopsis of the project, some of its elements and how it operates. It 4 5 is currently on a 30-year license, which expires February 6 28th, 2029. We did formally kick off the FERC process in February of this year with our pre-application document and 7 8 notice of intent filing. And we will be filing a draft license application in 2026. 9

10 So there's still some time between now and that 11 filing where we'll be doing the studies to help inform that 12 process. We are not proposing any sort of changes to 13 operations or any changes to the facilities. From a 14 location standpoint, we are on the east slope of the Sierra 15 Nevada. It's within a small portion of the INO National 16 Forest within the county of Mono County.

And the private lands that are within the project are primarily held by Southern California Edison. And the main water body is Mill Creek that is dammed up by the Lundy Dam and the creation of the lake there. So Lundy Dam itself and the lake as I said, is fairly near the headwaters of Mill Creek 73 acre reservoir.

The powerhouse downstream of the lake is a three megawatt powerhouse the flow line, the penstock connecting the Lundy Lake and the powerhouse. So it's just a single flow line with a pen stock and the single powerhouse. And then below the powerhouse we have the structure called the splitterbox, which manages flows to the water right holders either going over to the Wilson system or back over to Mill Creek.

6 The operations at Lundy are driven by the adjudicated water rights. We SCE passes the water through 7 8 the powerhouse and then delivers the water to the water right holders through the varying pieces of infrastructure. 9 10 The return ditch, the Wilson system there at the 11 splitterbox. And then there's also another ditch that 12 delivers water over to Mono County, which is the upper 13 Conway Ditch that we participate in removing that water over there when they ask us to, just because the gate there is 14 15 right within the tail race.

16 And if you guys were out there today, you, you 17 saw that actually in action we're currently moving water 18 over in Upper Conway. And so we were able to see that that 19 gate drop down and diverting that water. There is also a 20 ditch called the Adair Ditch, which is an old historic ditch 21 that provides water over to the water right holders over on 22 the Wilson side. If we ever have to take the powerhouse 23 completely offline and we're not able to bypass any water through there, that old historic ditch can be utilized to 24 25 fulfill those water rights.

1 This is just a quick little schematic of all the 2 things that we've been talking about. This just puts it all 3 on one page and kind of this cartoon character here, but it does show all the different points of operation with the 4 5 reservoir at the top. And the three, four actually 6 discharge points that can come out of the bottom of the dam. That farmer's gate that sits right in the middle of the dam 7 8 that can be operated just above the elevation that it mentioned in the video there. 9

10 Water can also go over the spillway and really 11 high water years. When the lot of water's coming into the 12 lake, we try to manage to keep things out of spill. But 13 oftentimes it will spill anyway, even if we have water going 14 out of the farmer's gate, the water can go over the 15 spillway. We also utilize the rock drop valve, which we 16 also saw in operation today, that to move water that needs 17 to be delivered in the Mill Creek, that for whatever 18 reason, not able to go through the return ditch, we'll 19 utilize that rock drop valve if it's at a quantity that that 20 valve can handle.

And then we also have the minimum instream flow valve that is continuously set to deliver the one CFS minimum instream flow requirement that the license currently requires. On the powerhouse side water travels to the powerhouse, turns the generators from there, it goes into

1 the tail race. It can be diverted to go over to Upper 2 Conway as I mentioned earlier. If Mono County asks us to do 3 that, we will do that.

4 Otherwise, all the water goes down to the 5 splitterbox and then it gets earmarked to go to the 6 individual water right holders, the water right holders that 7 want their Water Mill Creek. It comes through the return 8 ditch on the Wilson side. It goes the other way through a 9 Langemann gate up there at the splitterbox and gets 10 delivered out into the Wilson system.

11 There's also a depiction of that, a dare ditch 12 that can move water directly from Mill Creek into Wilson 13 just below the splitterbox. Again, in times when the 14 powerhouse, we can't bypass any water that just essentially 15 keeps the Wilson system with some water in it. As I 16 mentioned, the water rights are kind of the driving force 17 behind all the operations.

18 Those water rights were adjudicated in Mono 19 County Superior Court in November 30th, 1914. They predate 20 that many of those water rights were established back in the 21 18100s, but they were actually formally adjudicated in 1914. 22 And SCE has a non-consumptive, right? It's just a pass 23 through for us. We just use the water to generate electricity, and then we move the water onto those water 24 25 right holders.

1 Just to get a sense of what we're talking about. 2 With all the water rights it's not just a simple single 3 quantity type scenario. There's 11 different water rights that are held in priority order, meaning they get fulfilled 4 5 in those priorities up to 74.6 CFS. Each one has an 6 individual quantity associated with that priority. And so if you look at the different water right holders you'll 7 8 notice that some of them, like Mono County, has multiple water rights at multiple priorities. 9

10 So that has to be kept track of, which we do 11 through using a Excel based tool that kind of tracks this 12 for us, and that helps us to make sure that we deliver the 13 water to the water right holder in the appropriate 14 quantities based upon this table, which is in that 15 adjudication that I mentioned earlier. I think we saw some 16 of these milestones already, but throwing them out there, 17 again lots of activity going on between now and the end of 18 this process.

19 This is going to be a multi-year process. We're 20 looking forward to getting things kicked off. And again, 21 these dates, I don't think you need to memorize anything. 22 There's plenty of places they're listed, but lots of 23 opportunity to get engaged in the process add information to 24 any of any of these milestones as they take place. Any 25 questions on just general Lundy operations type questions?

1	All right.	I guess we'll turn it back over to you, Jess.
2		MS. FEFER: Sounds good.
3		MR. WOODHALL: Thanks again, everyone.
4		MR. SIDIBE: All right.
5		MS. FEFER: Sure.
6		MR. SIDIBE: You got that?

7 MS. FEFER: Yeah. All righty. All right. 8 Thanks Matt for going through that. Okay. And now I am just going to jump into the preliminary resource issues that 9 10 were identified in scoping document one. And so what I'm 11 going to do is I'm just going to go through each of these resources and what those preliminary issues might be, and if 12 13 you have comments or questions about that specific resource, 14 I will open it up for each resource. So just go ahead and 15 keep your comments to each resource that we're on, and then 16 we'll have time to comment more generally in the end.

17 So just for lack of kind of a better way of 18 doing this, I am just going to read the slide to you. So 19 geology and soil resources effects of continued project 20 operation on shoreline erosion and sediment transport downstream of Mill Creek potential effects of sediment 21 22 movement from or within Deer Creek to the project shorelines 23 and stream banks along Mill Creek and effects of Hill slope 24 erosion downstream of Lundy Lake and Deer Creek. Any 25 comments or additions to potential impacts related to

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1 geology and soil resources?
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2 MR. ANDERSON: I'm going to make a comment. 3 This is Finley Anderson with Kleinschmidt on behalf of Southern California Edison. And I just wanted to comment 4 5 that I think the way the second bullet is phrased regarding 6 deer Creek implies that the Deer Creek is part of the project, and it's part of the project description. It is in 7 8 fact outside the FERC boundary. It enters the Mill Creek below the minimum Instream flow point and is in fact a 9 10 pretty substantial source of sediment to Mill Creek. So in 11 terms of a scoping document too, I think we'd be looking for a little refinement of that bullet point. 12

MS. FEFER: Okay. Thank you. All righty. Water resources effects of continued project operation on water quality in the project bypass reached and downstream of the powerhouse effects and continued project operation on water quality in Lundy Lake and effects of continued project operation on downstream water rights and users, any additional water resources potential impacts.

All righty. Moving on to aquatic. Effects of continued project operation on fish habitat and fish resources in the project impoundment bypass reach and downstream of the powerhouse effects of fish entrainment at the Lundy powerhouse on fish resources in the project area. Effects of continued project operation on fish stranding

effects of project water diversion and instream flow on fish habitat in the project bypass reach and effects of continued operation on aquatic invertebrates downstream of the Lundy Dam. Any additional potential impacts to aquatic resources?

All righty. Moving on to terrestrial. Effects 6 of continued project operation and maintenance on special 7 8 status botanical resources. Effects of the introduction and or spread of invasive plant populations potentially 9 10 occurring due to maintenance activities effects of continued 11 operation and maintenance on special status wildlife species 12 and effects of continued operation and maintenance, 13 including vegetation management and herbicide use on native 14 vegetation and wildlife game species, and the special status species identified in CEEs pad, including Indian 15 16 national Forest, species of conservation concern and nesting 17 migratory bird species. Any additional terrestrial impacts? 18 Yes.

MR. ANDERSON: Your name and affiliation.
MS. WRAGG: Oh, sure. Haley Wragg Lundy Lake
Resort. I already shared this briefly with Edison earlier
today, but we have observed in the last five years,
especially during the drought season 2020 through 2021, 2022
that when the lake is really low and we have exposed lake
bed and mud some invasive plant species are really taking

1 control of the area, specifically Mullein.

It's comparable to like walking through a cornfield of Mullein. And unfortunately over the years, with dry years and needing to of course deliver water to the water holders all those combinations it's spread through the entire canyon and it's extremely hard to remove. It's not just on the west end by the resort, it's on the east side, it's at the canyons at this point.

9 So just a concern for mitigation. Especially 10 when the lake is low and we know it's going to be low we 11 know that Mullein is going to be there. I also am not a 12 botanist or a fish specialist, but through like really short 13 research Mullein was originally introduced to the Americas 14 to actually kill fish in water populations.

15 They would take it and grind up the seeds and to 16 poison the fish and kill them in a water source. So the 17 fact that that's in the water bed is really concerning. And 18 obviously we did not see a lot of it today because we have a 19 very full year. And hopefully that will continue, but for 20 drought years, it's just something to pay attention to. And 21 I would love to partner with community and Edison and 22 whoever to help get rid of that at one point slowly but surely. Yeah. Thank you. 23

24 MS. FEFER: Great. Thank you for your comment. 25 We'd love to see it on the record too. All right. Thank

1 you. All right. So for threatened and endangered species 2 effects of continued project operation and maintenance 3 activities on species designated as federally threatened, endangered proposed or candidates for listing and designated 4 5 critical habitat proposed and final under the Endangered 6 Species Act. I don't have those listed out here, but they are in scoping document one and the pad. So any additional 7 8 impacts to threaten an endangered species?

9 All righty. Recreation resources. Affects 10 continued project operation and maintenance on recreation 11 resources and adequacy of existing recreation facilities to 12 meet current and future recreation demand. Yes, I'll give 13 you the mic again.

MS. WRAGG: Okay. This one's a bit long.Sorry, I have some notes.

16 MS. FEFER: No worries.

MS. WRAGG: I just want to enter it into the record. My name's Haley Wragg. I'm with Lundy Lake Resort. I'm certified in wild end resources and forestry, and also I'm a fourth generation Lundy lover. So it makes me really happy to see everyone come together to discuss such a precious and like beloved place, which is Lundy. Lundy Lake Resort resides on the west end of the lake.

24 So when we took our tour today, and when we look 25 at the maps, that's the boat launch side. We have a

fabulous boat launch there that has lots of public use.
However they're not sufficient public resources to take care
of human waste and trash on that side of the lake. When we
compare the east and west ends of the lake, you'll notice
that there's a large difference.

6 There's just simply no recreational resources other than the boat launch. On that side of the lake, 7 8 there's no public restrooms no bathroom, no trash to support 9 the FERC public zone. And when you look at section 5.8.4 in 10 the pad, I was concerned to see that there was no like 11 future plans to be able to maintain the existing day use 12 rate and also address future rates in a post COVID world, 13 and also with our neighbors in Yosemite throttling the 14 number of visitors that can come into the park every year.

15 We're seeing a lot of overflow in neighboring 16 areas, Bridgeport, Virginia, Lundy June Lake. And so that's putting a lot of pressure on the existing areas, including 17 18 the west end of Lundy Lake. Currently, when the public goes 19 to use the west side of the lake and use the boat launch, 20 the nearest public restroom is either one mile west which is 21 up the road on Lundy Lake Road in the Indian National 22 Forest, where there is a restroom at the Trailhead or one mile East which is where the dam is. 23

And that's just simply unreasonable to ask of people. And because of that, we're having you know, some

1 issues. Best practice would be to have at a point of 2 interest like that something between three and 500 feet 3 away. And that hasn't been happening. The challenges, you know, that we're seeing here are not like solo just Lundy, 4 5 obviously it's not specific to Lundy, but I do feel it's my 6 duty as the boots on the ground on the west side to just let you know what's going on and the pressures that we're 7 8 feeling.

9 My priority will always be keeping Lundy clean 10 and open to all and for generations to enjoy it. And that's 11 why in emergency response responses last year, Lundy Lake 12 Resort, in partnership with Sierra Septic has been 13 sponsoring a public use Porta-potty on the west side of the 14 lake. But that's just financially a burden for us. And not 15 completely, you know, permanent, so we're just looking for a 16 sustainable solution here. You know, for years this has been an issue, but it really came to a peak in 2023. 17

18 In 2023, we had the 100 year winter, and many 19 facilities, including Lend Lake Resort, were not able to 20 open on time, but creators were there and wanting to play, 21 and because of that, we had significant trespass issues on 22 private property, not just Edison on private lands, people 23 breaking into buildings to use restrooms that were not hooked up to water. Significant human waste along the lake 24 25 bed and the edge as well as trash and fishing line.

And as I mentioned, as a community, we came together, Lundy Lake Resort partnered with Sierra Septic. In response, I've communicated to Edison, the Forest Service and Mono County about the issue. And we also have many good Samaritans and that live in Mono City and Vining that always make an effort to clean up when they're recreating responsibly, and we're really grateful to them.

8 But just personally it's my opinion that like, 9 ultimately we need a support system to give the day use 10 recreations an option to do the right thing. And my request 11 would be during fishing season when that west side of the 12 lake is open to public access that there could possibly be a 13 porta-potty sponsored or a pit toilet. I realize that that 14 might not be realistic, and that is okay.

15 A porta-potty would be fine. Trash service and 16 possibly a fishing line recycling tube, which is a new best practice that I'd actually love to see on both the east and 17 18 the west side of the lake. If that's an opportunity. And I 19 just want to reiterate that while Lundy Lake Resort is 20 prepared and we do provide services for our resort patrons, 21 the public use rate that we're seeing, especially within the 22 FERC public use boundary is spilling over into our 23 neighboring owners, both under license and under private ownership. 24

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And anything that we can do would be great. And

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1 I really hope that these simple solutions will be earnestly 2 considered in the licensing process. So thank you so much. 3 MS. FEFER: Great. Thank you. All righty. Land use and aesthetics. Effects of continued project 4 5 operation and maintenance on land use and effects of 6 continued project operation and maintenance on the aesthetic quality of the project area. Does anyone have any effects 7 8 that they would like to add to land use and aesthetics? 9 All righty. Moving on to cultural and tribal 10 resources. Effects of continued project operation and 11 maintenance on historic or archeological resources and 12 traditional cultural properties that may be eligible for 13 inclusion in the National Register of historic places or on 14 other areas or places of religious, cultural and traditional importance to Indian tribes. Does anyone have any impacts 15 16 that they would like to add to cultural and tribal 17 resources? All right. Socioeconomics. Effects of 18 19 continued project operation and flow diversions on

agriculture and other consumptive uses in Mono city.

for livestock in Mono Lake watershed. Any additional

impacts to socioeconomics that you'd like to add?

Effects of any reduction in the amount of water available

for irrigation on agricultural production and pasture land

All righty. Environmental justice. Effects of

project operation and maintenance of identified environmental justice communities. Any additional impacts? All right. So cumulative effects which I'm sure all of you know, but just as a reminder, it's the impact of the environment that results from incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present and reasonably foreseeable future actions.

8 So we identified that water and aquatic 9 resources could be cumulatively affected by the continued 10 operation and maintenance of the laundry project. Does 11 anyone else think that any other resources should be 12 included as a potential cumulative effect in SD2? All 13 right. So with that, that is sort of the end of our sort 14 of resource issue list that we had in scoping document one. 15

16 Thank you so much for the comments. We'll 17 definitely take those into consideration. Other sort of 18 information that we are requesting from you all in your 19 participation in this process. Section seven of the SD1 20 that's scoping document one includes a list of the 21 comprehensive plans on file with the commission that are 22 relevant to the Lundy project.

And as part of scoping, we would request that agencies review the list and file any new comprehensive plans that we could add. We also ask that any entity that

is not already on the mailing list to be added to the official mailing list, there are instructions for that in section eight of SD1. And then of course, any significant environmental issues that should be addressed in the EA.

5 We appreciate your comments here and would also 6 super appreciate if you put those on the record as well. And the way that you would do that, it's not super helpful 7 8 that I have a QR code up here, I realize, but I also have the same QR code as a handout over there. And it just takes 9 10 you to fork online for where you can comment. You can also 11 subscribe using the project number P1390 and then have 12 anything that goes on the public record come to your email. 13 And that can all happen in FERC online.

14 And like I said, there's a handout over there 15 that will give you instructions and I think many of you're 16 probably pretty versed in it, but you're first scoping 17 comments, as I've mentioned already are due June 24th. So 18 just sort of keep that in mind. And then after the scoping 19 process, we're moving into the study process where we're 20 sort of putting together what studies SCE will be 21 conducting to inform this relicense.

And so this is just a reminder. I know you've seen these dates a bunch of times now, but you will have opportunity to comment on what those studies are going to look like. You can do study requests that, sorry, SCE will

1 file their proposed study plan in August 6th, and then 2 you'll have an opportunity to comment on that, including any 3 study requests.

And then SCE will update to a revised study plan 4 5 based on those comments, and you'll be able to comment on 6 that as well. And the study requests are pretty specific. You know, your comments, go ahead and say whatever you want 7 8 in the study requests if you're requesting a new study. We have some pretty specific asks of you to help us understand 9 10 what you're asking for. And so that we can properly do our 11 analysis. And so I'm just going to read through these and 12 sort of what those requirements are for our study requests. 13

14 So we ask that you describe the goals and 15 objectives of each study proposal and the information to be 16 obtained. If applicable, explain the relevant resource 17 management goals of the agencies or Indian tribes with 18 jurisdiction over the resource to be studied. If you as a 19 requester are not a resource agency, explain any relevant 20 public interest considerations in regard to the proposed 21 study.

Describe existing information concerning the subject of the study proposal and the need for additional information. Explain the nexus between project operations and effects on the resource to be studied and how the study

results would inform the development of license
 requirements. And these last two, six and seven seem to
 just be the toughest for people.

So just pay attention to these and make sure you 4 5 get that in there when you file a study request. Explain 6 how any proposed study methodology is consistent with general accepted practice. So if you have certain methods 7 8 you want us to use, let us know why. And then also describe considerations of level of effort and cost as applicable and 9 10 why the proposed alternative studies would not be sufficient 11 to meet the stated information.

So methods and cost. Don't forget about those people. Forget about those a lot. And with that that's all I've got so we can open it up to any more comments or discussion if you have that or questions. And feel free to reach out to me. My contact information is on the screen. Any additional comments or questions?

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MR. TAYLOR: I have one.

MS. FEFER: All righty. We'll get the mic to you before you start.

21 MR. TAYLOR: Can you hear me? Has wildfire been 22 considered? In fact, not just the effects, but like 23 infrastructure? I'm just curious. I didn't see anything 24 about wildfire.

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MR. ANDERSON: Could you just state your name?

1 MR. TAYLOR: Oh, I'm Alan Taylor. I live in 2 Mono City. 3 MS. FEFER: Okay. Thank you. It is not in our SD1, so we will take that into consideration for SD2. 4 5 MR. TAYLOR: Yeah. I would think PG and E might 6 have some information for you. 7 MS. FEFER: Okay. Thank you. 8 MR. TAYLOR: Forest Service. 9 MS. FEFER: Sure. Okay. Thank you. Any other comments or questions? All righty. Well, seeing none, 10 11 just a reminder to make sure you've signed in if you haven't already. And just thanks so much for being here and if 12 13 you're able to make it to the site visit, thanks for spending the whole day with us. Yeah, that's all I got. 14 MR. SIDIBE: Thanks Jess. 15 16 (Whereupon the above proceedings concluded at 17 2:47 p.m.) 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

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                 CERTIFICATE OF OFFICIAL REPORTER
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                This is to certify that the attached proceeding
 4
    before the FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION in the
    Matter of:
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               Name of Proceeding:
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               Lundy Project
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                Place: Lee Vining, CA
17
                Date:
                            Wednesday, May 15, 2024
     was held as herein appears, and that this is the original
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     transcript thereof for the file of the Federal Energy
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     Regulatory Commission, and is a full correct transcription
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     of the proceedings.
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                                    Bala Chandran
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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION Office of Energy Projects - - - - - - x Lundy Project : Project No. P-1390 - - - - - - - x Lee Vining Community Center 296 Mattly Avenue Lee Vining, CA 93541 Wednesday, May 15, 2024 A public scoping meeting was held, pursuant to notice. starting at 2:00 p.m. 

1 PROCEEDINGS MR. ANDERSON: All right. Just a reminder, if 2 you haven't signed in up front, please do so that we have a 3 record of folks who have come to the meeting. A couple just 4 notes similar to yesterday. If they're in the case of 5 emergency, please just exit straight out the back. We'll 6 rally at the back end of the parking lot. Restrooms are out 7 the door to the left. I really wanted to emphasize that if 8 you're going to talk today make sure you use the 9 microphone, identify yourself. 10 11 I've been asked to sort of make it clear that if you don't speak into the microphone, Chandra and can't get a 12 good record of it and can't have your thoughts on the 13 record. So I appreciate everybody starting here. We'll 14 start off with FERC and then Matt will have some comments 15 about how the project operates. We've got short video and 16 then yeah, we'll just have the discussion from there, right? 17 18 So Jessica? 19 MS. FEFER: Yeah. Thank you. All right. How does that work, sort of, is that okay? All right. All 20 21 right. Hi, everyone. Thanks for being here today. For those of you who are out at the site visit, which I think 22 23 was everyone, thanks for being at the site visit. And sorry that I wasn't able to be a little bit more engaged in that, 24 25 but sorry, do you guys hear that too?

MR. SIDIBE: Little bit of background noise? 2 MS. FEFER: Yeah. All right. Awesome. Thank you. Maybe it's me. Is it close to that one? Let's see, 3 how's that? Oh, that might have been it. I think it needs 4 to be here for me to actually be able to talk into it. 5 Okay. All right, great. So, I'm Jess Fefer. 6 7 I'm with FERC. I am the relicensing project coordinator. And I am environmental protection specialist as well. My 8 specialty is outdoor recreation, land use, aesthetics and 9 environmental justice. And I am accompanied by two of my 10 11 colleagues here that I will also have introduce themselves. Go ahead, Sid. 12 MR. SIDIBE: I'm Ousmane Sidibe, Sid. Civil 13 engineer with FERC. 14 MS. FEFER: Oh, sorry. 15 MS. KIPP: Becky Kipp I'm a wildlife biologist 16 with FERC. 17 MS. FEFER: All right. Thank you. And if I 18 19 could have SCE introduce yourself real quick. 20 MR. WOODHALL: We can try this one? Yeah, it 21 works. I'm Matthew Woodhall with Southern California 22 Edison. I'm the project manager overseeing the relicensing 23 of Lundy. MS. FEFER: Awesome. Thank you. So just a 24 25 quick agenda for the meeting today. But before I do that, I

do have a couple of housekeeping items I know we already mentioned to definitely make sure to sign in. And actually you already did it for me. I was going to say, state your name and affiliation when you're when you're speaking. So I think that's actually really the only housekeeping that I had.

7 Oh, one thing that I did want to make sure to 8 mention is that when you speak today of course we are going to have that on the record. We have our court reporter 9 here. But we also, you know, that doesn't take the place of 10 11 commenting online. And so I am going to, you know, to walk through how to do that if you don't know already kind of how 12 13 to comment online. But make sure that with the comments that you say out loud today, also put those on the record 14 for us. 15

16 So today I'm going to start by just going over 17 the licensing process a quick overview of that. And then 18 SCE will jump in with their proposal. And then I will come 19 back and we'll identify resource issues that were identified 20 in scoping document one, and we'll have time for comments 21 and discussion from you all. So just really briefly kind of a introduction to FERC, although you may all know this 22 already. 23 We are a federal agency that regulates the 24

25 interstate transmission of natural gas, oil and electricity.

And additional responsibilities including licensing and 1 inspecting of non-federal hydroelectric projects. We are 2 all in the division of hydropower licensing. That's why 3 we're here because you're going through relicensing. But 4 there's also the division of hydropower administration and 5 compliance and dam safety and inspection that you all 6 7 probably deal with when you're not in relicensing. 8 Kind of a bird's eye view of the relicensing schedule. SCE filed their pre-application document in the 9 end of February. We are now in scoping, that's what we're 10 11 here doing. And then the next stage will be study periods and figuring out what the studies should be. And then SCE 12 13 will file their re-license application by February 28th, 2027. And then I have this FERC reviews SCE application in 14 yellow because that's when the timeline sort of gets a 15 16 little bit more wonky. We might have some back and forth with SCE about 17 getting all the information that we need. And, you know, 18 19 then we move forward to the NEPA analysis. And my next slide sort of walks you through all of the times that you 20 21 will be able to comment in during this period. So again, we 22 are in scoping season right now. Your comments for the pad scoping document one and any study requests are due on June 23 24th. So make sure to get those into us so that we can 24 25 incorporate those into a second scoping document as needed.

2 Our next phase will be putting the study plans together and you all have two opportunities to comment there 3 as well. SCE will file their proposed study plan in early 4 August of 2024, and then you all can comment on that before 5 November 4th. And then SCE will take those comments into 6 account and file a revised study plan in December. And then 7 you will be able to comment on that as well before FERC 8 issues the study plan determination. 9 Then we go into the study seasons and that can 10 11 take some time and you all will have time to comment on the initial study report and the updated study report as well. 12 And then you'll also get a chance to comment on the 13

preliminary license proposal before SCE files their license application. And this is just to point out that sort of at the earliest right, this is a really long process and that's just sort of my point with this slide is kind of at the earliest we'll be ready for our environmental analysis by the end of April of 2027.

20 And you'll have time to comment on that as well. 21 All right. Oh, and all of those dates are also in the 22 scoping document, so I don't expect you to, you know, 23 remember all those. But so the purpose of scoping, right? 24 It is obviously a requirement that's part of NEPA 25 regulations FERC regulations and other applicable laws. But

I think more importantly, it's about understanding public 1 2 perspectives and concerns of what's going on at the project. 3 We hope that you'll help us identify issues, 4 5 identify reasonable alternatives identify available information that might be relevant to the project and our 6 analysis and identify cumulatively affected resources. So 7 we're here to hear from you all and learn from you all. And 8 so with that, we will go over SCE's proposal. Let's see. 9 Oops. Okay. Do you want me to get this slide show going? 10 11 Here we go. 12 MS. WILLIAMS: Hi guys. My name's Audry Williams. I'm an archeologist for Edison. We just wanted 13 to start this meeting off with taking a moment to recognize 14 that the Lundy project as well as where we're meeting today 15 16 and everywhere we went today is within the Mona Lake Kootzaduka'a Tribes traditional land, which they have 17 steward for generations. Thanks. 18 19 MR. WOODHALL: Thanks, Audrey. Okay. Well, 20 thanks for being here, everyone on behalf of Southern 21 California Edison, I just want to share my appreciation for 22 everyone participating today. I think we had a good day in the field going up and seeing the project and looking 23 forward to just talking a little bit more about those 24 25 operations.

1 But before we do that, just want to introduce some of the folks on the Edison side, on the Edison team 2 both from Edison and our consulting team as well. I've 3 already introduced myself, Matthew Woodhall. We also have 4 Martin Ostendorf, who's in the back of the room there. 5 He is a senior manager in our regulatory licensing group, 6 Audrey Williams, who we just have the land acknowledgement 7 from. And then we also have Seth Carr in the room today, 8 who's our operations manager that makes everything happen up 9 here and keeping Lundy running. 10 11 On the consulting side, we have Finlay Anderson, who you've met earlier, who's going to be running the 12 13 microphone for us today. We have Angela in the back Kelly over here. Brad Blood and Allison are here as well. And 14 you can see the subsequent areas of interest in the areas 15 16 that they'll be overseeing as part of the licensing we have. Heather is here, Lynn --17 MS. WILLIAMS: She is not here. 18 19 MR. WOODHALL: Lynn is not here. Jay and King are not here. And I think Edith is here as well. So aside 20 21 from some of these leads that are going to be heading up the 22 licensing activities, there's a, you know, a team of individuals even beyond that. So I just want to acknowledge 23 those individuals. There might be names that you'll be seen 24 25 as this process continues. Thought we'd also just share a

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video that we have of the project. This will be a nice kind
 1
     of cherry on the top from our field day. This will just be
 2
     a quick overview of what we saw, but just a way to kind of
 3
     put it all together. So we'll start with this video and
 4
     then we'll do a little bit of review.
 5
     (Video played)
 6
 7
                 Hello and thank you for joining us on this video
 8
     tour of Southern California Edison's Lundy Project.
     Southern California Edison owns and operates the Lundy
 9
     Project in Mono County, California. This video will provide
10
11
     a brief overview of the project and its principle features.
     Lands in and around the project include a combination of
12
     federal and non-federal lands. The watershed has a total
13
     drainage area of approximately 135 square miles.
14
                 The Mono Basin and the Mill Creek watershed
15
     includes the crest of the Sierra Nevada with maximum
16
     elevations extending up to 12,400 feet to approximately
17
18
     6,400 feet at the shoreline of Mono Lake. The Lundy Project
19
     originates in Lundy Canyon and flows directly into Mono Lake
     four miles downstream. The Lundy Project is authorized by a
20
21
     30-year license issued by the Federal Energy Regulatory
     Commission or FERC in 1999.
22
                 This authorization expires on February 28th,
23
     2029. The current FERC license contains measures to protect
24
25
     key resources, and these measures will be reevaluated as
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part of the process we are starting. The vicinity of the 1 2 Lundy project was historically sculpted by glaciers and is currently characterized by rounded granitic outcrops, 3 U-shaped glacial valleys, glacial lakes, and tele slopes. 4 5 The stunning visual and natural features of the area lend themselves to recreational opportunities, 6 including camping, hiking, and fishing. A campground is 7 located below, Lundy Lake. Lundy Lake and Mill Creek are 8 stocked by California Department of Fish and Wildlife for 9 fishing. There are trails and trail heads that are 10 11 accessible from the Lundy project. 12 Boating, sightseeing and picnicking are also popular in this area. Lundy Lake is the intake for Lundy 13 Powerhouse. The lake has historically been drawn down in 14 the winter to provide storage capacity for spring runoff. 15 16 Water is conveyed from Lundy Lake to the powerhouse via the flow line and Penstock. Water is managed in the basin 17 18 according to established water rights that have been 19 adjudicated by the Superior Court of Mono County. 20 Spill and power generation are largely 21 incidental to these water rights and secondarily by SCE's Power Sales Agreement with Los Angeles Department of Water 22 and Power, which specifies annual drawdown requirements. 23 SCE's FERC license requires that minimum flows be provided 24 25 to stream reaches between the reservoir and the powerhouse,

but these are also limited by pre-existing water rights. 1 Lundy Lake receives its water from Lundy Canyon, 2 which has a drainage area of approximately 16 square miles. 3 The gravel and Rockfield Dam measures approximately 690 feet 4 long with a structural height of 48 feet from the base of 5 the core wall to the top of wall. The dam impounds the 6 132-acre Lundy Lake, which has a net storage capacity of 7 4,113 acre feet. The spillway is a 150 foot long by 7.7 8 foot deep notch in the concrete core wall. 9 An additional water release structure known as 10 11 the Farmer's Gate operates when the lake level is above 7,779 feet. To provide additional flow to the base of Lundy 12 Dam. Generally, operation of the Farmer's Gate is possible 13 during wetter spring periods for wet water years. On the 14 west end of Lundy Lake, there is a two lane boat launch 15 available for recreationists. The site offers parking for 16 approximately five boats with trailers at Lundy Dam. 17 18 There is a day use area with a gravel parking 19 lot. This site offers a restroom facility along with access to local trails. Lundy Canyon Campground is located 20 21 downstream approximately one mile northeast of the Lundy 22 Lake Dam. The campground is operated under a lease from SCE to Mono County. The campground offers 37 sites for 23 recreationists 910 sites and 28 sites that can fit a 35-foot 24 recreational vehicle. Sites offer a cleared area for 25

camping, a picnic table, a parking area, and several sites 1 2 offer a bear proof box for storage. There are four day use areas located east of 3 Lundy Canyon Campground. These day use sites provide 4 parking areas and picnic cables for recreationists to enjoy 5 views of Mill Creek. Mill Creek flows into Mono Lake, below 6 Lundy Lake downstream to the 7,200 foot contour. The creek 7 is densely vegetated causing frequent log jams. Wood and 8 boulders are frequent. And channel bed material is a mix of 9 gravel, cobbles and boulders with some sand. Below this 10 11 7,200 foot contour. The creek extends downstream for another 3.5 miles outside of the project boundary to Mono 12 City, and is under lane by gravels and silts. 13 14 After leaving Mono city the creek is under laid by gravels and cobbles for the remaining 2.5 miles 15 downstream where it flows into Mono Lake. The Lundy 16 Powerhouse is a reinforced concrete building constructed in 17 18 1911. It is located on the Wilson drainage east downstream 19 of Lundy Lake. The building is 66 feet long, 32 feet wide, 31 feet high, and has a substructure that is nine feet deep. 20 21 The powerhouse contains two canyon turbines, each directly connected to an Alice Chalmers generator rated at 15,000 22 kilowatts. 23 Below the Lundy powerhouse water discharge from 24 25 the powerhouse tail race is sent to a splitterbox, which

directs flows either to the Wilson Drainage system, Wilson 1 System, or returns water to Mill Creek via the Mill Creek 2 return ditch. This return ditch shown here and the point at 3 which it rejoins Mill Creek represents the end of the FERC 4 project boundary. 5 The allocation of water between the Wilson 6 7 System and Mill Creek is determined based on existing adjudicated water rights and flows through the powerhouse 8 set to ensure those water deliveries to water rights holders 9 are met. Once water is returned to Mill Creek, it is 10 11 outside the Lundy project boundary and continues towards 12 Mono Lake. Thank you for your time and interest in SCE's 13 14 Lundy project. If you are interested in learning more about the project and the FERC relicensing process, please visit 15 16 the project website at www.sce.com/lundy for more information. 17 MR. WOODHALL: All right. Nice to see some 18 19 shots of the lake full of water, which today when we were out there, it's still at low pool, so kind of kind of cool 20 21 to see the conditions when it's full. So it seems to be a lag here. Oh, I got this. Oh. Too many times. There we 22 go. Got it. Thank you, Finlay. 23 All right. Well, from here we'll just do a, a 24 little review. Some of this stuff we talked about today on 25

the field visit. I'm not sure if everyone made it to the 1 2 field visit, but a lot of great questions today. A lot of great dialogue. This is just a quick kind of synopsis of 3 4 the project, some of its elements and how it operates. It is currently on a 30-year license, which expires February 5 28th, 2029. We did formally kick off the FERC process in 6 February of this year with our pre-application document and 7 notice of intent filing. And we will be filing a draft 8 license application in 2026. 9 So there's still some time between now and that 10 11 filing where we'll be doing the studies to help inform that process. We are not proposing any sort of changes to 12 operations or any changes to the facilities. From a 13 location standpoint, we are on the east slope of the Sierra 14 Nevada. It's within a small portion of the INO National 15 16 Forest within the county of Mono County. 17 And the private lands that are within the 18 project are primarily held by Southern California Edison. 19 And the main water body is Mill Creek that is dammed up by the Lundy Dam and the creation of the lake there. So Lundy 20 21 Dam itself and the lake as I said, is fairly near the headwaters of Mill Creek 73 acre reservoir. 22 The powerhouse downstream of the lake is a three 23 megawatt powerhouse the flow line, the penstock connecting 24 25 the Lundy Lake and the powerhouse. So it's just a single

1 flow line with a pen stock and the single powerhouse. And 2 then below the powerhouse we have the structure called the 3 splitterbox, which manages flows to the water right holders 4 either going over to the Wilson system or back over to Mill 5 Creek.

The operations at Lundy are driven by the 6 7 adjudicated water rights. We SCE passes the water through the powerhouse and then delivers the water to the water 8 right holders through the varying pieces of infrastructure. 9 The return ditch, the Wilson system there at the 10 11 splitterbox. And then there's also another ditch that delivers water over to Mono County, which is the upper 12 Conway Ditch that we participate in removing that water over 13 14 there when they ask us to, just because the gate there is right within the tail race. 15

16 And if you guys were out there today, you, you 17 saw that actually in action we're currently moving water over in Upper Conway. And so we were able to see that that 18 19 gate drop down and diverting that water. There is also a ditch called the Adair Ditch, which is an old historic ditch 20 21 that provides water over to the water right holders over on the Wilson side. If we ever have to take the powerhouse 22 23 completely offline and we're not able to bypass any water through there, that old historic ditch can be utilized to 24 fulfill those water rights. 25

1 This is just a quick little schematic of all the 2 things that we've been talking about. This just puts it all on one page and kind of this cartoon character here, but it 3 does show all the different points of operation with the 4 reservoir at the top. And the three, four actually 5 discharge points that can come out of the bottom of the dam. 6 That farmer's gate that sits right in the middle of the dam 7 that can be operated just above the elevation that it 8 mentioned in the video there. 9

Water can also go over the spillway and really 10 11 high water years. When the lot of water's coming into the lake, we try to manage to keep things out of spill. But 12 oftentimes it will spill anyway, even if we have water going 13 out of the farmer's gate, the water can go over the 14 spillway. We also utilize the rock drop valve, which we 15 also saw in operation today, that to move water that needs 16 to be delivered in the Mill Creek, that for whatever 17 18 reason, not able to go through the return ditch, we'll 19 utilize that rock drop valve if it's at a quantity that that valve can handle. 20

21 And then we also have the minimum instream flow 22 valve that is continuously set to deliver the one CFS 23 minimum instream flow requirement that the license currently 24 requires. On the powerhouse side water travels to the 25 powerhouse, turns the generators from there, it goes into

the tail race. It can be diverted to go over to Upper 1 2 Conway as I mentioned earlier. If Mono County asks us to do that, we will do that. 3 Otherwise, all the water goes down to the 4 5 splitterbox and then it gets earmarked to go to the individual water right holders, the water right holders that 6 want their Water Mill Creek. It comes through the return 7 ditch on the Wilson side. It goes the other way through a 8 Langemann gate up there at the splitterbox and gets 9 delivered out into the Wilson system. 10 11 There's also a depiction of that, a dare ditch that can move water directly from Mill Creek into Wilson 12 just below the splitterbox. Again, in times when the 13 powerhouse, we can't bypass any water that just essentially 14 keeps the Wilson system with some water in it. As I 15 mentioned, the water rights are kind of the driving force 16 17 behind all the operations. 18 Those water rights were adjudicated in Mono 19 County Superior Court in November 30th, 1914. They predate that many of those water rights were established back in the 20 21 18100s, but they were actually formally adjudicated in 1914. And SCE has a non-consumptive, right? It's just a pass 22 through for us. We just use the water to generate 23 electricity, and then we move the water onto those water 24 25 right holders.

1 Just to get a sense of what we're talking about. 2 With all the water rights it's not just a simple single quantity type scenario. There's 11 different water rights 3 that are held in priority order, meaning they get fulfilled 4 in those priorities up to 74.6 CFS. Each one has an 5 individual quantity associated with that priority. And so 6 if you look at the different water right holders you'll 7 notice that some of them, like Mono County, has multiple 8 water rights at multiple priorities. 9

So that has to be kept track of, which we do 10 11 through using a Excel based tool that kind of tracks this for us, and that helps us to make sure that we deliver the 12 water to the water right holder in the appropriate 13 quantities based upon this table, which is in that 14 adjudication that I mentioned earlier. I think we saw some 15 16 of these milestones already, but throwing them out there, again lots of activity going on between now and the end of 17 18 this process.

19 This is going to be a multi-year process. We're 20 looking forward to getting things kicked off. And again, 21 these dates, I don't think you need to memorize anything. 22 There's plenty of places they're listed, but lots of 23 opportunity to get engaged in the process add information to 24 any of any of these milestones as they take place. Any 25 questions on just general Lundy operations type questions?

1	All right. I guess we'll turn it back over to you, Jess.
2	MS. FEFER: Sounds good.
3	MR. WOODHALL: Thanks again, everyone.
4	MR. SIDIBE: All right.
5	MS. FEFER: Sure.
6	MR. SIDIBE: You got that?
7	MS. FEFER: Yeah. All righty. All right.
8	Thanks Matt for going through that. Okay. And now I am
9	just going to jump into the preliminary resource issues that
10	were identified in scoping document one. And so what I'm
11	going to do is I'm just going to go through each of these
12	resources and what those preliminary issues might be, and if
13	you have comments or questions about that specific resource,
14	I will open it up for each resource. So just go ahead and
15	keep your comments to each resource that we're on, and then
16	we'll have time to comment more generally in the end.
17	So just for lack of kind of a better way of
18	doing this, I am just going to read the slide to you. So
19	geology and soil resources effects of continued project
20	operation on shoreline erosion and sediment transport
21	downstream of Mill Creek potential effects of sediment
22	movement from or within Deer Creek to the project shorelines
23	and stream banks along Mill Creek and effects of Hill slope
24	erosion downstream of Lundy Lake and Deer Creek. Any
25	comments or additions to potential impacts related to

1 geology and soil resources? 2 MR. ANDERSON: I'm going to make a comment. This is Finley Anderson with Kleinschmidt on behalf of 3 Southern California Edison. And I just wanted to comment 4 that I think the way the second bullet is phrased regarding 5 deer Creek implies that the Deer Creek is part of the 6 project, and it's part of the project description. It is in 7 fact outside the FERC boundary. It enters the Mill Creek 8 below the minimum Instream flow point and is in fact a 9 pretty substantial source of sediment to Mill Creek. So in 10 11 terms of a scoping document too, I think we'd be looking for a little refinement of that bullet point. 12 13 MS. FEFER: Okay. Thank you. All righty. Water resources effects of continued project operation on 14 water quality in the project bypass reached and downstream 15 16 of the powerhouse effects and continued project operation on water quality in Lundy Lake and effects of continued project 17 18 operation on downstream water rights and users, any 19 additional water resources potential impacts. 20 All righty. Moving on to aquatic. Effects of 21 continued project operation on fish habitat and fish 22 resources in the project impoundment bypass reach and downstream of the powerhouse effects of fish entrainment at 23 the Lundy powerhouse on fish resources in the project area. 24 25 Effects of continued project operation on fish stranding

effects of project water diversion and instream flow on fish 1 2 habitat in the project bypass reach and effects of continued operation on aquatic invertebrates downstream of the Lundy 3 Dam. Any additional potential impacts to aquatic 4 resources? 5 All righty. Moving on to terrestrial. Effects 6 7 of continued project operation and maintenance on special status botanical resources. Effects of the introduction and 8 or spread of invasive plant populations potentially 9 occurring due to maintenance activities effects of continued 10 11 operation and maintenance on special status wildlife species and effects of continued operation and maintenance, 12 13 including vegetation management and herbicide use on native vegetation and wildlife game species, and the special 14 status species identified in CEEs pad, including Indian 15 national Forest, species of conservation concern and nesting 16 migratory bird species. Any additional terrestrial impacts? 17 18 Yes. 19 MR. ANDERSON: Your name and affiliation. MS. WRAGG: Oh, sure. Haley Wragg Lundy Lake 20 21 Resort. I already shared this briefly with Edison earlier today, but we have observed in the last five years, 22 especially during the drought season 2020 through 2021, 2022 23 that when the lake is really low and we have exposed lake 24 25 bed and mud some invasive plant species are really taking

control of the area, specifically Mullein. 1 2 It's comparable to like walking through a cornfield of Mullein. And unfortunately over the years, 3 with dry years and needing to of course deliver water to the 4 water holders all those combinations it's spread through the 5 entire canyon and it's extremely hard to remove. It's not 6 just on the west end by the resort, it's on the east side, 7 it's at the canyons at this point. 8 So just a concern for mitigation. Especially 9 when the lake is low and we know it's going to be low we 10 11 know that Mullein is going to be there. I also am not a botanist or a fish specialist, but through like really short 12 research Mullein was originally introduced to the Americas 13 to actually kill fish in water populations. 14 15 They would take it and grind up the seeds and to poison the fish and kill them in a water source. So the 16 fact that that's in the water bed is really concerning. And 17 18 obviously we did not see a lot of it today because we have a 19 very full year. And hopefully that will continue, but for drought years, it's just something to pay attention to. And 20 21 I would love to partner with community and Edison and whoever to help get rid of that at one point slowly but 22 surely. Yeah. Thank you. 23 MS. FEFER: Great. Thank you for your comment. 24 We'd love to see it on the record too. All right. Thank 25

you. All right. So for threatened and endangered species 1 effects of continued project operation and maintenance 2 activities on species designated as federally threatened, 3 4 endangered proposed or candidates for listing and designated critical habitat proposed and final under the Endangered 5 Species Act. I don't have those listed out here, but they 6 are in scoping document one and the pad. So any additional 7 impacts to threaten an endangered species? 8 All righty. Recreation resources. Affects 9 continued project operation and maintenance on recreation 10 11 resources and adequacy of existing recreation facilities to meet current and future recreation demand. Yes, I'll give 12 13 you the mic again. 14 MS. WRAGG: Okay. This one's a bit long. Sorry, I have some notes. 15 MS. FEFER: No worries. 16 MS. WRAGG: I just want to enter it into the 17 18 record. My name's Haley Wragg. I'm with Lundy Lake Resort. I'm certified in wild end resources and forestry, and also 19 I'm a fourth generation Lundy lover. So it makes me really 20 21 happy to see everyone come together to discuss such a precious and like beloved place, which is Lundy. Lundy Lake 22 Resort resides on the west end of the lake. 23 So when we took our tour today, and when we look 24 25 at the maps, that's the boat launch side. We have a

fabulous boat launch there that has lots of public use. 1 However they're not sufficient public resources to take care 2 of human waste and trash on that side of the lake. When we 3 compare the east and west ends of the lake, you'll notice 4 that there's a large difference. 5 There's just simply no recreational resources 6 7 other than the boat launch. On that side of the lake, there's no public restrooms no bathroom, no trash to support 8 the FERC public zone. And when you look at section 5.8.4 in 9 the pad, I was concerned to see that there was no like 10 11 future plans to be able to maintain the existing day use rate and also address future rates in a post COVID world, 12 and also with our neighbors in Yosemite throttling the 13 number of visitors that can come into the park every year. 14 We're seeing a lot of overflow in neighboring 15 areas, Bridgeport, Virginia, Lundy June Lake. And so that's 16 putting a lot of pressure on the existing areas, including 17 18 the west end of Lundy Lake. Currently, when the public goes 19 to use the west side of the lake and use the boat launch, the nearest public restroom is either one mile west which is 20 21 up the road on Lundy Lake Road in the Indian National Forest, where there is a restroom at the Trailhead or one 22 mile East which is where the dam is. 23 And that's just simply unreasonable to ask of 24 people. And because of that, we're having you know, some 25

issues. Best practice would be to have at a point of 1 2 interest like that something between three and 500 feet away. And that hasn't been happening. The challenges, you 3 know, that we're seeing here are not like solo just Lundy, 4 obviously it's not specific to Lundy, but I do feel it's my 5 duty as the boots on the ground on the west side to just let 6 you know what's going on and the pressures that we're 7 8 feeling.

My priority will always be keeping Lundy clean 9 and open to all and for generations to enjoy it. And that's 10 11 why in emergency response responses last year, Lundy Lake Resort, in partnership with Sierra Septic has been 12 13 sponsoring a public use Porta-potty on the west side of the lake. But that's just financially a burden for us. And not 14 15 completely, you know, permanent, so we're just looking for a sustainable solution here. You know, for years this has 16 been an issue, but it really came to a peak in 2023. 17 18 In 2023, we had the 100 year winter, and many

19 facilities, including Lend Lake Resort, were not able to 20 open on time, but creators were there and wanting to play, 21 and because of that, we had significant trespass issues on 22 private property, not just Edison on private lands, people 23 breaking into buildings to use restrooms that were not 24 hooked up to water. Significant human waste along the lake 25 bed and the edge as well as trash and fishing line.

1 And as I mentioned, as a community, we came 2 together, Lundy Lake Resort partnered with Sierra Septic. In response, I've communicated to Edison, the Forest Service 3 and Mono County about the issue. And we also have many good 4 Samaritans and that live in Mono City and Vining that always 5 make an effort to clean up when they're recreating 6 7 responsibly, and we're really grateful to them. 8 But just personally it's my opinion that like, ultimately we need a support system to give the day use 9 recreations an option to do the right thing. And my request 10 11 would be during fishing season when that west side of the lake is open to public access that there could possibly be a 12 porta-potty sponsored or a pit toilet. I realize that that 13 might not be realistic, and that is okay. 14 A porta-potty would be fine. Trash service and 15 16 possibly a fishing line recycling tube, which is a new best 17 practice that I'd actually love to see on both the east and 18 the west side of the lake. If that's an opportunity. And I 19 just want to reiterate that while Lundy Lake Resort is prepared and we do provide services for our resort patrons, 20 21 the public use rate that we're seeing, especially within the 22 FERC public use boundary is spilling over into our 23 neighboring owners, both under license and under private 24 ownership. 25 And anything that we can do would be great. And

I really hope that these simple solutions will be earnestly 1 2 considered in the licensing process. So thank you so much. MS. FEFER: Great. Thank you. All righty. 3 Land use and aesthetics. Effects of continued project 4 operation and maintenance on land use and effects of 5 continued project operation and maintenance on the aesthetic 6 quality of the project area. Does anyone have any effects 7 that they would like to add to land use and aesthetics? 8 All righty. Moving on to cultural and tribal 9 resources. Effects of continued project operation and 10 11 maintenance on historic or archeological resources and traditional cultural properties that may be eligible for 12 inclusion in the National Register of historic places or on 13 other areas or places of religious, cultural and traditional 14 importance to Indian tribes. Does anyone have any impacts 15 that they would like to add to cultural and tribal 16 17 resources? 18 All right. Socioeconomics. Effects of 19 continued project operation and flow diversions on agriculture and other consumptive uses in Mono city. 20 21 Effects of any reduction in the amount of water available for irrigation on agricultural production and pasture land 22 for livestock in Mono Lake watershed. Any additional 23 impacts to socioeconomics that you'd like to add? 24 All righty. Environmental justice. Effects of 25

project operation and maintenance of identified 1 2 environmental justice communities. Any additional impacts? All right. So cumulative effects which I'm sure all of you 3 know, but just as a reminder, it's the impact of the 4 environment that results from incremental impact of the 5 action when added to other past, present and reasonably 6 7 foreseeable future actions. 8 So we identified that water and aquatic resources could be cumulatively affected by the continued 9 operation and maintenance of the laundry project. Does 10 11 anyone else think that any other resources should be included as a potential cumulative effect in SD2? All 12 right. So with that, that is sort of the end of our sort 13 of resource issue list that we had in scoping document one. 14 15 16 Thank you so much for the comments. We'll 17 definitely take those into consideration. Other sort of 18 information that we are requesting from you all in your 19 participation in this process. Section seven of the SD1 that's scoping document one includes a list of the 20 21 comprehensive plans on file with the commission that are 22 relevant to the Lundy project. 23 And as part of scoping, we would request that agencies review the list and file any new comprehensive 24 25 plans that we could add. We also ask that any entity that

is not already on the mailing list to be added to the 1 2 official mailing list, there are instructions for that in section eight of SD1. And then of course, any significant 3 environmental issues that should be addressed in the EA. 4 5 We appreciate your comments here and would also super appreciate if you put those on the record as well. 6 7 And the way that you would do that, it's not super helpful that I have a QR code up here, I realize, but I also have 8 the same QR code as a handout over there. And it just takes 9 you to fork online for where you can comment. You can also 10 11 subscribe using the project number P1390 and then have anything that goes on the public record come to your email. 12 13 And that can all happen in FERC online. 14 And like I said, there's a handout over there that will give you instructions and I think many of you're 15 16 probably pretty versed in it, but you're first scoping comments, as I've mentioned already are due June 24th. So 17 just sort of keep that in mind. And then after the scoping 18 19 process, we're moving into the study process where we're 20 sort of putting together what studies SCE will be 21 conducting to inform this relicense. And so this is just a reminder. I know you've 22 23 seen these dates a bunch of times now, but you will have opportunity to comment on what those studies are going to 24 25 look like. You can do study requests that, sorry, SCE will

file their proposed study plan in August 6th, and then 1 you'll have an opportunity to comment on that, including any 2 study requests. 3 4 And then SCE will update to a revised study plan 5 based on those comments, and you'll be able to comment on that as well. And the study requests are pretty specific. 6 You know, your comments, go ahead and say whatever you want 7 in the study requests if you're requesting a new study. We 8 have some pretty specific asks of you to help us understand 9 what you're asking for. And so that we can properly do our 10 11 analysis. And so I'm just going to read through these and sort of what those requirements are for our study requests. 12 13 14 So we ask that you describe the goals and 15 objectives of each study proposal and the information to be obtained. If applicable, explain the relevant resource 16 management goals of the agencies or Indian tribes with 17 18 jurisdiction over the resource to be studied. If you as a 19 requester are not a resource agency, explain any relevant public interest considerations in regard to the proposed 20 21 study. 22 Describe existing information concerning the 23 subject of the study proposal and the need for additional information. Explain the nexus between project operations 24 25 and effects on the resource to be studied and how the study

results would inform the development of license 1 2 requirements. And these last two, six and seven seem to just be the toughest for people. 3 So just pay attention to these and make sure you 4 5 get that in there when you file a study request. Explain how any proposed study methodology is consistent with 6 7 general accepted practice. So if you have certain methods 8 you want us to use, let us know why. And then also describe considerations of level of effort and cost as applicable and 9 why the proposed alternative studies would not be sufficient 10 11 to meet the stated information. 12 So methods and cost. Don't forget about those people. Forget about those a lot. And with that that's all 13 14 I've got so we can open it up to any more comments or discussion if you have that or questions. And feel free to 15 reach out to me. My contact information is on the screen. 16 17 Any additional comments or questions? MR. TAYLOR: I have one. 18 19 MS. FEFER: All righty. We'll get the mic to 20 you before you start. 21 MR. TAYLOR: Can you hear me? Has wildfire been considered? In fact, not just the effects, but like 22 23 infrastructure? I'm just curious. I didn't see anything about wildfire. 24 MR. ANDERSON: Could you just state your name? 25

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1
                MR. TAYLOR: Oh, I'm Alan Taylor. I live in
2
   Mono City.
                MS. FEFER: Okay. Thank you. It is not in our
3
     SD1, so we will take that into consideration for SD2.
 4
                MR. TAYLOR: Yeah. I would think PG and E might
 5
 6
    have some information for you.
                MS. FEFER: Okay. Thank you.
7
                MR. TAYLOR: Forest Service.
 8
                MS. FEFER: Sure. Okay. Thank you. Any other
9
10
    comments or questions? All righty. Well, seeing none,
     just a reminder to make sure you've signed in if you haven't
11
12
     already. And just thanks so much for being here and if
    you're able to make it to the site visit, thanks for
13
     spending the whole day with us. Yeah, that's all I got.
14
                MR. SIDIBE: Thanks Jess.
15
16
               (Whereupon the above proceedings concluded at
    2:47 p.m.)
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
```

```
CERTIFICATE OF OFFICIAL REPORTER
 1
 2
 3
                This is to certify that the attached proceeding
    before the FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION in the
 4
     Matter of:
 5
 6
               Name of Proceeding:
 7
                Lundy Project
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15
                Project No.: P-1390
16
                Place:
                             Lee Vining, CA
                              Wednesday, May 15, 2024
17
                Date:
     was held as herein appears, and that this is the original
18
     transcript thereof for the file of the Federal Energy
19
     Regulatory Commission, and is a full correct transcription
20
21
     of the proceedings.
22
23
                                    Bala Chandran
24
25
                                    Official Reporter
```

## ERRATA SHEET

## DEPOSITION OF: 05\_14\_2024 Lundy Scoping (P-1390)

DATE OF DEPOSITION:

PAGE 1 of 1 pages

Page	Line	Correction
23	4, 8, 11	Reference to Ms. Washington should be changed to Ms. Kipp.

Document Content(s)
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051424Lundy.txt
051524Scoping.docx
051524Scoping.txt103
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