

can assist in a determination of eligibility for compensation.

The superintendent will make a written determination on eligibility for compensation based on the information provided by the applicant. The superintendent will also make a written determination on the amount of compensation to be paid to an eligible applicant. The amount of compensation will depend on the compensation formula and options selected by the applicant and—as appropriate—the fair market values of the Dungeness crab commercial fishing permit and the fishing vessel and gear used in the fishery. The Act requires payment within six months from the date of application. If an application for compensation is denied, the superintendent will provide the applicant the reasons for the denial in writing. Any applicant adversely affected by the superintendent's determination may appeal to the regional director, Alaska region, within 60 days. Applicants must substantiate the basis of their disagreement with the superintendent's determination. The regional director will provide an opportunity for an informal oral hearing. After consideration of written materials and oral hearing, if any, and within a reasonable time, the regional director will affirm, reverse, or modify the superintendent's determination and set forth in writing the basis for the decision. A copy of the decision will be forwarded promptly to the applicant and will constitute final agency action.

Dated: June 8, 1999.

**Robert D. Barbee,**

*Regional Director, Alaska.*

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BILLING CODE 4310-70-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Reclamation

#### Placer County Water Agency American River Pump Station Project, Placer County, California

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement/environmental impact report (EIS/EIR) and notice of scoping meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, as amended, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) intend to

prepare a joint EIS/EIR for development of a year-round water supply diversion of up to 35,000 acre-feet annually (AFA) from PCWA's Middle Fork Project on the American River (MFP) with water entitlements from the North Fork of the American River. The proposed project, which is subject to review during the EIS/EIR process, consists of constructing a diversion and intake structure, pump station and associated facilities including: pipelines, access roads, power lines, and safety features. The proposed location of the diversion structure is approximately 150 feet upstream of the Auburn Dam bypass tunnel.

Reclamation and PCWA are negotiating a contract that will define the terms and conditions upon which ownership of the facilities would be transferred to PCWA, including responsibilities for operation, maintenance, and related activities for the project.

**DATES:** A public scoping meeting to help identify environmental concerns to be addressed in the EIS/EIR will be held on July 8, 1999, at 7:00pm at the Placer County Water Agency (see address below). Written comments on the scope of the EIS/EIR should be sent to Reclamation at the address below by July 30, 1999. Requests for special services at the meeting must be received no later than July 2, 1999 (see special services section for more details).

**ADDRESSES:** The scoping meeting will be held at Placer County Water Agency, American River Room, 144 Ferguson Road, Auburn, California.

Please send written comments on the scope of the EIS/EIR to Mr. Rod Hall, Environmental Specialist, Bureau of Reclamation, 7794 Folsom Dam Road, Folsom, California 95630-1799, by July 30, 1999. Please include your name and address so that Reclamation can contact you directly if clarification is needed.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Rod Hall, telephone: (916) 989-7279.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

PCWA provides municipal and agricultural water to cities and landowners in western Placer County. PCWA holds appropriative rights to divert 120,000 AFA from the MFP under water right permit numbers 13856 and 13858, as authorized by the State Water Resources Control Board. In the late 1960's, PCWA built a 50 cubic feet per second (cfs) pump station on the North Fork of the American River to convey its MFP water supplies to the Auburn Ravine Tunnel for delivery to PCWA's service area. However, before pump

station operations began, PCWA's pump station was removed by Reclamation, under a Land Purchase Contract as supplemented (Contract). Under certain terms and conditions, the Contract requires Reclamation to make water deliveries to PCWA. Reclamation has met these water delivery obligations through installation and removal of a seasonal pump station on an as-needed basis since 1977. Also, during initial construction of Auburn Dam, the river was diverted through a bypass tunnel away from the previous pump station site.

PCWA also has a contractual entitlement of Yuba/Bear River water supplies, under an agreement with Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E). PCWA uses MFP supplies from the American River to supplement Yuba/Bear supplies and to provide backup supplies when PG&E's Yuba/Bear system is not operating.

Beginning in 1990, PCWA has required access to its American River supply every year to meet its system demands, and Reclamation has responded with the seasonal re-installation and removal of the pump station. In addition, PCWA's service area needs for water have exceeded the 100,000 AFA supply of the PG&E Yuba/Bear system, and the demand is projected to increase. By the early 2000's, PCWA will require access to its American River supply beyond the seasonal (July through October) operating period of the pumps. The seasonal pumps, however, have become increasingly expensive to install and maintain, and are limited in use to the summer and fall. High winter and spring riverflows sometimes inundate the site of the seasonal pump station and pipeline, rendering them unreliable for water diversions. Further, because of pumping capacity limitations (50 cfs), timing of seasonal diversions, demand patterns, and applicable permits and other requirements, the maximum diversion capacity for the seasonal pumps is approximately 20,000 AFA. As a result, Reclamation can no longer provide PCWA with a reliable water supply to meet PCWA's system demands in accordance with the Contract.

#### Alternatives Being Considered

In addition to the upstream diversion alternative described above, the EIS/EIR will include evaluation of a "no project" alternative of continuing the present seasonal pump station operation. Also evaluated will be a flood-proofing alternative, which involves raising the existing pump station to a higher elevation to reduce flooding risks and

allow Reclamation to meet its obligations under the Contract. In addition, an evaluation will be made of a mid-channel alternative of setting a permanent diversion intake structure within the currently de-watered portion of the river channel. The mid-channel alternative includes restoration of the de-watered river channel and closure of the bypass tunnel. The other alternatives do not include closure of the bypass tunnel, but would not preclude its possible closure in the future.

#### Environmental Issues

The EIS/EIR will address potential impacts to the environment that may result from construction, operation and maintenance of the project. PCWA and Reclamation have identified standard best management practices as part of the project, thereby minimizing potential construction-related impacts. These will also be discussed in the EIS/EIR.

In addition, the EIS/EIR will address potential impacts to the area watercourses associated with PCWA's exercise of its American River water entitlement. Historically, only a portion of PCWA's current entitlements have been diverted from the American River. Hydrologic impact analyses will consider the effects of PCWA's increasing its entitlement diversion under varying hydrologic conditions and the impacts of the diversions on the potentially affected hydrologic system, including the North Fork of the American River, Folsom Reservoir, lower American River, and other Central Valley Project (CVP) system components.

Potential impacts to water supplies, fisheries and other aquatic resources, wetland and riparian communities, special-status species, recreational activities, and flood control will be assessed. Also addressed will be growth inducement as a potential secondary impact associated with PCWA's exercise of its existing entitlements within the service area. The cumulative impacts of the proposed project and other ongoing and anticipated future projects on the environment, specifically upstream and downstream American River resources, will be examined in the EIS/EIR.

No adverse impacts to Indian Trust Assets are anticipated with this project. No disproportionately high or adverse human health or environmental impacts to minority or low-income communities are anticipated with this project.

#### Environmental Process

The lead agencies began evaluation of the environmental effects of the proposed project with an Environmental

Assessment/Initial Study (EA/IS). They also held several public meetings for the EA/IS. Evaluation of this and other proposals within the CVP raised concerns of significant cumulative impacts on resources of the lower American River and other portions of the hydrologic system. In response to these concerns and potential significant impacts, the lead agencies decided to prepare an EIS/EIR. A draft version of the EIS/EIR is expected to be available for review and comment in the fall of 1999.

#### Special Services

If special services are required at the meeting, please contact Ms. Gay Howe at (530) 823-4889. Please notify Ms. Howe as far in advance of the meeting as possible, but no later than July 2, 1999, so that she will have time to secure the needed services. If a request cannot be honored, the requestor will be notified.

Dated: June 11, 1999.

**Kirk C. Rodgers,**

*Acting Regional Director.*

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#### OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION

##### Abolishment of the U.S. International Development Cooperation Agency

**AGENCY:** Overseas Private Investment Corporation.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Overseas Private Investment Corporation ("OPIC") gives notice of the abolition of the U.S. International Development Cooperation Agency ("IDCA"). Under the provisions of the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998, as contained in Public Law 105-277, IDCA was abolished, effective April 1, 1999.

**DATES:** Effective June 18, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Eli Landy, Department of Legal Affairs, 202-336-8418, eland@opic.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the provisions of the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998, as contained in Public Law 105-277, IDCA was abolished, effective April 1, 1999.

Elsewhere in this issue of the **Federal Register** OPIC has amended chapter VII of title 22 of the Code of Federal Regulations to delete the reference to IDCA. The abolition of IDCA does not affect the status and validity of OPIC

regulations, directives, rulings, policies; they continue in effect.

**Charles D. Toy,**

*Vice President and General Counsel.*

[FR Doc. 99-15503 Filed 6-17-99; 8:45 am]

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#### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

##### Immigration and Naturalization Service

[INS No. 1961-98]

##### Important Announcement for Class Members of American Baptist Churches v. Thornburgh (ABC) Regarding Change of Address Notification

**AGENCY:** Immigration and Naturalization Service, Justice.

**ACTION:** Notice Regarding Change of Address Notifications for ABC Class Members.

**SUMMARY:** This notice informs class members of *American Baptist Churches v. Thornburgh*, 760 F. Supp. 796 (N.D. Cal. 1991) (ABC) of a change in procedures for notifying the Immigration and Naturalization Service (Service) of an address change. It requests ABC class members to submit change of address notifications directly to the Asylum Offices that have jurisdiction over their asylum applications, rather than to the ABC Project Post Office Box in Washington, DC. This action will allow the Service to expedite action in response to a change in address and will be more convenient for the Service and ABC class members. However, the Service will continue to process change of address notifications sent to the ABC Project Post Office Box to ensure that Service records are updated for those class members who are unaware of this change in procedure.

**DATES:** This notice is effective June 18, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Joanna Ruppel, International Affairs, Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service, 425 I Street NW, ULLICO Bldg., third floor, Washington, DC 20536, telephone number (202) 305-2663.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Why Is the Service Requesting That Address Notifications No Longer Be Sent to the ABC Post Office Box?

The ABC Project Post Office Box in Washington, DC, has provided a centralized location for ABC class members to submit change of address forms. This was necessary in the past