



SOUTH FEATHER WATER & POWER AGENCY

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Kathy Petersen, Power Division Manager

DATE: October 17, 2006

RE: General Information (regarding matters not scheduled on agenda)
10/24/06 Board of Directors Meeting

Operations

Attached is the Storage and Generation Report for September 2006. Also attached is a chart showing the year-to-date precipitation at Forbestown Headquarters. Our first measurable rain came on October 5 (0.33 inches).

Maintenance Projects

Annual Outages

We extended the annual outage of Woodleaf Powerhouse until September 30 due to problems with the air vents on the penstock not seating properly. The governor was also not responding correctly. These problems were solved, and upon returning the powerhouse to service, Scott Underhill complemented Henry Reeson on the calibration work he had done, noting that he had never known the powerhouse to parallel so smoothly before.

We altered somewhat the schedule of the Miners Ranch Canal outage due to rain. The crew turned the water back into the canal on Thursday October 5, to refill Miners Ranch Reservoir, then took the canal out of service again the next day and worked through the weekend while conditions were dry. The majority of the canal's upstream bank was brushed, and leaks in the bottom near the McCabe Creek siphon were patched. My compliments to the large Water Division crew who assisted with the work this year – they accomplished a great deal of work in a fairly short time period. The canal was returned to service on October 12.

General Information

FERC Fees

FERC's accounting office has continued to review and change its past bills for administrative charges submitted by other federal agencies. After paying two bills last month that covered charges for 2002 through 2006, we (along with many other licensees) received notice that there were some additional errors in the calculations for 2003. Some people got credits; however we were billed an additional \$1,095.56.

DSOD Investigation of the Ponderosa Spill gates

The Division of Safety of Dams provided us with a report of their conclusions regarding the vibration and harmonics at Ponderosa Dam when water was spilling over the top of the gates. They stated that the "gate vibrations observed are probably not an immediate dam safety issue, but the gates need to be inspected for fatigue damage."¹ They recommended against spill over the top of the gates until we have an opportunity to test a solution that directs the overflow beyond the downstream girder. They also suggested stiffening the gate to prevent the skinplate vibration that occurs when water first begins to overtop the gates.

We will be inspecting the gates after November 1 when we open them for winter operations. The current operating order for Ponderosa is to adjust the spill gates open as needed to prevent spill over the gates; this instruction has also been passed along to PG&E.

Relicensing Field Trip

I accompanied several resource agency representatives on a field trip on September 29. We were looking for potential problem sites identified by the Forest Service. At Little Grass Valley, we visited a section of meadow near Horse Camp where wave action has begun to cut away some of the soil when the reservoir is full. We believe this process can be stopped fairly inexpensively by placing coir logs along the shore. The visit to a section of river upstream from Golden Trout Crossing did not yield any indication of problematic riparian encroachment that the Forest Service thought existed, although it was certainly an interesting trip that only a few fishermen are likely to make. The photo may give you an appreciation for the scenery in this area (although it doesn't convey how cold the water was to wade in despite air temperatures in the 80's).



¹ Mark Schultz, Ponderosa Gate Vibration Analysis, August 25, 2006.

**SOUTH FEATHER WATER AND POWER
SOUTH FEATHER POWER PROJECT
September 2006**

STORAGE

RESERVOIR	MAXIMUM CAPACITY	STORAGE ON 9-30-06	STORAGE ON 9-30-05
Little Grass Valley	94,660 AF	65,910 AF	67,316 AF
Sly Creek	65,650 AF	32,132 AF	21,640 AF
Lost Creek	5,750 AF	4,750 AF	4,398 AF
Forbestown Diversion	358 AF	298 AF	297 AF
Ponderosa	4,750 AF	4,576 AF	4,357 AF
Miners Ranch	896 AF	721 AF	598 AF
TOTAL	172,064 AF	108,387 AF	98,606 AF
Slate Creek Tunnel	800 CFS	N/A CFS	N/A CFS
South Fork Tunnel	600 CFS	278 CFS	232 CFS
Miners Ranch Canal	303 CFS	49 CFS	282 CFS

MONTHLY NET GENERATION

	FOR September 2006	YEAR TO DATE ON 9-30-06	YEAR TO DATE ON 9-30-05
Woodleaf P.H.	9,025,120 KWH	281,047,570 KWH	193,279,330 KWH
Forbestown P.H.	3,898,200 KWH	127,568,610 KWH	137,471,870 KWH
Kelly Ridge P.H.	2,929,027 KWH	64,586,100 KWH	64,229,540 KWH
Sly Creek P.H.	1,120,200 KWH	45,304,400 KWH	30,070,300 KWH
TOTAL	16,972,547 KWH	518,506,680 KWH	425,051,040 KWH

South Feather Power Project - Forbestown Precipitation

