



## ***SOUTH FEATHER WATER & POWER***

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**TO: Board of Directors**

**FROM: Kathy Petersen, Power Division Manager**

**DATE: April 20, 2005**

**RE: General Information (regarding matters not scheduled on agenda)  
April 26, 2005 Board of Directors Meeting**

### **Operations**

Attached for your information is the Storage and Generation Report for March 2005. Also attached is a chart showing the precipitation accumulated through April 19. The storms that came in March and April restored us to near normal levels of precipitation, although the way in which the storms saturated the ground caused us problems at Woodleaf, as described below. The April DWR forecast now has the Feather River at 91 percent of average. The good news is that we have been able to erase all but 879 acre-feet of our refill impact account from the 2004 EWA transfer.

### **Maintenance Projects**

#### Woodleaf Transformer

I gave you an oral report at last month's meeting about the failure of the Woodleaf transformer, and am providing a photo report showing the process by which we removed the failed transformer and installed the replacement, in conjunction with this month's report. What particularly impressed me about this effort was the professionalism, efficiency and cooperation demonstrated by our Power Division crew and the several PG&E General Construction crews who were involved in the replacement project. The fact that it took only 16 days to bring the powerhouse back on line after a failure of that magnitude spoke volumes about the level of commitment the crew had to getting the job done, and I am extremely proud of what they accomplished.

## Woodleaf Powerhouse Landslide

A week after the powerhouse came back on line from the transformer failure, it had to be shutdown again, this time because of a landslide. On Saturday afternoon April 9, 2005, a section of hillside immediately above the Woodleaf Powerhouse yard gave way and slid into the yard, knocking over a power pole containing the 2.3 kV circuit to the Forbestown dam and the penstock control house. Nick Brandt was the operator on shift, and he wisely left the powerhouse and contacted John



Davis, who contacted me. On Sunday, geotechnical engineer Bill Page from PG&E came to the site to evaluate the stability of the penstock, and was concerned that further failure might be possible, so we took steps to drain the penstock. Director Jim Edwards assisted us in his role as a PG&E troubleman, by cutting the downed wires out of the way.

By Monday, a team of geologists assembled and began assessing the cause of slope failure and mapping the slope above the powerhouse and entrance road. On

Friday a group of experts gathered to discuss the likely mode of failure and determine what it would take to bring the powerhouse back on line while safely mitigating the slide. I will be sharing with you the slide show that was shown at that meeting, and will discuss where we are in the process of bringing the facility back on line.

## **General Information**

### 2006-2007 Budget

Looking at the attached forecast budget for 2006 and 2007 may cause some sticker shock. The primary cost driver will be the modifications required to handle the probable maximum flood. The budget was reviewed by the Hydro Committee on April 18, and was forwarded to PG&E on April 22. Once we have negotiated a final amount with PG&E, I will bring the budget to the full Board for approval.