



FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
Office of Energy Projects

Division of Dam Safety and Inspections – San Francisco Regional Office

September 23, 2025

In reply refer to:
Project No. 6378-CA

VIA FERC Service

Mr. Ara Azhderian
General Manager
Monterey County Water Resources Agency
P.O. Box 930
Salinas, CA 93902-0930

Re: 2025 Dam Safety Inspection Follow-up

Dear Mr. Azhderian:

On August 26, 2025, Mr. Mynul Chowdhury and Mr. Vinh Tran inspected the Nacimiento Project, FERC No. 6378. The project features were inspected, and no conditions were found that would require immediate remedial action to protect the safety of the project.

Nacimiento Dam (FED ID CA00812) is in Poor condition based on the National Inventory of Dams (NID) Condition Assessment definitions. You are currently in the design process to address deficiencies at the spillway plunge pool and have implemented Interim Risk Reduction Measures (IRRM) that will remain in place until the modifications are completed. We did not observe any conditions during the inspection that would change this Condition Assessment rating nor warrant the implementation of additional IRRMs at this time.

Based on observations made and discussions held during the inspection, we have the following follow-up items that require your attention:

1. During the inspection, it was observed that the battery bank inside the powerhouse was not secured by a double containment. A double containment system for the battery bank should be installed to prevent potential chemical leaks from the batteries from entering the sumps of the powerhouse.

2. We have not received the following overdue items as of the date of this letter, although discussions during the inspection indicated that progress has been made on preparing some of the items. If you continue to be unresponsive in filing the required items, this matter may be referred to DHAC for investigation of non-compliance with your license.

- a. Dam Safety Surveillance and Monitoring Reports (DSSMRs) for the year 2023 and 2024.
- b. Updated Owners Dam Safety Program (ODSP).
- c. Updated Supporting Technical Information Document (STID).
- d. EAP Status Reports for the year 2023 and 2024

Note that if we identify any additional items requiring follow-up action during preparation of our Dam Safety Inspection Report, we will contact you by phone and/or email and subsequently issue another letter.

Within 30 days of the date of this letter, address Comment No. 1 or provide a plan and schedule to address the comment. The items in Comment No. 2 are overdue and require immediate submittal upon receipt of this letter. File your submittal using our eFiling system at <https://www.ferc.gov/ferc-online/overview>. When eFiling, select Hydro: Dam Safety; San Francisco Regional Office from the eFiling menu. The cover page of the filing must indicate that the material was eFiled. For assistance with eFiling, contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, (866) 208-3676 (toll free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY).

We appreciate your cooperation in this aspect of our dam safety program. If you have any questions, contact Mr. Mynul Chowdhury at (415) 369-3313.

Sincerely,

Frank L Blackett, PE

Digitally signed by Frank L Blackett,
PE

Date: 2025.09.23 10:52:41 -07'00'

Frank L. Blackett, P.E.
Regional Engineer

cc:

Erik Malvick - Division Manager
CA Dept. of Water Resources
Division of Safety of Dams
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Docket No.: P-6378

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