In the Matter of: Application for Certification of SMUD’s Cosumnes Power Plant Project  

) ) ) )  Docket No. 01-AFC-19  

Staff's Prehearing Conference Statement  

April 28, 2003

On April 18, 2003, the SMUD Cosumnes Committee (Committee) issued a Notice of 2nd Prehearing Conference for April 29, 2003. The Notice directed all parties wishing to change, add, or delete an item from the Order’s Appendix A to attend the Prehearing Conference or file and serve a Prehearing Conference Statement. Staff will attend the Prehearing Conference, but is also filing this Prehearing Conference Statement for the benefit of any parties who are not able to attend.

In general, we are in agreement with the list of topics provided in the Committee Notice. We note, however, that Air Quality staff will be available to answer questions about all of the changes to staff’s recommended Conditions of Certification filed on March 11, 2003, not just AQ-SC5. In addition, a review of the transcript indicates that the only issues that remain to be addressed in Water and Soil Resources are those that have changed as a result of the FSA – Part 3. Staff does believe there are any water issues that have changes as a result of the FSA – Part 3.

Finally, we note that in the FSA – Part 3, we indicated that the applicant must provide certain additional information on biological resources mitigation before hearings on that topic would be appropriate. However, given that the hearings are already scheduled, if the information specified in the FSA – Part 3 is not provided, staff will recommend postponing the hearings until it is
provided. Staff expects that the applicant will be able to provide the information in a timely fashion.

Date: April 28, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

-Signed Original-

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