

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
Office of Energy Projects
Division of Dam Safety and Inspections
888 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20426
(202) 502-6314 Office – (202) 219-2731 Facsimile

December 17, 2019

In reply refer to:
Project No. 5737
NATDAM No. CA00294

VIA USPS First-Class Mail

Mr. Christopher Hakes
Deputy Operating Officer
Dam Safety and Capital Delivery Division
Santa Clara Valley Water District
5750 Almaden Expressway
San Jose, CA 95118-3686

Re: Interim Risk Reduction Measures for the Anderson Dam Project

Dear Mr. Hakes:

This letter is in response to your October 31, 2019, submittal reporting the results of your re-evaluation of existing risk reduction measures for the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project. Your submittal included significant new information indicating that an earthquake with a frequency of only 100 years is expected to cause damage to the existing spillway and outlet works which would prevent normal operation of the reservoir. Additionally, the potential for embankment cracking during earthquakes, which could result in internal erosion of the dam can not be discounted. However, your submittal indicates you intend to continue with the current reservoir operations and that you do not consider additional risk reduction measures necessary.

Under 18 CFR 12.4, I am requiring you to file a plan for the implementation of interim risk reduction measures involving lowering of the reservoir to decrease the risk of downstream consequences in the event of an earthquake and/or flood event between now and the time the Seismic Retrofit Project is scheduled to begin. This plan must be filed within 14 days for review and comment by this office.

In addition, I am requiring you to prepare and submit an Emergency Response Plan which can be implemented during this winter season, rather than your projected completion date of April 2020. This Plan must be filed within 30 days.

Please contact me at (202) 502-6314 with any questions or if further discussion is needed.

Sincerely,

David E. Capka, P.E.
Director
Division of Dam Safety and
Inspections