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Placer County Water Agency Partners with the Northern California Power Agency on Key Energy Services

The Northern California Power Agency (NCPA) unanimously approved a resolution today authorizing the agency to provide a variety of power management services to the Placer County Water Agency (PCWA). These services include the scheduling and dispatch of energy generated from PCWA's hydroelectric generating facilities located on the middle fork of the American River, also known as the Middle Fork American River Project.

"This agreement brings more efficiency and cost savings to PCWA," said Einar Maisch, general manager of PCWA. "NCPA has the structure in place to effectively provide these services, and we save money by taking advantage of NCPA's economies of scale."

PCWA serves over 200,000 water customers and, on average, generates over one million megawatt hours a year. Its Middle Fork American River Project, which came online in 1967, consists of five hydroelectric generating facilities with over 220 megawatts of generating capacity.

"NCPA is a good fit for utilities with hydroelectric generation like PCWA," said Randy Howard, general manager of NCPA. "We are a not-for-profit public agency that provides similar services to our own generation that serves other publicly owned electric utilities in California. Our member utilities have pooled their resources to have NCPA provide them with a range of quality services that would be more expensive and too large for them individually."

In addition to scheduling and dispatching energy from the Middle Fork American River Project, NCPA will provide other services, including those related to certain compliance and reporting obligations that PCWA is required to meet.

"NCPA member utilities benefit greatly from the services they receive from the agency," said Carol Garcia, chair of NCPA and mayor of the City of Roseville, which owns and operates its own electric utility. "We are pleased to bring in another Northern California publicly owned utility to share in the important benefits this agency provides to consumers throughout our region."

About NCPA: Headquartered in Roseville, California, the Northern California Power Agency is a not-for-profit California joint powers agency established in 1968 that represents and helps meet the power supply needs for its 15 member utilities: the cities of Alameda, Biggs, Gridley, Healdsburg, Lodi, Lompoc, Palo Alto, Redding, Roseville, Santa Clara, and Ukiah; the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART); the Port of Oakland; the Truckee Donner Public Utility District; and the Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative.

NCPA and its member utilities have a long-standing commitment to provide California residents with an electricity supply that is reliable, affordable, and socially and environmentally responsible, and have a long tradition of investment in conservation projects. NCPA owns and manages a 700 MW portfolio of hydropower, geothermal, and natural gas projects on behalf of its members.

About PCWA: Placer County Water Agency is the primary water resource agency for Placer County, California. PCWA carries out a broad range of responsibilities including water resource planning and management, retail and wholesale supply of irrigation water and drinking water, and production of hydroelectric energy in Placer County's 1,500 square mile area. Created in 1957 under its own state legislative act entitled the "Placer County Water Agency Act," PCWA is self-governed with policy and regulatory decisions determined by an independently elected five member board of directors.

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