

LUNDY HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Southern California Edison (SCE), the licensee, owner, and operator of the Lundy Hydroelectric Project (Lundy Project), Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Project Number 1390, is beginning the relicensing process for the 3.0-megawatt (MW) facility. The Lundy Project consists of Lundy Lake, a dam, a powerhouse and the other lands, waters, and facilities necessary for operation. The Lundy Project is located on Mill Creek in Mono County, California.

All non-federal hydroelectric projects in the United States operate under licenses issued by FERC. FERC issued a 30-year license to SCE for the Lundy Project on March 3, 1999, which expires on February 28, 2029. For SCE to continue operating the Lundy Project, they must obtain a new operating license from FERC. This process requires SCE to complete a multi-year application and file a FERC license application by February 2027. The relicensing process begins with filing a Preliminary Application Document (PAD) and a Notice of Intent (NOI); SCE anticipates filing the PAD and NOI in January 2024.

Project Overview

The Lundy Project is located on the east slope of the Sierra Nevada, approximately four miles west of Mono Lake in Mono County, California. The Lundy Project occupies public lands administered by the United States Forest Service (USFS), Inyo National Forest and the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Roughly half of the Lundy Project reservoir, about one-third of the combined pipeline/penstock, two segments of Mill Creek between Lundy Dam and Mono Lake, and a section of the Mill Creek return ditch are in the Inyo National Forest. The rest of the return ditch is on land administered by BLM, while the remaining Lundy Project facilities, including the dam and powerhouse, are on non-federal land. Table 1 shows the acreage of ownership between federal and non-federal entities.

Table 1. Land Ownership within the Lundy Project Boundary

Ownership		Acreage
Federal Land		122.9
	BLM	0.9
	Forest Service	122.0
Non-Federal Land		206.5
	SCE	205.3
	Mono County	1.2

The key Lundy Project facilities include Lundy Lake, Lundy Dam, intake, a flowline, a penstock, a powerhouse, and a return ditch (Figure 1). The flowline and penstock convey water from Lundy Lake to the powerhouse. Water discharged from the powerhouse

tailrace is sent to a “splitter box,” which directs flows either to the Wilson Creek system (Wilson System) or returns water to Mill Creek via the Mill Creek Return Ditch (MCRD). The allocation between the systems is determined based on existing adjudicated water rights (Table 2).

Lundy Lake and Dam

Lundy Lake is in the headwaters of Lee Vining Creek. The earth and rock-filled dam with a concrete core wall is approximately 33 feet high and 690 feet long and impounds the 132-acre Lundy Lake. The spillway includes a 50-foot-long and 5-foot-deep notch in the concrete core wall.

Lundy Powerhouse

The Lundy Powerhouse contains two Canyon turbines; each directly connected to an Allis Chalmers generator rated at 1500kW.

Flowline/Pipeline and Penstock

The Lundy Project’s pipeline/flowline is 12,000 feet long and 48 inches in diameter. The Lundy Project’s penstock is 3,000 feet long, varying in diameter.

OPERATIONS

SCE diverts water from Lundy Lake to the powerhouse for the purpose of electrical generation. SCE’s operations are directed by its FERC license while complying with adjudicated water rights. To accomplish this, SCE’s operations rely on an Annual Operations Plan (AOP) that utilizes the Mill Creek Accounting and Planning Tool (MCAPT). The MCAPT integrates forecasted and observed observations with the water rights priorities to inform powerhouse operations for Mill Creek water diversions and deliveries. Operational communications with water rights holders ensure anticipated deliveries meet their water right call. SCE then communicates when water changes occur to all water rights holders, so they can react accordingly per their operational needs. When the powerhouse is out of service, the historical Adair ditch is utilized to move water directly from Mill Creek for water rights calls to the Wilson system. See Figure 2 for caricature of water pathways for the Lundy system.

Table 2. Summary of Present-Day Mill Creek Adjudicated Water Rights

Priority Right	Right Holder	Quantity of Right (cfs)	Cumulative LADWP	Cumulative Conway (Mono County)	Cumulative Total
1st	LADWP	1	1	0	1
2nd	Mono County	2	1	2	3
3rd	BLM	2	1	2	5
4th	Mono County	8	1	10	13
5th	LADWP	9.2	10.2	10	22.2
6th	Simis	1.8	10.2	10	24
7th	LADWP	14	24.2	10	38
8th	Mono County	5	24.2	15	43
9th	USFS	12.6	24.2	15	55.6
10	LADWP	18	42.2	15	73.6
11th	Mono County	1	42.2	16	74.6

Source: North Mono Basin Watershed Analysis (2001)/1914 Mill Creek Decree



Figure 1. Lundy Project Feature

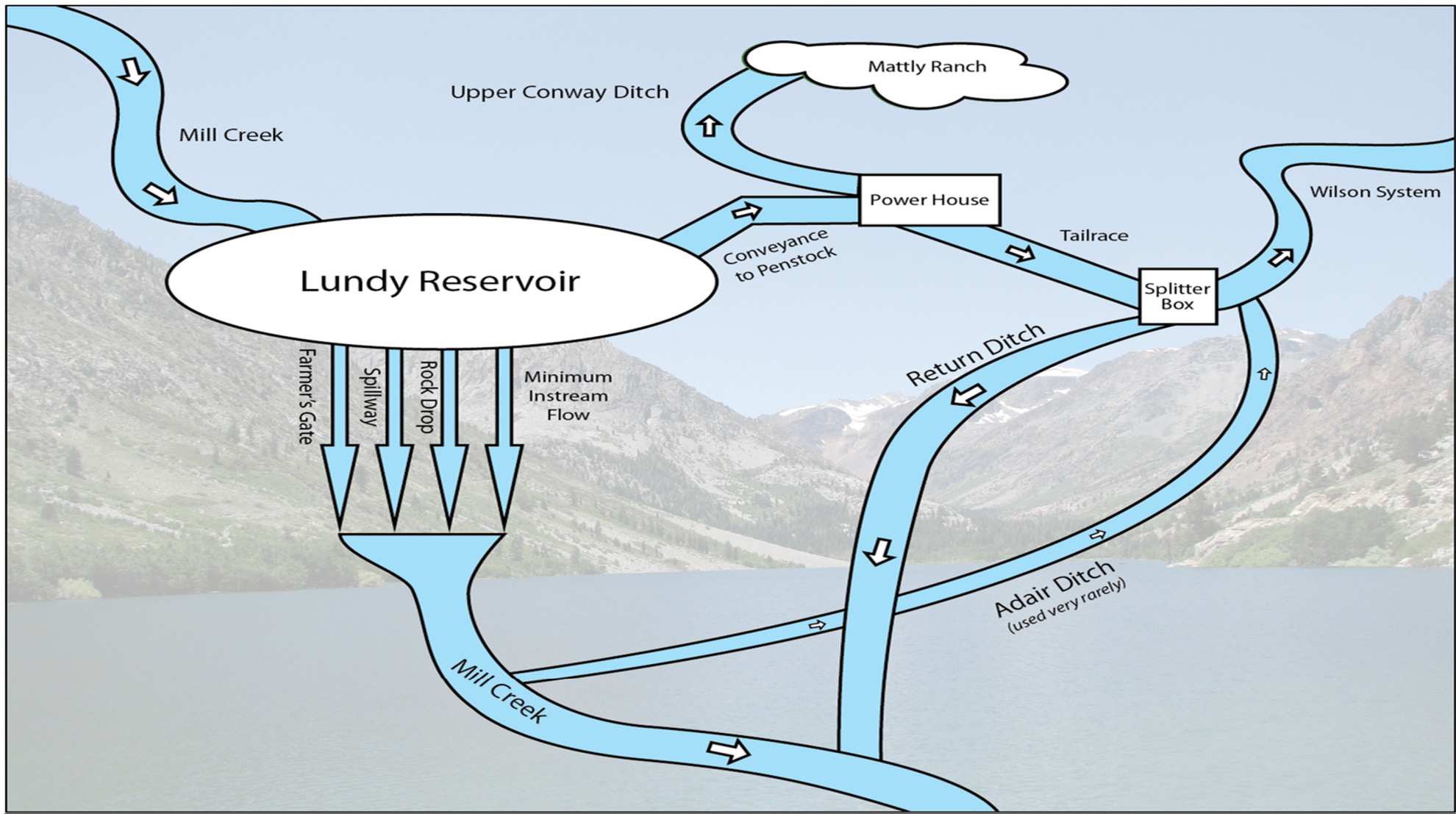


Figure 2. Lundy Project Water Pathways (Not to Scale)