

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Resolution No. 76297 C.M.S.

Introduced by Councilmember _____



RESOLUTION URGING THE CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE TO REQUIRE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE TERMS AND CONDITIONS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST FOR A TRANSFER OF THE PROJECT 137 HYDROELECTRIC GENERATING SYSTEM AND APPURTENANT LANDS FROM PG&E TO THE CONSORTIUM OF PUBLIC AGENCIES WHICH HAVE FORMED THE UPPER MOKELUMNE RIVER WATERSHED AUTHORITY AND TO REPORT ITS CONCLUSIONS TO THE LEGISLATURE BY NOVEMBER 30,2001

WHEREAS, the East Bay Municipal Utility District is a unique public agency that provides high quality drinking water, wastewater treatment services, watershed recreational services, and generates hydroelectric power, while maintaining environmental stewardship of the Mokelumne River and surrounding watershed; and

WHEREAS, the East Bay Municipal Utility District is a multi-county public utility that has developed a reliable, high-quality water supply for more than 1.2 million people in 20 cities and 16 unincorporated communities within the eastern San Francisco Bay region by storing water in Pardee and Camanche Reservoirs on the lower Mokelumne River; and

WHEREAS, the East Bay Municipal Utility District has operated hydroelectric power generating facilities licensed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for more than seventy years at Pardee Reservoir and more than thirty years at Camanche Reservoir on the Mokelumne River; and

WHEREAS, Pacific Gas & Electric company owns and operates Project No.137 licensed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to generate hydroelectric power on the Mokelumne River, immediately upstream of the East Bay Municipal Utility reservoirs; and

WHEREAS, public agency ownership and integrated operations of these two separate, existing hydroelectric power systems on the Mokelumne River provides the opportunity for increased hydroelectric power generation on the Mokelumne River by operating all of the reservoirs in a coordinated manner; and

WHEREAS, public agency ownership will enable the most efficient management of all the public benefits within the watershed, including but not limited to, maximizing hydroelectric power generation, optimizing consumptive water supply uses, protecting drinking water quality for the 1.2 million East Bay residents, protecting water quality needed by the Department of Fish and Game fish hatchery located immediately downstream of Camanche reservoir, protecting and enhancing riparian ecology along the Mokelumne watershed, and enhancing recreational uses and watershed improvements; and

WHEREAS, the East Bay Municipal Utility District and eight upstream Mokelumne River public agencies including Alpine, Amador and Calaveras counties, Alpine County Water Agency, Amador Water Agency, Calaveras County Water District, Calaveras Public Utility District and Jackson Valley Irrigation District have signed a Joint Powers Agreement establishing the Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority to serve multiple public benefits through an integrated and coordinated approach to using the Mokelumne River; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the City of Oakland urges the California Legislature to require the Public Utilities Commission to initiate an investigation into the terms and conditions that would be in the public interest for a transfer of the Project No. 137 hydroelectric generating system and appurtenant lands from Pacific Gas & Electric company to the consortium of public agencies which have formed the Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City of Oakland urges the California Legislature to require the Public Utilities Commission to report its conclusions, with regards to terms and conditions that would be in the public interest and provide for a transfer, to the Legislature by November 30, 2001; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That this resolution be immediately transmitted to Assemblymembers and State Senators representing the East Bay, the Speaker of the State Assembly, the President Pro Tempore of the State Senate, the respective chairpersons of the Assembly and Senate energy committees, and the Governor of California.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, FEB 20 2001, 19 _____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES- BRUNNER, CHANG, NADEL, REID, SPEES, WAN AND PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE 17

NOES- None

ABSENT- None

ABSTENTION- None

ATTEST: Ceda Floyd
CEDA FLOYD
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
of the City of Oakland, California