



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PUBLIC POWER AUTHORITY
1160 NICOLE COURT
GLENORA, CA 91740
(626) 793-9364 – FAX: (626) 793-9461
www.scppa.org

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April 27, 2017

The Honorable Fred Upton
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy and Power
Committee on Energy and Commerce,
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Bobby Rush
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Energy and Power
Committee on Energy and Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Upton and Ranking Member Rush:

On behalf of Southern California Public Power Authority (SCPPA), a joint powers' agency, whose electric utility members collectively serve nearly five million people throughout Southern California, I write to commend you for holding the May 3 legislative hearing on *Discussion Draft H.R. ___, the Hydropower Policy Modernization Act of 2017.*"

SCPPA has long supported modernization of the hydropower licensing process to allow applicants to move through the licensing/relicensing process in a more timely, efficient and affordable manner. Specifically, SCPPA supports provisions that would establish FERC as the coordinating agency for setting hydropower licensing schedules and accompanying study processes, and that would eliminate conflicting requirements, ensuring more timely decisions by regulators. These reforms also would speed the upgrading of power facilities, including the improvement of environmental protections and upgrade facilities more quickly than can be done today.

SCPPA believes improvement to hydropower licensing can be accomplished in a manner that preserves the existing system, promotes new development and also protect our fisheries, natural resources and environmental values.

We are hopeful the members of this Committee will find a way to move forward with a balanced bipartisan bill that will remove regulatory inefficiencies and impediments to licensing and relicensing of clean and reliable hydropower generation.

Sincerely,

Michael S. Webster
Executive Director

c: Representative Raul Ruiz
Representative Mimi Waters
Representative Tony Cardenas