



**INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** February 27, 2017  
**TO:** The Honorable Anson Moran  
President, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission  
**FROM:** Harlan L. Kelly, Jr. *H.L. Kelly, Jr.*  
General Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Declaration of Emergency – Temporary Construction Bypass of  
Calaveras Road Landslide

In accordance with Chapter 6, Section 6.60 of the Administrative Code of the City and County of San Francisco, I am declaring an emergency on behalf of the Public Utilities Commission.

On January 10, 2017, a landslide occurred on the downslope edge of a 100-ft section of Calaveras Road in Alameda County, which is the only point of access for the Calaveras Dam Replacement Project (CDRP) contractor to mobilize large equipment and materials to the construction site. As a result, SFPUC staff immediately initiated discussion with Alameda County to allow the CDRP contractor to construct a temporary road around the slide area on SFPUC property so that temporary construction access can be restored and the project can continue without significant further delay. In the meantime, Alameda County is working on a permanent solution for restoration of Calaveras Road. Based on preliminary discussions with the County, the permanent road restoration will likely not be implemented until Summer 2017 at the earliest.

The old spillway at Calaveras Dam was demolished to make room for the foundation excavation of the new spillway and dam to be constructed immediately downstream of the existing facilities. Although the new spillway was completed in April 2016, it cannot be used until the new dam is constructed and placed into service, currently scheduled to be prior to the winter of 2018-19. In the meantime, the SFPUC is aggressively making releases through the new outlet pipeline and 72-inch fixed cone valve to the new stilling basin to manage the reservoir level, thereby mitigating potential dam overtopping risk in the event of an extreme flood event. Without a spillway in service, the occurrence of an extreme flood event could lead to overtopping of the existing dam and catastrophic dam failure, possibly resulting in significant downstream flooding. Although the SFPUC has effectively managed the dam overtopping risk to date, keeping the reservoir to the restricted level mandated by the California Division of Safety of Dams for seismic safety has been challenging given the high levels of precipitation experienced in January and February 2017.

- Edwin M. Lee  
Mayor
- Anson Moran  
President
- Ike Kwon  
Vice President
- Ann Moller Caen  
Commissioner
- Francesca Vietor  
Commissioner
- Vince Courtney  
Commissioner
- Harlan L. Kelly, Jr.  
General Manager



Any delay to constructing the bypass around the landslide on Calaveras Road would effectively delay the project for an additional construction season, rendering the facility to be without a spillway for an additional winter. Much larger precipitation events than those experienced since the beginning of the construction project are possible, and risk exposure increases with every winter season the spillway is out of service. Therefore, not having the new spillway in service for an additional winter season represents unacceptable risk to public health and safety for the reasons stated above.

The CDRP construction contractor will perform the emergency construction work at the direction of the City under the express waiver of liability for public use or public safety of the temporary construction access bypass road. The contractor will warrant its workmanship, but cannot otherwise warrant the adequacy of the repair work given the exigent circumstances. Consistent with these limitations, Alameda County has requested the SFPUC to keep the road closed for the foreseeable future, thereby effectively restricting public access to one resident who owns a house within the closed portion of the road.

The CDRP construction contractor will allow access consistent with SFPUC and Alameda County's needs.

This request for emergency declaration is for the SFPUC to authorize the CDRP contractor to perform the emergency work consistent with the above-cited terms as soon as possible. The change order is expected to not exceed \$1.5 million.

I am therefore declaring the existence of an emergency. I trust that this meets with your concurrence and approval.

CONCUR AND APPROVE:



Anson Moran, President  
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

cc:

I. Kwon  
A. Moller Caen  
F. Vietor  
V. Courtney

B. Hale  
K. How  
T. Ramirez  
S. Ritchie  
D. Wade