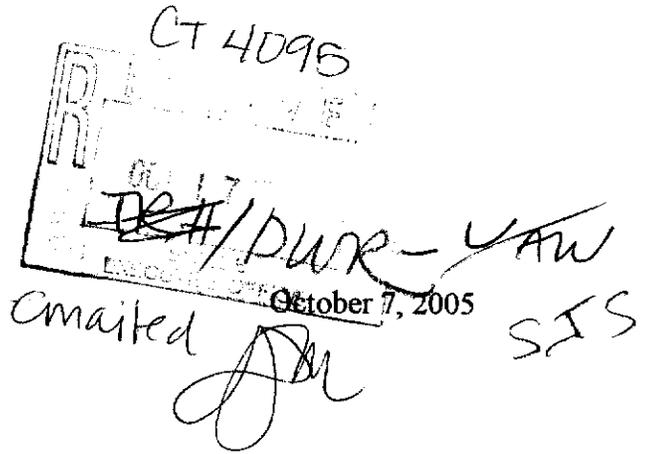




Ms. Tam M. Doduc, Chair  
State Water Resources Control Board  
P.O. Box 100  
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000



I am very disturbed to learn of PG&E's plans to remove cold water from Lake Almanor and Butt Lakes as part of the FERC Project 2105 relicensing. I believe that such a move would cause major environmental harm to those lakes. This project should not be considered and should be abandoned for more viable, environmentally safe alternatives.

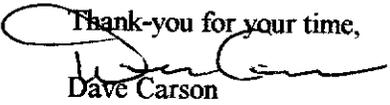
I am equally disturbed that a much greater threat is happening to Lake Almanor and is not being investigated or studied. This threat is a silent pollution that has been going on for years and will continue unless there is a dramatic change. The pollution I am talking about is from the SEPTIC systems that are leaking and the leachfields that leach into the water sheds around the lake and find their way into Lake Almanor. The threat is growing every year with older septic systems failures and more and more housing being built around the lake. The pollution is so slow that it is not noticeable over 5 to 10 years, but after a few decades there will be detrimental changes to the environment. Why wait for there to be a problem! One that would take decades to reverse, we must start now before it ever reaches the point of being a major problem.

The impact on the area would be greater than any thermal curtain. The fragile nature of the Almanor Basin, the impact on the economy that is dependent on tourism and the seasonal recreational activities. (Think of the publicity and damage done if "Lake Almanor" was in the news just as "Trinity Lake" with its most recent publicity.)

A study and proposal has been completed to build sewer plants along the lake. (specifically on the East Shore) I now support this proposal and believe it should be mandated. I believe that another committee be organized to start a movement with the objective to have these facilities operational in the next 5 years.

The thermal curtain issue is quite obvious and is easy to rally around the cause to stop this type of project. The silent unseen pollution from septic systems is more difficult to see and get excited about as it isn't impacting anyone today. Most people see it as a problem for future generations, and do not want to be bothered with the issues or costs that will have to be born by the users. The costs will be greater in the future, costs to the environment and greater costs for sewer treatment plants. It is time to act NOW.

Thank-you for your time,

  
Dave Carson  
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