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Susanville, CA 96130  
March 25, 2015

Mr. Peter Barnes, Engineering Geologist  
State Water Resources Control Board  
Division of Water Rights  
Water Quality Certification Program  
P.O. Box 2000  
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

RE: Lake Almanor/Butte Valley Reservoir Thermal Curtain Proposal

Dear Mr. Barnes,

In 1957, when my parents purchased their lot at 248 Peninsula Dr., my association with Lake Almanor began. I am writing this letter on my own behalf and that of my ninety-five year old mother, Mary Conway—she is the landowner. During the course of my life, I have observed countless changes at the Lake and in the surrounding communities as a result of its pristine beauty and its discovery by visitors from afar.

I am compelled to write this letter because I have two grave concerns regarding the proposal to construct thermal curtains at Prattville in Lake Almanor and at the Caribou intake at Butte Valley Reservoir. In the not too distant past, Native American remains were discovered in the Prattville area of Lake Almanor. I was disturbed to learn that PGE was considering a project, which would disrupt existing Native burial sites that are now underwater near the existing dam and Prattville area. Upon further research, I learned these graves qualify for protection under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. I believe that treading on such hallowed ground should be avoided at all costs. Have the local tribal representatives participated in the decision process? What has their response been to this egregious proposal by PG&E? Perhaps this issue should be brought to the attention of 60 Minutes—I am already imagining Charlie Rose's probing questions.

My second concern centers around the ecological disruption this project represents. I read portions of the EIR released in December 2014, and was surprised at its consistent “Less than Significant Impact” conclusions. Globally, we are experiencing unprecedented climate swings and extraordinary warm temperatures throughout California. Normally, data and records from the past are considered expected guidelines to predict the impact of future development, however, in this particular case, I think relying on this methodology portends of a grave mistake in the making. Without *any* intervention at these proposed sites, unseasonably warm temperatures in early spring and late fall, coupled with hot summer temperatures, will challenge Lake Almanor’s ability to maintain a homeostatic balance. Every drop of existing cold water is critical to this end. Do not disrupt or put at risk this fragile ecosystem, which is already under attack by these unprecedented climatic changes.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Conway Winje

Cc: Mary Conway