State Water Resources Control Board Division of Water Rights Water Quality Certification Program **Attention: Mr. Parker Thaler** 

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Please relicense the Klamath River dams. Since the Department of Interior decided they want the dams out, more than 80% of Siskiyou County residents voted against destroying the dams for environmental, social and economic reasons.

The Department of Interior has assumed there will be no adverse effect in allowing 22 million cubic yards of sediment, toxic or not, to freely flow to the Pacific with dam removal. I am not allowed to put over 5 yards of rock or dirt into the river because of the harm it will do to the fish and their habitat. This massive amount of sediment can easily sterilize the entire river for 100 years or more.

In 2011, Interior's report said that the entire dam removal and restorations could boost salmon population in parts of the upper basin by 10%, only if all the other water quality problems were solved first. Solving all the water quality problems would require reversing "mother nature's" natural occurring phosphorus that is prevalent in the entire upper basin.

I do not think that alternatives to dam removal were fully explored. Such alternatives may include improved fish ladders or trucking fish as is conducted on the Columbia River.

Dean Brockbank, vice president and general counsel of PacifiCorp was quoted as saying the government "made it very clear from a public policy point of view that they did not want these dams relicensed. Once that became abundantly clear, we shifted our framework from relicensing to a settlement involving a possible dam removal framework". This statement makes apparent that top level officials within the Department of Interior conspired to orchestrate the removal of the dams from the beginning and that the rest of this discussion was not a sincere attempt to settle the issues with all options available.

Klamath dams provide electricity for 70,000 homes. Why destroy this clean energy and then raise our power rates with more expensive and less reliable energy. Dam removal is expected to cost somewhere between 450 million and 4 billion dollars. This does not include the cost of replacement power.

Dam removal will destroy the economy of Siskiyou County.

Klamath dams provide water storage, ecosystems for wildlife in and near the reservoirs, flood control, recreation, clean green energy, forests, water in reservoirs for firefighting, agriculture and air quality. We have had some record runs of salmon since the dams were built. Without firefighting capabilities, wildfires severely affect our air quality and oxygen in the river. Forests, wildlife and housing get burned up.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Jacqui Krizo