

June 12, 2008

Dorothy Rice
Executive Director
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: PacifiCorp EIR Scoping Plan

Dear Ms. Rice,

The California Resources Agency sent a letter to Chairwoman Doduc on June 9, 2008 requesting that the State Water Resources Control Board (Board) delay issuing its Notice of Preparation of the EIR for PacifiCorp's Klamath hydroelectric project (FERC Project no. 2082). Friends of the River opposes a delay in the 401 process. The Resources Agency fails to state any reason why a delay is warranted. The Klamath project has a history of delay and the Board should not allow further delay without good cause.

We are glad that Secretary Chrisman finds his recent discussions with PacifiCorp to be "useful" and we hope that these discussions will yield an agreement to remove the lower four Klamath dams. However, the Board's 401 process is too important to be delayed. We believe that the 401 process provides significant incentive for parties to negotiate a timely settlement agreement for dam removal. Additionally, should discussions with PacifiCorp fall through, a 401 permit will be necessary before FERC can issue a new license.

In conclusion, the 401 has a significant role to play whether a settlement is achieved or not. Friends of the River urges the Board to proceed with the 401 without further delay.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kelly L. Catlett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "K" and a long, sweeping underline.

Kelly L. Catlett
Policy Advocate
Friends of the River