

# Karuk Tribe of California



## Department of Natural Resources

Post Office Box 282  
Orleans, CA 95556  
(530) 627-3446 Fax (530) 627-3448

## Administrative Office

Post Office Box 1016  
Happy Camp, CA 96039  
(530) 493-5305 Fax (530) 493-5322

## Karuk Tribal Health Clinic

Post Office Drawer 249  
Orleans, CA 95556  
(530) 627-3452 Fax (530) 627-3445

---

June 15, 2008

Tam Doduc  
Chair  
State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: CEQA Scoping Meetings for Klamath Hydroelectric Project

Dear Ms. Doduc,

CEQA Scoping meetings for the Clean Water Act section 401 certification of the Klamath Hydroelectric Project (KHP) were scheduled to take place in Klamath, Orleans, and Yreka, California from July 7-9, 2008. On June 11, 2008, Resources Secretary Mike Chrisman requested that the CEQA meetings be indefinitely postponed. Secretary Chrisman cites "useful discussions" with PacifiCorp on the "operation of the Klamath Dams" as the rationale behind his request.

Although the Karuk Tribe is enthusiastic about any meaningful discussions between the California Resources Agency and PacifiCorp that would lead to the removal of the lower four Klamath River dams, we do not believe that any further delay of the CEQA Scoping meetings is warranted at this time. In fact, we continue to be frustrated by delays to the process to date. For example, the process was delayed for months by lengthy discussions between the State Water Board and PacifiCorp on signing a memorandum of understanding (MOU) regarding the process.

We are eager and willing to participate with California Resources Agency, the United States Department of Interior and other Klamath Basin stakeholders to negotiate a FERC settlement agreement resulting in the removal of the lower four Klamath River dams by 2015. However, we believe that allowing the Clean Water Act section 401 certification process to move forward provides an incentive to craft such a settlement in a timely manner. If no settlement agreement can be reached with PacifiCorp, then the Clean Water Act section 401 certification process becomes even more important as it is a prerequisite for a new FERC license which will dictate operational changes to PacifiCorp's Klamath project that will benefit the Klamath River.

In conclusion, the Karuk Tribe urges the California State Water Board keep its original schedule for the CEQA Scoping meetings and thereby deny Secretary Chrisman's request.

Sincerely,



Earl Crosby  
Director

cc: Dorothy Rice  
Mike Crisman  
Steve Thompson