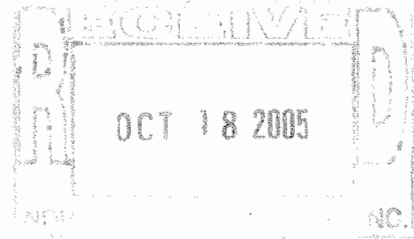


October 15, 2005

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



Ref: North Fork, Feather River (FERC 2105) CEQA Scoping

Dear Chairman Daduc,

As a homeowner and full time resident of Lake Almanor I am very concerned about the never ending process that SWRCB is taking before granting a Water Quality Certificate to PG & E.

I will not write about the "Thermal Curtains" (TC's) option because SWRCB has been flooded with information on this proposal and it is all extremely negative to the health of Lake Almanor, Butt Valley Reservoir, the rate payers, Maidu sacred sites, and for no real benefit down stream. For all of these facts any reasonable person would conclude that the TC's option should be discarded for good.

My concern is that the option to reduce flows at Caribou 2 power house and increasing the flows at Canyon Dam is still being considered. This plan would still reduce the cold water pool at Lake Almanor and have most of the negative environmental impacts as the TC's option.

The initial cost would be less than the \$50 + million of the TC's but releases from Canyon Dam would bypass the powerhouses at Butt Lake, Caribou 1 & 2 and at Beldon. This will increase the cost of electricity to all PG & E customers by many millions of dollars every year and in the long run be even more expensive than the TC's. This lost hydropower is renewable and non polluting. PG & E has just announced that we can expect natural gas rate increases of seventy % this fall. The lost electrical generation will have to be replaced by burning more natural gas in their other power plants.

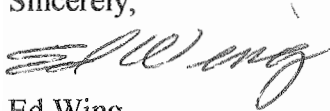
At a time when California and the entire nation are in a severe energy crisis which will be around for a long time, it is insane to even consider this option. Would the SWRCB like to see articles in the Bee and statewide that while the citizens are being asked to sacrifice on power usage the SWRCB is wasting huge amounts of energy by bypassing existing hydro power plants?

Some other points basic to this entire project:

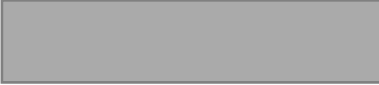
- A. The University of Iowa who did the modeling to see if the TC's could draw cold water at Prattville stated – the information from Whiskeytown and Shasta Lakes TC's was not transferable to Lake Almanor because Almanor is a shallow lake and the others are deep lakes.

B. There is no verifiable proof that the Rock Creek/Cresta reaches of the NFFR ever were colder in July than they are now. When you look at the free flowing "Wild and Scenic" Middle Fork FR whose temperatures exceed 23C in July, the 20 degree C goal for the NFFR doesn't hold up.

Sincerely,



Ed Wing



Enclosure: Letter to Feather Publishing

Cc: Sharon Stohrer
North State Resources, Inc. ✓
Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
FERC
State Senators Anested, Cox
State Assemblymen Keene, LaMalfa, Leslie

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Guidelines for Letters

All letters must contain an address and a phone number. We publish only one letter per week, per person and only one letter per person, per month regarding the same subject. We do not publish third-party, anonymous, or open letters. Letters must be limited to a maximum of 300 words. The editor will cut any letter in excess of 300 words. The deadline is Friday at 3 p.m. (Deadlines may change due to holidays.) Letters may be taken to any of Feather Publishing's offices, sent via fax to 283-3952, or e-mailed at plumaspub@aol.com.

Who supports the thermal curtain?

A standing-room only crowd of some 300 people came to the State Water Resources Control Board's EIR scoping meeting in Chester last Tuesday.

Bill Dennison, Rick Keene, Doug LaMalfa, Dave Cox, Sam Aanestad, Wally Herger and John Doolittle or their representatives all spoke out forcefully against degrading Lake Almanor and Butt Valley Reservoir by reducing their cold-water pool.

The Mountain Maidu

spoke against desecrating their burial sites by dredging at Prattville. Approximately 35 other speakers, including a Department of Fish and Game employee, all spoke against the thermal curtain. No one spoke in favor of it!

Only one person, who represented whitewater rafting, didn't directly state his opposition. It is also interesting that after the first whitewater release last year, PG&E estimated that the cost to ratepayers was about \$2,000 per rafter!

We know that Cal Trout originally supported the plan, but now they say they will not support any plan that will harm the Almanor/Butt trout fisheries. Who then? California Hydropower Reform, Sierra Club, etc.? These folks never saw a dam they didn't want to breach or bypass, could be? It seems that all supporters are hiding in a closet somewhere.

This pretty much leaves the SWRCB. Their representative at a 2105LG meeting earlier this year did refer to the thousand protest letters they received as "spams"!

The EIR may take another two years. The governor just fired the entire state flood board. Perhaps it is time he takes a look at the SWRCB and instructs them to stop wasting our taxes studying this to death when all the answers have been known for over a year.

**Ed Wing
Chester**