

Thomas A. Tisch
15040 Encina Ct., Saratoga, CA 95070

PB
FERC
2105

STATE WATER RESOURCES
CONTROL BOARD

March 17, 2015

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DIV OF WATER RIGHTS
SACRAMENTO

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

RE: Draft EIR, PG&E Certification UNFFR Project NO 2105

Dear Mr. Barnes:

I appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback on the above Lake Almanor project. I believe Alternatives 1 and 2 will have a huge negative impact on my community, the surrounding communities, the local economy, and the environment.

I find very little in the Draft EIR regarding the impact this project, and the proposed alternatives, will have on the quality of life at Lake Almanor and surrounding communities. I flat-out disagree with the statement that increasing the water temperatures of Lake Almanor will not have a "substantial impact".

My personal experience has been contrary to your findings. Our drought – and with climate change, more to come – has already negatively impacted Lake Almanor through an increase in water temperature. We have more algae than in the past. This in turn reduces the clarity of the lake. Activity that further reduces cold water in the lake will in turn greatly reduce the cold water fisheries that make Lake Almanor one of the best fishing destinations in the State of California. This is supported by data in the final draft of the Lake Almanor Water Quality Report, 2015.

Increased water temperatures, increased algae, and reduced fisheries will have a devastating negative impact on our local economy that is dependent upon tourism and already suffering. Will more local businesses close? Will we lose needed services, such as our hospital, as a result of a worsening local economy?

Further, this is a pipe dream to produce colder water downstream. All you need to do is to look at the placid, still waters impounded behind the power dams along the Feather River to realize how much heat is absorbed and how little aeration and evaporative cooling takes place along the water course, in contrast to a free-flowing river with rocks and

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rapids. As climate warms and there is less snowpack to produce summer runoff (both in quantity and cooler temperatures) on average this situation will be compounded.

Compromising the integrity of Lake Almanor will occur with the proposed action, but the results lost in the downstream environment and climate.

So I am firmly opposed to Alternatives 1 & 2, as described in the Draft EIR. To pursue these alternatives flies in the face of reason, experience and expected conditions. I urge the State Water Board to only consider the PG&E project, as submitted and approved in the Settlement Agreement of April 22, 2004, without the additional release of cold water from Lake Almanor, and without intrusive and harmful measures at Lake Almanor in pursuit of that.

Thanks for your consideration

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Thomas A. Tisch".

Thomas A. Tisch
Lake Almanor Home
516 Peninsula Drive
Lake Almanor, CA 96137

Copy: State Assemblyman Brian Dahle