

Barnes, Peter@Waterboards

From: Krys Bart <krystbart8@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2015 4:18 PM
To: Barnes, Peter@Waterboards
Subject: Comments on Draft EIR on Lake Almanor Thermal Curtains

Mr. Barnes,

My husband and I own a home in the Peninsula on Lake Almanor and have a significant interest in the future of the lake. Therefore, I appreciate the opportunity to provide these comments relating to the Draft Environmental Impact Report regarding the Thermal Curtain proposal.

MY comment to be incorporated into the public record and warranting further investigation and response:

CEQA has a goal to maintain the quality of the environment for the people of the state and in this case the people who live, recreate and derive a living around Lake Almanor. Economic data can prove essential to fully understand environmental impacts, especially when determining what alternatives are feasible. It is my understanding that economic impacts of a project are covered by CEQA if they cause physical impacts. In this case, I believe they do.

To that end, an analysis and consideration needs to be made regarding the impacts of this project as it relates to the Chester community and surrounding environs. This is a community that derives income from logging and tourism, primarily tourism associated with Lake Almanor. Given the recent economic downturn, many businesses have closed and the quality of life is threatened. Further impacts on tourism that will certainly be caused by changes in Lake Almanor will result from installation of a thermal curtain.

While the EIR asserts that a thermal curtain will have no significant impact, I believe that the change in water temperature at any level will change the eco system reducing clarity, promoting extensive algae growth, altering the fish population and reducing the desire for recreational uses. Thus, tourism will shrink and along with the shrinkage in tourism, the community of Chester will be negatively impacted. A community which is already struggling for relevance will be changed thereby creating alternative environmental effects by the inability to maintain community services, ie. sewage treatment, garbage, snow removal, fire protection etc. Maintenance of these community services depend on revenue which would be depleted if the community is degraded.

These are real impacts. An economic analysis needs to be completed as it relates to the issues I have presented. I am confident full evaluation and disclosure of the analysis results will demonstrate a devastating impact on the community of Chester and the environs.

These conclude my comments. Thank you .

Krys T. Bart
650 Pine Canyon Rd.
Lake Almanor Peninsula

Krys T Bart, AAE
President
Krys T Bart & Associates LLC
Sent from my iPad