

February 18, 2015

To: Mr. Peter Barnes, Engineering Geologist  
CA State Resource Control Board  
Division of Water Rights, Water Quality Certification Program  
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From: Gary D. Gale  
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I am opposed to the Water Board staff recommendation in the draft EIR.

Exporting most or all of Lake Almoner's cold water pool to achieve a marginal benefit far downstream would be an ecological travesty.

Where is the environmental justice in damaging one area, Lake Almanor, for a questionable improvement elsewhere?

How can there be "no significant impact" on Lake Almanor when its cold water fishery is dramatically reduced?

How can the State Water Board justify such a sweeping proposal without providing a cost estimate and a cost-benefit analysis?

How can the exorbitant expense of \$51 million be justified in this No=Win project?

Water Science experts say that a minimum of 1-2 degrees Celsius can be expected downstream, which, will minimally enhance the ecology in those downstream areas, including the salmon migration, but will not improve the area to any level approaching a desired effect.

The proposed plan provides no accountability to the people impacted by Water Board decisions.

Reducing the cold water pool in Lake Almanor will result in a warmer lake and increased algae blooms, impacting both fish and humans, and the overall quality of life in the surrounding areas.

In an era of climate change concerns, intentionally increasing the temperature of Lake Almanor is completely contrary to sensible practice.

Only a very few people will benefit greatly if the Water Board recommendation is approved, mainly, the selected contractors who will be gathering around the government people who are pushing this project forward. To me, this looks like the only “good” thing that will happen if this thermal curtain is allowed to advance. And, that makes it a private party, the rest of us won’t be invited to. But, all PG&E customers will be forced to pay for it. And, that’s just wrong. The people of the State of California can no longer accept the waste and abuse of our limited tax base. Spending this money to chase bad science should never be acceptable at any level.

So please. do the right thing for the people you are here to support, and get everyone involved to get aligned, and stop this project until better science comes along to improve our land, our natural resources, and our quality of life.

Thank You for your time and consideration,

Gary D. Gale

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