

March 19, 2015

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

Peter.Barnes@waterboards.ca.gov

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

Dear Mr. Barnes,

I am OPPOSED to Alternatives 1 & 2 as described in the Draft EIR. Any release of cold water from Lake Almanor, especially during the summer months, will surely have a devastating impact on the lake and its fabulous fishery.

My wife and I have been part-time residents of Lake Almanor since 1981. Our children and grandchildren have enjoyed yearly vacations in this wonderful environment and fondly refer to it as "The Lake".

I have fished Almanor since about 1970 and have learned much about what many would probably call the premier trout/smallmouth bass fishery in California, if not the entire western United States. Lake Almanor is a shallow water lake. Even when full, the deepest spot in the lake is 90' and that is in one area at the dam. Anyone who regularly fishes Almanor during the summer can tell you that a trout, after it's fought as hard as it can, will be spent by the time you get it to the boat. When you release a trout in the spring, it takes very little resuscitation; during the summer months, it's almost impossible to release a fish in good condition. Why is this? It's the relationship between the "thermocline" (where trout like the temperature) and the water below where the dissolved oxygen isn't adequate. The proposed "thermal curtains" will reduce the summertime cold water in Lake Almanor and push the "thermocline" down closer to the bottom where dissolved oxygen is in short supply.

Why approve a project that will spend over \$50 million of rate-payer money on an experiment that proposes to raise the downstream water temperature by, arguably, one degree Celsius (less than two degrees Fahrenheit) to the ecological detriment of Lake Almanor and Butt Valley Reservoir.

I ask you to join the thousands of us who care about Lake Almanor and the surrounding environment. Help us preserve this special lake for future generations; DON'T APPROVE THE "THERMAL CURTAIN".

Sincerely,

Jim Hardeman
763 Lassen View Dr.
LACC