

From: Reed Hilliard <randjhiliard@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2015 12:43 PM
To: Barnes, Peter@Waterboards
Subject: UNFFR Project meeting in Chester

Hi Peter,

Thank you for agreeing to visit Chester last night to share your recommendations and listen to feedback. We hope that you and the State Water Board staff will take the feedback to heart. As 15 year homeowners here on Lake Almanor, we share the concerns of literally all of the people commenting last night.

We have a great deal of difficulty understanding why the Water Board is so blindly committed to adhering to the 20° C temp on the river when there is so much data about the rising temps in the lake and the resulting decline in water quality, impacting both the fisheries and recreational use. The draft EIR explicitly states:

"...the extent to which PG&E can feasibly reduce temperatures in the Upper North Fork Feather River by **implementing reasonable temperature control measures**. The State Water Board must also ensure that UNFFR Project operations, including any water quality measures designed to benefit the Upper North Fork Feather River, **will not unreasonably affect the water quality and beneficial uses of Lake Almanor.**"

The proposed alternatives are clearly not "reasonable temperature control measures" and it is almost a certainty that they **WILL** unreasonably affect the water quality and beneficial uses of Lake Almanor. As the water quality data shows, the lake is teetering as we speak. Your proposed alternatives will almost certainly push it over the edge. Meanwhile, there does not appear to be any data suggesting that a slight increase in downstream water temp will have any detrimental impact.

What is the risk of moving forward with either of your proposed alternatives? There is great risk to the extensive and prized fishery in this lake due to the reduction of cold water habitats, there is great risk to the recreational use of the lake because of deteriorating water quality and there is great risk to the economy of the Almanor basin and surrounding region which is vital to the livelihoods of thousands of people.

What is the risk of doing nothing? As we understand it not much, if any. But it would save PG&E rate payers many tens, if not hundreds of millions of dollars.

This appears to be a case of common sense reason and logic vs. head in the sand bureaucratic mandate. We hope you'll lean towards more of the former as you move ahead with this project.

Thank you,

Reed & Jane Hilliard
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