

Barnes, Peter@Waterboards

From: Thomas Nichols <tnichols6@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2015 2:42 PM
To: Barnes, Peter@Waterboards
Subject: No on the draft EIR and the Staff Recommendations

Thank you for coming to Chester last night. First let me say that I am a proponent of clean safe water in our state. I also lean heavily toward more regulatory oversight than less. As a native Californian I grew to have a great appreciation for the clean renewable energy generation system we have in this state and have enjoyed the recreational access and opportunities it has provided. Everyone knows that energy production to meet the needs of the residents of this state will have some environmental impact. The temperature increase of the lower Feather River seems to me to be an impact that we have lived with for several decades and compared to the more nasty impacts and costs associated with fossil fuel or nuclear generation it is preferable. I sincerely believe that the EIR and the staff recommendations are simply causing more harm than good. Potentially making a bigger problem than the one you are trying to solve. The Lake needs all the cold water that comes in. And it's just not logical to expect the removal of the colder water would have any but a negative effect on the use of the lake. Affecting the experiences of vacationers and the livelihoods and quality of life of the residents. I suggest you get out the 2004 agreement for licensing that had broad involvement and agreement, dust it off and resubmit it as the staff recommendation. Make note of the water temperature impairment and let us recognize it as the cost of having the very beneficial hydroelectric resource and the accompanying recreational opportunities that it allows.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas Nichols
Plumas County resident