

Barnes, Peter@Waterboards

From: Rick Shanks <rmsbuilders@me.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2015 11:27 AM
To: Barnes, Peter@Waterboards
Subject: Fwd: Draft EIR, PG&E Certification UNFFR Project NO 2105

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

Mr. Peter Barnes, Engineering Geologist
State Water Board Resource 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 thank you for providing me the opportunity to provide feedback on the above mentioned project. My concern is that Alternatives 1 and 2 will have a devastating negative impact on my community, the surrounding communities, the local economy, and the environment.

My main issue with the Draft EIR is that I find very little in the report regarding the impact the project, and the proposed Alternatives, will have on the quality of my life. I strongly disagree with the statement that increasing the water temperatures of Lake Almanor will not have a "significant impact". I live here and my personal experience has been contrary to your findings. Within the last 10 years of drought I have seen firsthand the negative effects that an increase in water temperature has on the lake. We are experiencing more algae than in the past, which in turn reduces the oxygen levels of the lake. I fear that any activity that further reduces cold water in the lake will greatly reduce the cold water fisheries that have made Lake Almanor one of the best fishing destinations in the state of California. My observations are supported by data in the final draft of the Lake Almanor Water Quality Report, 2015.

Increased water temperatures, increased algae, and reduced fisheries will have a devastating negative impact on the local economy, which is dependent upon tourism and already suffering. When I consider all of the negative impacts this project will have on the local economy and the environment, I wonder what the impact will be on my quality of life and property value. Will local businesses close? Will I lose needed services, such as our hospital, as a result of a worsening local economy? Will we lose the one thing that has brought us all here – the environment?

of Lake Almanor?

In conclusion, I am OPPOSED to Alternatives 1 & 2, as described in the Draft EIR, and I believe pursuing these Alternatives is unreasonable and reckless. I urge the State Water Board to only concur with the PG&E project, as submitted and approved in the Settlement Agreement of April 22, 2004, without any additional release of cold water from Lake Almanor.

Sincerely,

Rick & Shey Shanks
Nancy Shanks
Carol Shanks
Cathy Shanks

Prattville, CA