

Brooke Sharpes
PO Box 895
Westwood, CA. 96137

March 14, 2015

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

Dear Peter Barnes:

I am writing you in regards to the FERC Project 2105 and its possible effects on Lake Almanor and surrounding communities. I am concerned that with the installation of thermal curtains Lake Almanor's water temperature will rise too high and water levels too low. This will affect multiple citizens in the surrounding areas.

I have been a resident of a neighboring town to Lake Almanor, Westwood, for over twenty years. Growing up we spent much of our time outdoors, including at Lake Almanor. When I was a child it snowed, a lot. A lot more than it does now, and it shows, on the mountain tops, in the lake, with the tourism. When I was fourteen I got my first job at a local pizza place and recognized just how important our lake was to the community. Even at a young age I knew this small restaurant relied not only on loyal local customers, but the summer tourism as well. When tourism fell, so did our staffing. I have countless friends and family whose livelihood relies upon Lake Almanor's ability to entice tourism. Numerous small businesses which provide the majority of employment would be in directly threatened if people stop visiting Lake Almanor. Personally, I have never really fished, but I know many people that do. It is a great outdoor activity that is passed from generation to generation. Last summer I met some campers that have been having their family reunion at the lake for over 30 years. With an increase in temperature the fisheries of Lake Almanor and Butt Lake may be compromised, only allowing the effect to "snowball" downstream. We also cannot overlook the possibility of large algae blooms threatening the water quality.

I understand electricity is important. But to the communities surrounding Lake Almanor, the lake presides. Why ruin a beautiful tourist attraction to help another 40 miles away? If Lake Almanor dies, so does the surrounding communities. In an area with so little to begin with, Lake Almanor is our diamond in the ruff. I am asking that you please reconsider the installation of thermal curtains and unnecessary diversion of Lake Almanor's coolest waters. Please further explore the FERC Project 2105 as to not disrupt Lake Almanor. We need a reasonable summertime water level, good water quality, and protection of the Lake Almanor shoreline and fish. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Brooke Sharpes