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FERC 2105

STATE WATER RESOURCES  
CONTROL BOARD

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DIV OF WATER RIGHTS  
SACRAMENTO

March 1, 2015

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

Mr . Barnes,

We are writing to register our objection to the Thermal Curtain Project on Lake Almanor. We are very concerned about the probable impact of this curtain both economically and environmentally on this entire area.

The Lake Almanor Basin as a whole would suffer economically. The tourist trade, the sport fishing trade would take a terrible downturn. Almanor area relies heavily on its tourist trade. With fires and drought it already has seen a lower than average influx of people. With the thermal curtain, there would be more of an impact if our beautiful lake heats up. Even last summer there was algae on the shoreline. This algae contributed to some of our area's dogs having skin problems. Two of them were seen by Dr. Nelson in Chester. One of them, an older dog, died shortly afterwards. If Lake Almanor warms up anymore, it could spell disaster for our wildlife and even our domesticated animals. What about the fish? The thermal curtain on Whiskeytown Lake may work, but we have had drought since it was installed which changes the equation.

With an estimated 51 million dollars going into the project, it seems a cooling station could be developed by some engineers that would solve the problem. The area affected is not as heavily reliant on tourism for its income. Also, why not create some natural shade in the area needed to be cooled...maybe shade trees(?) And why damage one area for the sake of another? This seems counterproductive. Fixing an area needing to be fixed should not cause ecological damage to another area.

We are not opposed to helping the area needing the cooler water, but please take into consideration that you might be damaging one area for the sake of another. And not only fish will be affected but a whole economy of a very beautiful area.

Sincerely,

Mary J Williams  
J.K. William

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