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PROJECT 2105

STATE WATER RESOURCES  
CONTROL BOARD

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DIV OF WATER RIGHTS  
SACRAMENTO

March 5, 2015

Mr. 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


RE: Draft EIR, PG&E Certification UNFFR **Project NO 2105**

Dear Mr. Barnes,

Thank you for providing us the opportunity to provide feedback on the above mentioned project. Our concern is that Alternatives 1 and 2 will have a devastating negative impact on the community, the local economy and the environment.

The main issue with the Draft EIR is that we find very little in the report regarding the impacts this project, and the proposed Alternatives, will have on the quality of life in the area. We strongly disagree with the statement that increasing the water temperatures of Lake Almanor will not have a "substantial impact". Our personal experience has been contrary to your findings. With several years of drought we have seen firsthand the negative effects that an increase in water temperature has on the lake. There is more algae than in the past, which in turn reduces the clarity of the lake. We 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. Our 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 we consider all of the negative impacts this project will have on the local economy and environment, we wonder what the impact will be on quality of life and property values. It is also our understanding from studies we have read that the thermal curtain does not necessarily lower water temperature enough to mitigate the problems occurring in the Feather River.

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

Sincerely,  


Bill Yoskowitz and Peggy Gray  
Property Owners  
Lake Almanor Country Club