

ORIGINAL

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FEDERAL ENERGY
REGULATORY COMMISSION

September 20, 2004

P.G.&E
Attn: Tom Jereb
245 Market Street
Mail Code N11D
San Francisco, CA. 94105

RE: 2105 Project

Dear Mr. Jereb,

I have attended several meetings concerning the thermal curtain at Lake Almanor. I have a part time residence at 1226 Peninsula Drive at Lake Almanor.

My take on the meetings was that in addition to opposition by most people to the curtain, there were problems after the curtain was installed with smelt not getting to Butts Lake and a lack of dissolved oxygen in the bottom water of Lake Almanor.

P.G.&E. Mentioned that another alternative, cooling towers might work except they were to expensive. In the mean time, P.G.&E will be delayed in getting re-licensed on time because they will be spending a fortune in money and time on an expensive E.I.R. report on Lake Almanor and the Feather River canyon.

I think there is another possible alternative. I have never heard it discussed but why not drill 10 deep wells which would cost around one million dollars. The wells could be strategically located along the seventy-mile stretch between Almanor and the Cresta powerhouse. Test holes could be put down to find the water. The wells could pump into the Feather River and mix with the present water in the river to cool it down. Well water would likely be colder than water out of the bottom of Lake Almanor. Also during years of low water in Lake Almanor the well water would certainly be much colder. The smelt problem would not exist and the dissolved oxygen problem can be remedied by over pumping the wells just enough to make them suck a little air. The added water to the Feather River could help recreation down there and P.G.&E could make a contract with Cal-Fed to sell the water for the Bay Delta Estuary.

If this proposal were added to the 2105 project application, the re-licensing might be accomplished this fall and all the money spent on E.I.R. reports could be saved. Ten wells seven hundred feet deep could be drilled for one million dollars. Give this some consideration.

Sincerely

C. William Johnson

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. William Johnson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

CWJ/dsm

Enclosures (none)

Cc: Congressman Herger

Congressman Doolittle

Assemblyman Doug La Malfa

Janet Walther

Plumas County Board of Supervisors / Bill Dennison

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger

Mike Willhoit