

**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, NE Washington, DC 20426**

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**FILED**  
**OFFICE OF THE**  
**SECRETARY**  
**2005 FEB 22 P 2:46**  
**FEDERAL ENERGY**  
**REGULATORY COMMISSION**

Ref.: FERC Project 2105

Dear Sirs:

I urge the State Water Resources Control Board to promptly withdraw the arbitrary requirement that summertime watertemperatures in lower reaches of the North Fork of the Feather River be maintained at or below 20 degrees Celsius. The results of considerable analysis by PG&E clearly indicate that there is no reasonable means of achieving that goal without causing unacceptable impacts further upstream.

I am very disturbed to learn of PG&E's plan to remove cold water from Lake Almanor and Butt Lake as part of the FERC Project 2105 relicensing. I believe that such a move would cause major environmental harm to those lakes while providing only a very minor improvement to trout habitat further downstream. I am therefore asking for your help in putting a stop to this plan.

PG&E planned to use "thermal curtains" on Lake Almanor and Butt Valley Reservoir to allow it to withdraw the cold lower layer of water from those lakes.

The detailed analysis that followed indicated that this plan would:

- Cost more than \$50 million for the installation
- Cost an unknown additional amount for yearly maintenance
- Place the cost burden on PG&E ratepayers in the form of increased utility bills
- Destroy the trophy trout fishery at Butt Lake
- Cause a major reduction in the cold water fishery at Lake Almanor
- Create a hazard to navigation on a popular recreation lake (Almanor), increasing the risk of boater injury
- Involve lake dredging that could damage inundated Native American cultural and burial sites under Lake Almanor
- Damage the economy of the region, which depends on tourism and recreation
- Cause as yet undetermined impacts on the water quality of the lakes
- Reduce the summertime river water temperature in the lower reaches of the NFFR by about one (1) degree Celsius!

I have been visiting the Hamilton Branch area of Lake Almanor for 22 years and I truly believe that it is one of the best places in California to fish, boat and vacation. My family and the many friends that we have made at Lake Almanor would be deeply saddened to see drastic decline in water level and fishing quality that we have enjoyed for many years.

Sincerely,



Joe Todd