

April 4, 2022

Kimberly D. Bose  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street N. E. Room 1A  
Washington, D.C. 120428

RE: FERC Project No. 2105

Dear Ms. Bose,

I am writing to plead for your strong rejection of the State Water Resource Control Board's (SWRCB) recommendation to increase cold water releases from Lake Almanor as a condition of the renewal of FERC license number 2105. Additional cold-water releases would decimate the Trout fishery at Lake Almanor that so many people travel to Plumas County to enjoy every year, vastly reduce the food supply of the many Ospreys and Bald Eagles that inhabit the areas surrounding the lake and threaten one of the largest Grebe nesting locations in the State. Additionally, there remains serious question that releases of cold water from Lake Almanor would have the desired effects downstream in the North Fork of the Feather River. What *is* certain is that any cold-water releases would have a detrimental impact on the Lake Almanor ecosystem, Trout fishery, wildlife, community, and the local economy that relies heavily on tourism.

The Lake Almanor fishery is what originally attracted my family to the region three decades ago. That same fishery is not only what keeps me, my wife, our five-year-old son, and numerous other family members coming back to visit Lake Almanor dozens of times per year, but what prompted our decision to build a home at Lake Almanor. We, like many others who frequent the area primarily for its incredible Trout fishery, spend our hard-earned dollars at the local dining establishments, grocery stores, hardware stores, and other small businesses.

Plumas County has endured its most difficult year ever in the wake of the Dixie Fire. Honoring the SWRCB's recommendation to allow cold water releases from Lake Almanor would result in reduced tourism numbers, declining property values and property tax revenues for the County and inflict further devastation upon a community that has already suffered so much over the past year. Furthermore, the long-term effects of the Dixie Fire on the Lake Almanor ecosystem remain to be seen. To allow releases from the already-scarce cold water that exists in Lake Almanor during the summer months will only compound any such damage to the ecosystem and environment.

**Please, reject the SWRCB's recommendation to increase cold water releases from Lake Almanor**—the community, countless small businesses, the local economy, the Bald Eagles and Ospreys, and the many visitors who enjoy Trout fishing at Lake Almanor each year are depending on you to do the right thing and strongly reject any cold-water releases or installation of Thermal Curtains.

In closing, during your review of project 2105, I ask that you do the following:

1. Honor and uphold the April 22, 2004 Settlement Agreement filed on behalf of the Project 2105 Licensing Group addressing reservoir lake levels, stream flows below project dams, water quality monitoring, wildlife habitat enhancement, and recreational enhancements.
2. Not allow any additional releases of cold water from Lake Almanor beyond that agreed to in the 2004 Settlement Agreement. The quality of water in Lake Almanor and the health of its fishery is integral to the local economy, businesses, and the quality of life of the families in the community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Casey Gibson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Casey Gibson

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