

C. William Johnson

September 26, 2005

State Water Resources Control Board
Attn: Sharon Stohrer
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

RE: Draft Environmental Impact Report and
Notice of CEQA Scoping Workshop

Dear Ms. Stohrer:

I would like to thank you and the State Water Resources Control Board for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Report.

I read over the draft and I think there are some big problems in regard to putting an assessment on the likely impact of the thermal curtains on Butts Lake and Lake Almanor.

I have been at Lake Almanor since 1967 for the summers. I have been interested in the quality of water in the lake. Samples by me have been collected and taken to laboratories for analysis. I have had tests done for specific conductance, total suspended solids and bacteria. For many years, following the raising of the lake in 1960, the water has been quite turbid from suspended solids and algae bloom. The last five years, even though there has been a population increase around the lake, the water has steadily improved and today, as of September 2, 2005 I did a clarity measure with a metal disc and found visibility down to forty feet. In 1967 it was less than 10 feet.

On September 19, 2005 I collected a water sample at Homewood, Lake Tahoe and one at 1226 Peninsula Drive at Lake Almanor and had them tested at Monarch Laboratory in Chico. The results are astounding. Both lakes tested nearly the same for electric conductivity and total suspended solids.

These tests indicate that Almanor has been constantly improving. The health of the lake is incredibly great. P.G.&E. has been a great steward of the lake. The hydro electric operation I think has enhanced the lake by keeping a steady reduction in the lake level after an almost constant lake level during June, July and most of August. The operations at the lake have complimented their power generation output in the Feather River Canyon. By my tests I have absolute proof of the results of my comments. The surface water temperatures of the lake vary from year to year but in general the lake is cooler than it used to be.

The main reason that the property values around the lake have sky rocketed is because people love this big pristine body of water.

I think any impact assessment of a thermal curtain in either Almanor or Butts Lake should be rated as "extremely dangerous". Water quality in Almanor is now in the same category as Tahoe. We cannot afford to gamble with this accomplishment. I believe the best alternative to improve the water temperature in the canyon is stream restoration.

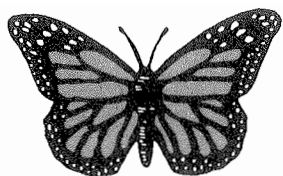
Any degradation in Lake Almanor by new facilities or a change in the operation of current water levels could also destroy the economy of Chester and other communities around the lake.

I would like to add also that it would be foolish to pass water out the bottom of the dam and lose the power during that time that the Prattville penstock can produce.

If you would be interested in any more information that I have collected over the years at the lake, I would be happy to share it with you.

Sincerely,


C. William Johnson



Monarch Laboratory, Inc.

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CHICO, CALIFORNIA 95926
PHONE (530) 343-5818

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TEST REPORT: 230917

C. WILLIAM JOHNSON

Sample Identification: *Almond*
Date & Time Taken: **09/09/2005** **1600**
Collected By: **CW JOHNSON**
Sample Matrix: **Liquid**
Received: **09/12/2005** Client: **JOHWIL** Report Date: **09/19/2005**

Results for Sample 230917

Parameter	Result	Unit	MAL
01 Specific Conductance,Waste Water	100	umhos/cm	1.0
02 Total Suspended Solids,Waste Wat	<2.0	mg/L	1.0

Analytical Details for Sample 230917

Parameter	CAS	Method	Bottle	Analyzed	By
01 Specific Conductance,Waste Water		EPA Method 120.1		09/14/2005	MAS
02 Total Suspended Solids,Waste Wat		EPA Method 160.2		09/15/2005	DLS

Bottle Data for Sample 230917

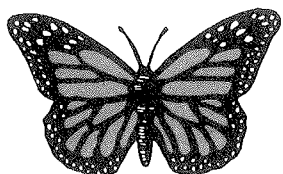
Bottle	Derived in Lab From
01 - OTHER	

Quality Assurance for the SET with Sample 230917

Sample	Description	Result	Value	Unit	%	
Specific Conductance,Waste Water (Analyzed: 09/14/2005 1700 MAS Verified: 09/15/2005 11:15 DLS)	Blank	0.9		umhos/cm		
	Standard	71	71	umhos/cm	100	
	Standard	350	353	umhos/cm	99	
	Standard	1380	1412	umhos/cm	98	
30892	Duplicate	990	990	umhos/cm	0	
30893	Duplicate	960	960	umhos/cm	0	
Total Suspended Solids,Waste Wat (Analyzed: 09/15/2005 1500 DLS Verified: 09/19/2005 11:06 WJP)	Standard	212	200	mg/L	106	
	30967	Duplicate	48	mg/L	0	
	31071	Duplicate	130	140	mg/L	7

Bottle Tracking for Sample 230917

Bottle #:	Date	Time	DC
01 OTHER	9/12/2005	11:29	DC
	9/12/2005	11:29	DC



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TEST REPORT: 230918

C. WILLIAM JOHNSON



Sample Identification: *T0402*
Date & Time Taken: 09/07/2005 1300
Collected By: CW JOHNSON
Sample Matrix: Liquid
Received: 09/12/2005 Client: JOHWIL Report Date: 09/19/2005

Results for Sample 230918

Parameter	Result	Unit	MAL
01 Specific Conductance,Waste Water	90	umhos/cm	1.0
02 Total Suspended Solids,Waste Wat	<2.0	mg/L	1.0

Analytical Details for Sample 230918

Parameter	CAS	Method	Bottle	Analyzed	By
01 Specific Conductance,Waste Water		EPA Method 120.1		09/14/2005	MAS
02 Total Suspended Solids,Waste Wat		EPA Method 180.2		09/15/2005	DLS

Bottle Data for Sample 230918

Bottle	Derived in Lab From
01 - OTHER	

Quality Assurance for the SET with Sample 230918

Sample	Description	Result	Value	Unit	%
Specific Conductance,Waste Water (Analyzed: 09/14/2005 1700 MAS Verified: 09/15/2005 11:15 DLS)					
	Blank	0.9		umhos/cm	
	Standard	71	71	umhos/cm	100
	Standard	350	353	umhos/cm	99
	Standard	1380	1412	umhos/cm	98
30892	Duplicate	990	990	umhos/cm	0
30893	Duplicate	960	960	umhos/cm	0
Total Suspended Solids,Waste Wat (Analyzed: 09/15/2005 1500 DLS Verified: 09/19/2005 11:06 W.I.P)					
	Standard	212	200	mg/L	108
30967	Duplicate	48	48	mg/L	0
31071	Duplicate	130	140	mg/L	7