

15132 Anthony Road
Oak Run, CA 96069

September 21, 2007

Ms. Magalie R. Salas
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 – 1st Street, N.E.
Washington, DC 20426-0001

RE: Request that Studies be Required Immediately to Assess Environmental Effects of Decommissioning of Project 606 Kilarc- Cow Creek Proposed by PG&E

Dear Secretary Salas:

We attended meetings convened by PG&E between March and May 2007 and again on September 12, 2007. At the Scoping Meeting on May 16, 2007, a request was made that PG&E conduct a water temperature study to determine the potential effect on water temperature, and by extension on the habitats of salmon and steelhead protected under state and federal Endangered Species Acts. We provided the following data reflecting evidence that water temperatures below the powerhouse are significantly lower than water temperatures above the powerhouse and air temperatures.

4-27-07		Air Temp. 88°
Power House	48°	4:45 PM
Creek at Power House	58°	4:45 PM
Canal at Reservoir	54°	5:15 PM
Forbay at Creek	53°	6:10 PM

2 second feet running over flow at spillway

At the September 12 meeting, PG&E's project manager, Steve Nevares said that PG&E did not consider it necessary to study any further the potential effects of not having Kilarc reservoir. Although PG&E and the resource agencies responsible for recovery of fish species have stated that they assume there would be no change in temperature, the effect of PG&E's proposal to eliminate Kilarc reservoir does warrant study because of the significant consequences.

We, community stakeholders in this process, are upset that Kilarc Reservoir may be destroyed (even when I was in a wheelchair following surgery, I could go fishing there; it is also really accessible for helicopters to collect water for fire protection – it is a unique resource in the area) and angry that PG&E chooses to ignore public requests and delay for 18 months or more, until after submission of its proposed decommission plan in March 2009, undertaking studies that clearly are necessary to evaluate the effects of their proposed plan versus viable alternatives. The Kilarc diversion on Old Cow Creek has existed for more than 100 years and should be preserved as any blue line stream for its present value.

Please, order PG&E to immediately undertake appropriate environmental studies to identify the effects of the proposed draining and filling of Kilarc reservoir on downstream water temperatures.

Respectfully,

 

Earl & Joan Wetmore,
Concerned Stakeholders

cc:

Director, Office of Hydropower Licensing
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 – 1st Street, N.E.
Washington, DC 20426-0001

Takeshi Yamashita, Regional Director
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
901 Market Street, Room 350
San Francisco, CA 94103

Steve Nevares, Senior Project Manager
san3@pge.com

P-606 Service List

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have on this day served this letter by first class mail postage prepaid or email upon each person designated on the official service list compiled by the Secretary of the Commission in this proceeding.

Dated at Whitmore, CA this 21st day of September 2007.


Thomas Glenn Dye
“SAVE KILARC” Committee Chair