



COUNTY OF SISKIYOU

Board of Supervisors

P.O. Box 750 • 201 Fourth Street
Yreka, California 96097
www.co.siskiyou.ca.us

(530) 842-8005
FAX (530) 842-8013
Toll Free: 1-888-854-2000, ext. 8005

PRESS RELEASE -- KLAMATH RIVER DAMS SISKIYOU COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Over two years ago, the Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors was the lone voice in demanding that President Obama's Statement on Scientific Integrity be incorporated into the processes that the United States, the State of California, the State of Oregon, and PacifiCorp were using to study their desired removal of the Klamath hydroelectric facilities. It now appears that there may be credible proof that these concerns were well justified. The recent revelations about the lack of integrity and the way that the desire of the Secretary of the Interior to remove the Klamath dams, has influenced the way the science has been conducted and reported demands that there be a full inquiry into how the taxpayers dollars have been spent in this matter.

It is long past the time that the citizens of Siskiyou Count be relieved from the burden of this ill conceived venture. In a time of over 18% unemployment and plunging real estate markets, the focus needs to be on helping the people of this County. It is time to repeal the rate increases PacifiCorp has imposed upon the citizens of Siskiyou County. It is time for the Governor of the State of California and the United States Department of the Interior to conclusively state that this matter will not be going forward so that the property values of the landowners in Siskiyou County may be restored. For over five years, the citizens of

Siskiyou County have borne the costs of this ill conceived and speculative endeavor.

The recent revelations regarding the integrity of this process are not the only ones raised by Siskiyou County. During the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board process for setting TMDLs for the Klamath River, we pointed out how the lead negotiator for the Yurok Tribe, a party that is signatory to the Agreements and has long and unequivocally demanded dam removal, sat as a member of the Board that was creating the TMDL which we believe was specifically designed to require dam removal regardless of the science. PacifiCorp itself is challenging in court this decision of the North Coast Regional Quality Control Board alleging that the science underlying the TMDL is flawed.

It is time to put an end to this billion dollar boondoggle. Accordingly, the Board of Supervisors respectfully demands that the Governor of the State of California affirmatively state that he will no longer pursue this endeavor, that the State of California withdraw from the KBRA/KHSA proceedings, and that PacifiCorp affirmatively seek the repeal of the rate increase imposed in this matter.

The Board of Supervisors further announces that it is reconsidering the timing for the filing of its lawsuit against the Secretary of the Interior, given that the primary intent of the suit was to prevent an illegal decision to remove the Klamath dams.

In its recent Notice of Intent to File Suit, the Board of Supervisors warned the Secretary of the Interior that he was not in a position to make a legally defensible determination on dam removal. The Secretary has now publicly conceded that he is not authorized by law to move forward, and he has deferred indefinitely any decision on dam removal.

//// 3/6/12