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March 24, 2015

Esteemed Legislature of Oregon

Re: Proposed Klamath dam removals

Ladies & Gentlemen;

Based on the information stated herein I would seriously hope that you re-consider your support for dam removal on the Klamath River especially when you consider the drought we are experiencing and the need is for more water storage.

IMPACTS OF KLAMATH RIVER DAM REMOVAL

1. Violation of the Federal Endangered Species Act

- A) Killing hundreds of indigenous species by release of 20 million cubic yards of toxic sludge into the Klamath.
- B) Destruction of Bird Flyways above the dams
- C) Listing of Coho, which is a non-indigenous species
- D) Illegal listing of threatened under the ESA only involves water and substrate concerns per the Magnusson Stevens Act and the Sustainable Fisheries Act
- E) Release of a biomass quantity of Yellow Perch which will decimate Salmon spawning grounds.
- F) The loss of Iron Gate Hatchery which provides over 6 million Salmon based on their present protocols which will decimate Salmon production in the Klamath Basin.
- G) Loss of established premier beneficial species habitat.

2. Salmon production has increased and not decreased

- A) In 1950 the total catch of all Salmon species in the Pacific Northwest totaled 149,000 metric tons with 80% caught in Alaskan waters. In 2007 the total catch in the Pacific Northwest was 403,000 metric tons with 97% caught in Alaskan waters due to a historic warming of the Pacific Ocean.

3. Violation of Congressional mandates

- A) Department of Commerce has authority over salt water species and in this illegal action the Department of the Interior has abused their authority.

4. Violation of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act

- A) Release of 20 million cubic yards of toxic sludge will change the physical characteristics of the Klamath River.
- B) California North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board TMDL requirements only have to meet the water quality at the time the Klamath River was designated in 1981 under this act.

5. Violation of Cal Fire's ability to control wild fires.

- A) Removal of reservoirs will force fire helicopters to travel much greater distances to re-fill their buckets to fight forest fires placing all at risk.

6. Violation of California State Water Rights Board

- A) In 1960 the State Water Rights Board approved the construction of Iron Gate dam. , "The dam will serve for both power and flood control, thus lessening flood danger in the Klamath area". Removal of dams will subject communities and property owners to inundating floods downriver.
- B) Loss of potential beneficial fisheries water flow management and control.

7. Violation of Siskiyou County's regional Income and Water supply

- A) Dam removal will result in loss of Recreational use and regional income.
- B) Disruption of the water supply to the City of Yreka.

8. Loss of irrigation water in Rogue Valley Irrigation District in Southern Oregon

- A) Four Mile Lake, Howard Prairie Lake and Hyatt Lake waters, which get their water from the Klamath Basin Watershed, 24% may no longer be available to the Rogue Valley as "environmental water" would be used in the Klamath River for Salmon.

9. Violation of the Constitution of the United States

- A) Siskiyou County voters clearly stated in the 2010 election by a vote of 80% to retain the dams on the Klamath River. What happened to BY THE PEOPLE---FOR THE PEOPLE.



Dr. Richard Gierak

Bachelors Degrees in Biology & Chemistry, Doctorate in the Healing Arts, Director of Interactive Citizens United, Director of New Frontiers Institute, Inc. Prior Participant of FERC's FPAT (Fish passage advisory team) and HET (Hatchery evaluation team) at Iron Gate Dam, Prior Vice President of Greenhorn Action Grange, Prior California State Grange Spokesman for the Water Committee, Prior National Whip of the Property Rights Congress of America, Representative of the Grange States of California, Oregon, Washington and Idaho regarding EFH regulations. Recently Science Officer Siskiyou County Water Users Association.