

(916) 355-7020

RF, Sierra, Nevada, Truckee River, Dewatering of  
Hydroelectric Flumes. 19840821 992

August 21, 1984

John Kellam  
126 Elena  
Atherton, California 94025

Dear Mr. Kellam:

In July you brought a serious problem to our attention. The problem was the periodic dewatering of hydroelectric flumes along the Truckee River.

Sierra Pacific Power Company was subsequently contacted by our District Biologist headquartered in Tahoe City. He explained our various concerns and found the power company quite conciliatory. The flumes have to be drained once or twice each year to maintain structures and machinery. In the future each shutdown will be planned to give our Department two weeks advance notice. We will be prepared to rescue stranded trout and plant them in the Truckee River. There are no anticipated shutdowns planned for the remainder of 1984.

In 1985 we will closely monitor what happens when the flumes are dewatered. If excessive losses of fish occur despite our best efforts, screens to keep out fish will be considered. The cost of operating and maintaining screens is very high and will be carefully considered.

Thank you again for writing us about this problem.

Sincerely,

COPY Original signed by  
Jerry L. Mensch

Paul T. Jensen  
Regional Manager

bc: R. Wickwire, ADDO, IFB

JHR:ds