



# COUNTY OF SISKIYOU

## Board of Supervisors

P.O. Box 750 • 201 Fourth Street  
Yreka, California 96097  
[www.co.siskiyou.ca.us](http://www.co.siskiyou.ca.us)

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

October 19, 2011

### VIA FAX AND US MAIL

The Honorable Ken Salazar  
Secretary of the Interior  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20240

Re: Demand for coordination meeting  
(this letter has been sent by land surface mail and also to the California State Director of the Bureau of Land Management electronically ([jkenna@blm.gov](mailto:jkenna@blm.gov)) to speed delivery to the Secretary)

Dear Secretary Salazar:

As Secretary of the Interior you stand in direct violation of federal law by failing to coordinate your dam destruction decision with Siskiyou County. We will not stand idly by and allow you to continue violating the law.

Enclosed is a copy of the Siskiyou County coordination statement filed at a public comment meeting regarding destruction of the Klamath River dams.

We trust that you will take the contents seriously. We intend them seriously.

You are required to engage the County in the coordination process that is mandated by the Federal Land Policy Management Act, the National Forest Management Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, regulations issued by the Council on Environmental Quality, regulations issued by every department within the Interior Department, and two Executive Orders issued by President Obama in 2011.

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**Jim Cook**  
District 1

**Ed Valenzuela**  
District 2

**Michael Kobseff**  
District 3

**Grace Bennett**  
District 4

**Marcia H. Armstrong**  
District 5

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You have violated each of the cited laws and orders. If you, or your designees, have not initiated the process by scheduling a coordination meeting with this Board no later than November 8, 2011, we will seek enforcement and remedial assistance from the Department of Justice, the Council on Environmental Quality, the Appropriations Committee and its Subcommittee on Interior affairs in the United States House of Representatives and the appropriate United States Attorney.

We are aware that in at least two prior western cases, the Department of Justice has stepped in and directed that coordination take place: Modoc County, California and Fremont County, Wyoming. We are also aware that at least two United States District Judges have set aside management plans and a Record of Decision issued on an Environmental Impact Statement: in Uintah County v. Gayle Norton, Secretary of Interior and California Resources Agency v. United States Forest Service.

We will not be seeking enforcement in uncharted waters. The path to enforcement has been carefully prepared for us by other counties, cities and special taxing districts. We intend to march that path in order to protect the interests of our constituents who stand in overwhelming opposition to destruction of the dams.

We were at first surprised to learn of your recent western swing to San Francisco where you spoke favorably toward a decision to destroy the dams. We thought it strange that you would come to California, be so near to Siskiyou County which will be hammered by destruction of the dams, yet not arrange a coordination meeting.

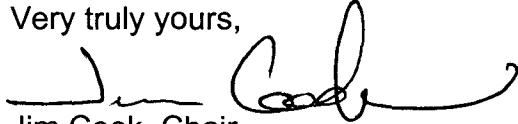
In retrospect, after two of our Board members, Michael Kobseff and Chairman Jim Cook, heard your speech, we understand why you tried to avoid coordination. It is difficult to engage in coordination in good faith if your decision is already made.

If that turns out to be the case, you will have violated 40 CFR 1502.2 which provides that **“environmental impact statements shall serve as the means of assessing the environmental impact of proposed agency actions, rather than justifying decisions already made.”**

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To reiterate one last time, if a coordination meeting has not been scheduled with our County by November 8, 2011, we will seek enforcement and remedy.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Cook", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Jim Cook, Chair  
Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors

Encl.



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February 17, 2009

Secretary Ken Salazar  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20240

Re: Coordination Requirements and the Agreement in Principal for Removal of PacifiCorp's Dams on the Klamath River.

Dear Secretary Salazar:

This letter is to bring to your attention certain concerns that the County of Siskiyou has with respect to actions of your department in conjunction with the states of Oregon and California regarding PacifiCorp's dams on the Klamath River and the impacts of their potential removal on Siskiyou County.

This letter is written to you consistent with the "REMEDIES AND RESERVATIONS" portion of the *Agreement for Confidentiality of Settlement Communications and Negotiations Protocol Related to The Klamath Hydroelectric Project*. Specifically, Section 5.1 allowing contacts such as this.

While the County has several specific concerns, which are addressed to you under separate cover, we wish to bring to your attention the provisions of Title 43 of the United States Code Section 1712. Of concern are the provisions of Section 1712 (c)(9) that the Secretary of the Department of the Interior coordinate with local government with respect to lands under its jurisdiction. Furthermore, the Coordination provisions under Section 1712 mandate that the Secretary of the Interior "...provide for meaningful public involvement of local government officials, both elected and appointed...including early public notice of proposed decisions which may have a significant impact on non-Federal lands." Furthermore, plans developed "shall be consistent" with local plans to the maximum extent consistent with federal law. Certainly the proposed removal of dams on the Klamath River falls within the provisions of decisions of your department that will have a significant impact on non-federal lands.

It is the County's position that it has not been meaningfully included in the process and in fact, given the manner in which the current activities are being conducted with respect to the proposed removal of the dams on the Klamath River, the County is being effectively substantively excluded while facially being allowed to participate. It should also be noted that the local governments identified in Section 1712 include

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local cities, irrigation districts, school districts and possibly Resource Conservation Districts. To our knowledge, the City of Yreka has never been consulted with respect to impacts on its water supply nor have any of the other local districts, including schools, been consulted. While some of these issues may seem minor in comparison to the larger scheme being undertaken by the states of Oregon and California, PacifiCorp, and the United States, they are of significant importance to the citizens of the County in which the majority of these acts are being undertaken.

We respectfully request that you review the actions undertaken by your predecessor and commit on behalf of your department to working with the County of Siskiyou in a meaningful manner and providing an equal place at the table for the representatives of the County subject to this proposal. We look forward to your response at your earliest convenience and we would ask that you kindly note that there are activities underway as this letter is being presented which are likely to materially affect the citizens of Siskiyou County and which the County has not been allowed to meaningfully participate.

Respectfully,



Michael Kobseff, Chairman  
Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors

cc: Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor Ted Kulongoski  
Congressman Wally Herger  
Senator Dianne Feinstein  
Senator Barbara Boxer