



A COMMUNITY-OWNED UTILITY

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June 10, 2004

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Steven J. Wright
Administrator
Bonneville Power Administration
PO Box 3621
Portland, OR 97208-3621

RE: Summer Spill Proposal

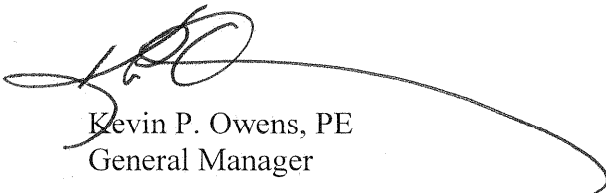
Dear Mr. Wright:

Columbia River People's Utility District (PUD), a consumer-owned utility serving 17,000 customers in Columbia and Multnomah Counties, urges you to continue your hard work to make sustainable positive changes to the Summer Spill Program. Our customers need immediate rate relief and we believe a fair balance in fulfilling ESA responsibilities can be achieved.

Fish mitigation costs have a direct impact on the rates we pay to BPA for wholesale power. Our customers' electric rates have increased by over 33% since 2001 as a result of cost increases from BPA. With Columbia County suffering from some of the highest unemployment rates in the state of Oregon, it is incumbent upon us to do everything we can to help keep BPA's costs down. While the rest of Oregon is working its way out of a severe economic slump, Columbia County is lagging in this recovery. Implementing less-costly, practical mitigation efforts to assist in immediately lowering rates would help provide immediate relief for our customers.

While I am pleased progress is being made to augment Summer Spill this summer, this recently modified proposal just doesn't go far enough. It has effectively been "watered" down to placate the many stakeholders. I can only hope that this is a starting point to achieving even greater savings based on scientific fact and practical common sense. As the Administrator, we need your continued support and perseverance to maximize alternative mitigation strategies.

Sincerely,



Kevin P. Owens, PE
General Manager

