



OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

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June 12, 2008

Mr. Bill Booth, Chairman
Northwest Power and Conservation Council
851 S.W. 6th Avenue, Suite 1100
Portland, OR 97204

Dear Chairman Booth:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed amendments to the Council's Fish and Wildlife Program. The success of your Program is critically important to our utility and our community because our customers help fund the Council's Program through their power bills. As customers who fund the Fish and Wildlife Program, we want to ensure that funds are being spent productively and efficiently. At the same time, the Program that guides the Council's future actions needs to give members flexibility to rapidly respond to new information and to change implementation when necessary. A successful Program will provide an effective and stable mitigation effort for fish and wildlife and help keep power rates for the region's electricity consumers stable.

We support the power industry amendments previously submitted and believe that with the Council's leadership, the Program can be the guidance document and policy direction needed for the region's fish and wildlife mitigation efforts. Accordingly, we urge the Council to reject the proposed amendments you have received that add prescriptive measures and details which interfere with the ability to quickly react. In addition, the specifics of other regional documents such as the FCRPS Biological Opinion and the memoranda of agreement should be incorporated by reference only. This will allow the Program to remain viable regardless of the status of these documents and the structure will ensure the Council has the ability to use the best available information in its decision-making.

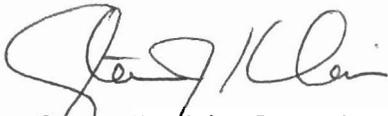
We count on the Council to create a Program that focuses on mitigating impacts of the hydrosystem, while ensuring that the Program is an integral part of the greater regional fish and wildlife effort. We want to ensure that power customers are not unduly burdened through their power rates with mitigating for all human impacts to fish and wildlife in the Northwest. The Council's Program should prioritize projects that provide the greatest benefits while maintaining a definitive link to the hydrosystem. With its regional focus, the Council has the ability to determine which projects could use additional assistance from its Program or where other entities could contribute resources to improve the effectiveness of existing Council projects.

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The Council also is uniquely positioned to require thorough scientific review by the Independent Science Review Panel of all projects recommended for funding, and to ensure adequate oversight. We encourage the Council to ensure that its Program provides support for this review and oversight, as well as for ensuring benchmarks for success of projects funded. Projects such as those being proposed in the agreements related to the FCRPS Biological Opinion need this review to ensure they will deliver the biological benefits they have promised and that they fit with the rest of the Program.

We look forward to continuing to work with the Council and other interested parties so the amended Program creates the best conditions for the region's fish and wildlife resources.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven J. Klein". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Steven" being the most prominent.

Steven J. Klein, General Manager
Snohomish County PUD No. 1

cc: Dana Toulson, AGM