

January 14, 2003

To: NWPPC
Re: Comments on Mainstem Amendments

I am commenting on behalf of Columbia Riverkeepers, a nonprofit public interest organization representing over 2500 NW citizens. CRK strongly objects to any cutbacks in spills and urges the Council to increase spills at critical times of fish passage. Salmon must not be over-sacrificed for power. We also strongly oppose any increased barging or trucking of salmon. Natural fish passage must be facilitated. CRK supports the recommendations of the CRITFC and requests the Council and BPA work more closely with the Tribes in all future decisions regarding salmon and the Columbia River.

Money and energy can be best saved by the immediate implementation of energy conservation measures severely lacking in the Northwest. Energy conservation measures should be subsidized for all Northwest citizens.

In a year of low snow pack to date, the Council has a huge responsibility to protect Columbia River salmon by providing adequate water for fish passage regardless of any strains on the power to be generated. Adequate planning and development of alternative energy sources would not have put us in the crisis we face today that will only escalate in future years unless immediate and "out of the box" thinking and decision-making occurs. We all have a lot to lose. Please us the wisdom of the Tribes to guide your actions.

Cyndy deBruler, Executive Director
Columbia Riverkeepers
P.O. Box 1254
Hood River, OR 97031