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Public Affairs
Northwest Power Planning Council
851 SW 6th Ave., Suite 1100
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SUBJECT: Comments to Columbia Basin Fish & Wildlife Program

SUMMARY: The program is not working. The Hydroelectric Power committee needs to take a fresh look at the problems and stop wasting time doing what has been done in the past and does not work.

FRESH LOOK: Hydroelectric power is outdated and only causes the loss of fish habit and "mother natures" creatures and land beauty. Dams should never again be used for producing electric as it is a proven fact there are better ways of providing more than enough electric to meet the modern day needs. Nuclear power is dependable, cheap, and safe. Yes, I say SAFE as nuclear energy has been running our ships for 40 years as our Armed Forces sleep and eat next to nuclear energy and they are SAFE. Plus, the other nuclear power plants in the U.S.A. have proven their worth.

One nuclear power plant can generate up to 3,700 Megawatts (Palo Verde, Arizona on 12/1/2000) and the Lower Granite, Little Goose, Lower Monumental, and Ice Harbor only produced 445 Megawatts of electric on 11/20/2002 – these dams must go! The waterway provided for shipping goods from these dams can be quickly replaced by the trucking system. These dams have no value that can't be replaced immediately. These four dams are one of the fish's biggest enemies.

Restudying a dead issue is a waste of value time to our fish and a waste of money. Transporting juvenile fish either my truck or barge is a death sentence to the fish; they are safer going through a power turbine. The Sierra Club – Northwest Region has numerous studies of this.

The Northwest Power Planning Council needs to look at the science that has been done and act upon it. Additionally, be more open to new ideas and not be affair to make decisions that they know will make a difference to those that can't defend themselves – the fish!

Sincerely,



Linda K. Kincer