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June 26, 2002

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Kendra Phillips
Northwest Power Planning Council
851 SW Sixth Avenue, Suite 1100
Portland, Oregon 97204-1348

Dear Ms. Phillips:

On behalf of the Idaho Cooperative Council, Inc. I am writing to ask that you alert the Power Council Members to Project #34018, which was submitted to the Council for funding but was not ranked by the Independent Science Review Panel. The project involves the PISCES unit, a new screening technology developed by Balaton Power, Inc. The submission came from the Watersheds Professionals Network.

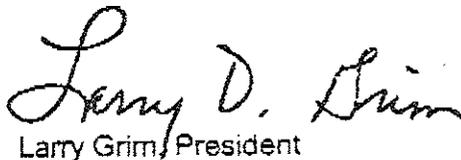
At the time the proposal was submitted, the concept had not been tested. Since then, Balaton used its own funds to construct a prototype. The unit was thoroughly tested in a partnership with the Yakima Tribe at their Prosser, Washington hatchery with very good results. The project application is for additional testing that could lead to certification and use.

The technology keeps fish out of diversions using directed water flows. The fish are not contacted by any part of the unit, avoiding the scraping effect of current screens that can harm or kill the fish. Debris is kept clear of the unit by the same directed flows, saving the cost of manpower to keep it clean. It can be constructed more cheaply than current screens and is portable – it can be removed from the stream and placed on a nearby bank when freezing conditions threaten.

Most of the projects submitted for funding were continuing studies. The PISCES unit represents one that can be on the ground, working, while it is proving itself and gaining acceptance.

I sincerely hope the Members of the Council will consider all the benefits of this outstanding new technology and fund it fully.

Yours,


Larry Grim, President

JUN 28 2002