



March 24, 2000

Brigadier General Carl Strook, Commander
Northwest Division, US Army Corps of Engineers
PO Box 2946
Portland, OR 97208-2946

SUBJ : Opposition to the Breaching of the Dams on the Columbia & Snake Rivers

Dear General Strook:

I am writing on behalf of the staff and Board of Commissioners of the Port of Kalama to inform you that we are vehemently opposed to the breaching of dams on the Snake River and the Columbia River.

The Columbia/Snake River System is a multiple purpose system authorized by Congress for navigation, irrigation, flood control, hydropower and recreation.

Supporters of dam breaching have obviously lost sight of why dams are important and have become too far removed from how the economy of the Pacific Northwest works. They have forgotten about the linkage of dams to everyday living - affordable electricity, competitively priced goods, employment of a huge percentage of the regions workforce and safety from the annual flooding of pre-dam times.

We read Jonathan Brinckman's article in the March 23, 2000 OREGONIAN newspaper where you were quoted as saying that based on the input from the hearings, you could come away with the impression that dam breaching was more acceptable to the region than you had thought.

In our view, the regional populace does not believe that dam breaching is a serious option for fish recovery and accordingly have not contemplated the consequences of life without dams.

We all hope that rational thinking prevails in this discussion of dam breaching and that the heretical thinking of dam breachers will be eventually replaced with good common sense.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lanny Cawley".

Lanny Cawley
Executive Director

LHC/clm