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Evergreen Olympic Properties, Inc.  
Market Place Office Building  
724 Columbia St. NW, Suite 200  
Olympia, WA 98501

(360) 943-8060 Commercial  
(360) 352-7666 Residential  
(360) 943-9368 FAX  
Website: www.rants-group.com  
E-mail: info@rants-group.com

February 16, 2000

U.S. Army Corp. of Engineers  
Walla Walla District  
201 N Third Ave.  
Walla Walla, WA 99362

Gentlemen:

Removal of Lower Snake River Dams would be a tragic mistake, one that can never be reversed. There is no "reserve" supply of power and there will be no additional generation capacity in the foreseeable future. In fact, until and unless a new generation system is developed, there may never be any additional capacity. We need badly to keep what we have in place.

The Snake River System provides cost effective transportation for much of central and eastern Washington and Idaho. Highway and rail transportation are simply not adequate to replace the Snake River Transportation System. Also, Washington's agricultural industry is dependant on water from the Snake River. There are no alternate sources, thereby leaving the industry crippled should the dams be removed.

I urge you to leave the dams in place.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ron Rants".

R. A. Rants, CEO

cc: Senator Gorton  
Rep. Baird

RR/tgj