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DEPARTMENT

June 1, 2011

2011 JUN - 7 A 9:59
FEDERAL ENERGY
REGULATORY COMMISSION

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street N.E.
Washington, DC 20426

152

Re: Wells Hydroelectric Project No. 2149, Application for new license

Dear Ms. Bose:

This letter is to document our support for Douglas County (Washington) PUD's application for a new license to operate the Wells Hydroelectric Project No. 2149 for a fifty year term.

We are especially pleased to support the application, given the Douglas PUD's outstanding and collaborative efforts to develop recreation measures to enhance the growing needs for non-motorized boat use of the Wells pool on the Columbia River. The Douglas County PUD has assisted the Port of Chelan County and the Greater Columbia Water Trail Association to identify launch areas, campsites, and portages to be developed for servicing the needs of recreational paddlers and rowers on the Wells project area.

Enhancement of access and infrastructure to support paddle sports on this and adjacent reaches of the river has been a primary objective of the Association since its inception in 2008. This effort has been supported by the Economic Development Department of the Port of Chelan County that believes the area is well positioned to become a destination for recreational paddlesports from throughout the Northwest and beyond. As an area in which one of every ten jobs is tourism-related, the enhancement of the paddle sports experience will add to the vitality of this critical element of the local economy.

Given our experience with the PUD, we respectfully ask your approval of the Wells Project License Application for a 50 year license term. The non-motorized-boat recreation measures as well as other measures in the Wells Project Recreation Management Plan offer long-term benefits over the term of the (requested) new license.

Respectfully,

Ron Johnston-Rodriguez
Economic Development Director, Port of Chelan County
Director, Greater Columbia Water Trails Association

