

KEN STANTON
1ST DISTRICT

DALE SNYDER
2ND DISTRICT

STEVEN D. JENKINS
3RD DISTRICT

DOUGLAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

August 15, 2011

Mr. Jon Wellinghoff, Chairman
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)
888 First Street Northeast
Washington, DC 20426

Re: Support for Douglas County PUD's License Application – Wells Hydroelectric Project

Dear Chairman Wellinghoff:

We write to you in support of the 50-year License Application of Public Utility District No. 1 of Douglas County (Douglas County PUD) for the Wells Hydroelectric Project (Wells Project, FERC No. 2149-152). Douglas County PUD formally began its relicensing effort on December 1, 2006 and filed its Final License Application with FERC on May 27, 2010. Douglas County PUD has invested over \$9.2 million into the effort to relicense the Wells Project.

A 50-year license for the Wells Project is critically important to the people of Douglas County and the entire region. The hydroelectric generation from the Wells Project helps promote economic development in Douglas County and ensures that the citizens of Douglas County have access to abundant, clean and renewable electricity.

Douglas County PUD has completed numerous environmental relicensing studies and worked closely with stakeholders on the development of resource management plans and relicensing settlement agreements. The cities of Pateros, Brewster, and Bridgeport adjacent to the reservoir upstream of Douglas County PUD's hydroelectric project support Douglas PUD's application. Douglas County PUD has also worked in close coordination with federal, state and tribal fishery resource agencies to develop two landmark settlement agreements, the Anadromous Fish Agreement and Habitat Conservation Plan and an Aquatic Settlement Agreement. Douglas PUD has also agreed to provide extensive funding for the protection and enhancement of fish habitat in the Methow and Okanogan rivers and has agreed to continue providing substantial funding for the operation of hatchery programs in the Methow, Okanogan and Columbia rivers.

Douglas County PUD's Final License Application and associated relicensing settlement agreements are all based on a 50-year license term. We support Douglas PUD's application for a new 50-year license for the Wells Project and request that you carefully evaluate the Final License Application, estimated cost of environmental measures, and the broad array of

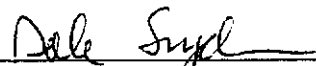
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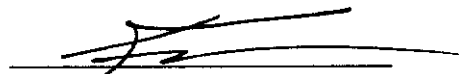
stakeholder support for its settlement agreements and license application when making your decision regarding the term of the next long-term FERC license for the Wells Project.

We appreciate your consideration of the Wells Project's Final License Application.

Sincerely,

Douglas County Board of Commissioners


Dale Snyder, Chair


Ken Stanton, Vice Chair

ABSENT
Steven D. Jenkins, Member

Cc: Philip Moeller, Commissioner
Marc Spitzer, Commissioner
John Norris, Commissioner
Cheryl LaFleur, Commissioner
Kimberly D. Bose, FERC Secretary
Representative Doc Hastings
Senator Patty Murray
Senator Maria Cantwell