

March 20, 2018

Wanda Keefer
Port of Clarkston
849 Port Way
Clarkston, WA 99403

Representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers
1314 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: **HR 3144**

Dear Representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers,

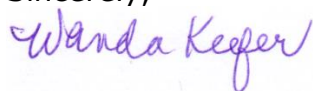
Thank you very much for your leadership on **HR 3144, to provide for operations of the Federal Columbia River Power System pursuant to a certain operation plan for a specified period, and for other purposes, October 12, 2017**. We so much appreciate your understanding that the 365-mile Columbia Snake River navigation channel is the water highway to our community.

Without this transportation corridor, transporting wheat grown here to foreign markets would be significantly costlier—both in dollars and carbon emissions. Causing our roadways to be less safe and it would prevent cruise boats from making their contributions to communities up and down the river. Here at the Port of Clarkston, we calculate the positive economic benefit for just the Lewis-Clark Valley to be \$3,000,000 annually. On the entire system, the economic benefit likely exceeds \$15,000,000 annually.

H.R. 3144 holds the current river plan in place, preventing experiments with spills which haven't proven to be beneficial to fish. In our opinion, parties lobbying for spill experiments, seek to undermine the value of the eight dams on the Columbia River system by reducing beneficial hydropower. As you know, hydropower is a source of energy that does not contribute carbon emissions to the atmosphere.

The Port of Clarkston has long been supportive of the work done by federal agencies to balance the authorized purposes of the river system with the needs of fish. Thank you for assisting with this objective by using legislative authority to prevent extreme, non-beneficial actions.

Sincerely,



Wanda Keefer
Port Manager

