

August 31, 2017

The Honorable Dan Newhouse
United States House of Representatives
1318 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: FCRPS - Snake River Dams

Dear Congressman Newhouse:

I write on behalf of the Tri-City Development Council (TRIDEC) to express our strong support for the Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS), particularly the four (4) lower Snake River dams. As the lead economic development organization for Benton and Franklin Counties, TRIDEC believes that these dams provide vital economic benefits to a multi-state region, including carbon-free base load power generation, navigation, irrigation and recreation.

TRIDEC is also appreciative of the countless efforts that have already been made within the FCRPS to successfully improve fish numbers, including improvements at the dams leading to an average 97% survival rate.

Nevertheless, TRIDEC has watched with concern as litigants have continued to challenge existing Biological Opinions (BiOps) at ever-increasing costs to American taxpayers. Unless action is taken, these groups have clearly shown that they will keep going back to the courts until a judge finally gives them the answer they are looking for.

Therefore, TRIDEC wholeheartedly supports efforts to bring stability and certainty to FCRPS management including implementation of the Endangered Species Act Committee (i.e. the "God Squad"), and legislative efforts such as H.R. 3144 to codify the 2014 Biological Opinion until 2022.

Sincerely,



Carl Adrian
President & CEO

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