



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

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By Email (puc.commission@state.or.us)

Ms. Lisa Hardie, Chair
Oregon Public Utilities Commission
201 High St SE Suite 100
Salem, Oregon 97301-3398

Re: Docket No. UE 219 (Approval of Klamath River Renewal Corporation Funding Agreement)

Dear Chair Hardie:

I am writing to support the staff recommendation that the commission approve the proposed funding agreement between the Oregon Public Utilities Commission and the Klamath River Renewal Corporation (KRRC). Over the past six months, the KRRC has worked diligently to implement the functions of the Dam Removal Entity contemplated under the Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement Agreement (KHSA). The KRRC has built a strong working board of directors and is rapidly developing its team to carry out this important project.

As Governor Brown's representative in negotiating the amendments to the KHSA over the past year, I am very pleased to see the progress the KRRC is making, and the good working relationship between the KRRC and OPUC staff. Similar progress is occurring in California, where the California Natural Resources Agency has approved \$25 million in funding for the work of the KRRC from the \$250 million in bond proceeds authorized by that state.

The OPUC's action to approve this agreement will enable the KRRC to stay on track as it develops its required filings for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Your action is an important part of this effort that will both benefit PacifiCorp customers and renew the health of one of the most important river systems on the west coast of the United States. In closing, please allow me to thank your staff and counsel, who have worked hard to keep this effort on schedule. They have gone well above and beyond the norm.

Sincerely,

Richard Whitman
Interim Director, Oregon DEQ

cc. Lance Kaufman (lance.kaufman@state.or.us)
Jason Miner, Governor Brown's Natural Resources Policy Manager (Jason.miner@oregon.gov)
Tom Byler, Director, Oregon Water Resources Department (Thomas.M.BYLER@state.or.us)

