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PUBLIC MEETING SESSION

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
DRAFT LOWER SNAKE RIVER JUVENILE SALMON MIGRATION
FEASIBILITY REPORT/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
WITH
FEDERAL CAUCUS CONSERVATION OF COLUMBIA BASIN FISH
"ALL-H PAPER"

DOUBLE TREE HOTEL
2525 NORTH 20TH AVENUE
PASCO, WASHINGTON

PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION

FEBRUARY 17, 2000
7:00 P.M.

COURT REPORTER: WILLIAM J. BRIDGES, CM, RMR, CSR

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1 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you
2 very much. We are going to begin our oral testimony.
3 As I think Colonel Mogren mentioned, we've got about
4 six or seven elected officials with us, and we're
5 going to ask them to let them come up first, and then
6 we will move on for the remainder of our public
7 testimony.

8 Let me introduce you to the folks who are
9 joining the panel at this point. Coming up into the
10 first slot here, Bill Shake is with the U.S. Fish and
11 Wildlife Service, Lorri Bodi is with the Bonneville
12 Power Administration, and Bill Randolph is with the
13 Bureau of Reclamation. Sorry. It's been a long day.

14 For the oral testimony we will begin with
15 the elected officials. I will call your name to come
16 to the microphone, based on the sign-up sheets. I
17 will tell you a little bit more about that once we
18 have had our elected officials.

19 But everybody will be on a three minute
20 system here. We've got some lights off to the side
21 here. The green light says go, yellow light says one
22 minute left, and the red light is time to stop. And I
23 will help you all with the time to stop part if you
24 don't do it naturally on your own.

25 So I appreciate that you all can look at

1 that light over there and I will wave in that
2 direction, and be as kind as I can to get you to be
3 quiet.

4 Because the meeting is going to be
5 transcribed, if you could indicate whether you're
6 going to be talking about the Corps' Environmental
7 Impact Statement report, or the Federal Caucus All-H
8 paper, or both of those, we'd appreciate that. If
9 you're not sure, that's fine, we will do our best to
10 make sure that your comment gets to the appropriate
11 agency.

12 And also when you come up to testify, if
13 you could state your name and any organization that
14 you might be with, we'd appreciate that.

15 At this point let me begin by allowing our
16 elected officials, and if I might have Randy Sutler,
17 are you here? Great. We will have Randy Sutler,
18 followed by Dick Sherwood, followed by Tim Snead,
19 followed by Jay Minthorn, and followed by Armand
20 Minthorn and Katherine Brigham.

21 Randy?

22 MR. RANDY SUTLER: Yes. Good
23 evening, everyone. My name is Randy Sutler. I
24 represent the Yakama Indian Nation. I am chairman of
25 their Fish and Wildlife Committee, and I thank you for

1 this opportunity to speak here today.

2 I know it's an important concern for all of
3 us.

4 For thousands of years native peoples
5 lived, worked, raised their families long the lands of
6 Michijuaana, the great river, a sacred place. The
7 river was essential for all main species of this land
8 and even those species of the ocean.

9 Our people live lived and died here for
10 thousands of years, and pass the precious, sacred
11 inheritance to generations to come.

12 The inheritance was this land. Full of
13 natural resources, just as the previous generations
14 found them. This land was blessed by many species to
15 which we used in our daily existence.

16 With the coexistence of tribal human life,
17 the species thrived. Our people interacted with all
18 nature and passed knowledge of all species to all
19 future generations. However, the tribal world has
20 changed. We here today are gathered to speak about
21 this land as shared interests.

22 We hear people speak words from their
23 hearts, and I know I speak from mine. I ask myself,
24 what inheritance are you planning to leave your
25 children and their children?

1 Today much is changed from the natural
2 resource management as we knew it. Today we as tribal
3 leaders must educate ourselves towards many new
4 environmental concerns with science and scientists.

5 Our scientists study the very fish tissue
6 we consume for contaminants. The analysis shows
7 radionuclides, dioxins, pesticides, and other toxic
8 substances. Evidence of the contamination is clear in
9 our culturally significant food.

10 We must even learn about the All-H
11 discussion that we are having here today.

12 You people sitting there, up there in the
13 front, your jobs should be easy, if you make your
14 decision based upon the science. The science is very
15 clear. The alternate -- alternative that will restore
16 the natural river condition is the only way to restore
17 fall Chinook spawning and rearing habitat in the Snake
18 River.

19 The fall Chinook only spawn in the mainstem
20 of the Snake River and Columbia Rivers.

21 There is no scientific question that dams
22 have covered the spawning and rearing habitat. There
23 is no way to restore fall Chinook without providing
24 spawning habitat. The scientific study shows a
25 hundred percent chance of salmon recovery for fall

1 Chinook under the natural river options.

2 The science also shows that natural river
3 options has been the best chance of restoring spring
4 and summer Chinook and steelhead.

5 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Randy, time
6 is just up here, if you could wrap up.

7 MR. RANDY SUTLER: Okay. One thing
8 I'd like to leave all of you with, we've reduced our
9 fisheries. We've stopped commercial harvest on the
10 spring Chinook for 20-some years. The summer Chinook
11 for 30 some years. Sockeye for 20 years.

12 And I represent the Yakama Nation through
13 the Pacific Fisheries Management Council, the Pacific
14 salmon treaty issues, and the very issues that you
15 want to lay out on the table and you want to speak
16 about how your lives are going to be impacted by
17 removal of the dams.

18 Communities, nonIndian and tribal, all
19 over, Canada, Alaska, Washington, Oregon, California,
20 have all suffered from the depletion of the resource.

21 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you
22 very much, Randy.

23 Okay. Dick Sherwood.

24 MR. DICK SHERWOOD: Dick Sherwood.
25 I'm a Commissioner with the Port of Clarkston. I am

1 not here in that capacity today. I am here with a new
2 group. We are called Stop the Insanity.

3 I am going to read a letter from a friend
4 of mine. We have made room for the buffalo, the
5 condor, the wolf, the grizzly, the bald eagle and many
6 other animals on the brink of extinction. Now it's
7 time to make room for the salmon.

8 My only question is why we have waited so
9 long to take action. Why do we always wait too long.

10 When I speak of we, I speak as a voice from
11 the human race, without color or discrimination. We
12 will decide cherished memory. We must cease the
13 harvest of salmon immediately to have any chance at
14 all to save them.

15 While fishermen needlessly argue over who
16 should get the fish, get to fish with them, we
17 continue to harvest them into extinction.

18 The first logical step to save these fish
19 is to stop harvesting them, period, not breaching the
20 dams. It could be four or five years until the first
21 dam is even started to be breached. By then all the
22 wild salmon may be gone anyway.

23 The returning numbers are so low now there
24 may be no recovery from this death spiral.

25 Removal of the dams will cause a major

1 collapse to the river, and road and rail systems next
2 to the river, and then require extensive
3 reconstruction of the existing transportation systems
4 built next to the river.

5 Pursuing reckless decisions without giving
6 full considerations to the potential for the long term
7 effects and the repercussions of exactly what the
8 removal of these dams will do is unthinkable.

9 The sale of salmon must be limited to pen
10 reared salmon only. This provides commercial
11 fisheries and the Tribes an opportunity for salmon as
12 an income, and as a part of any dietary requirements.

13 We must put aside our own selfishness and
14 seek God.

15 Breaching must be the final alternative,
16 and I just don't believe that we have put our best
17 foot forward to solve this one yet, and if we did, we
18 probably would not have to breach any of the dams.

19 If the only reason is that we don't get
20 along as humans is because of the salmon, then we
21 should let them go away so we can all get along, where
22 we can work side by side and take logical steps,
23 fishing limitations within the areas where salmon are
24 born, grow to maturity and return.

25 These are the type of actions that will

1 allow the salmon to die, are -- or to live, I'm sorry.
2 It's not my letter, forgive me.

3 The world is watching us, listening to us,
4 and see if we can make the right decision to save our
5 salmon. We need to make logical decisions in a
6 logical sequence and in such a manner that it makes
7 sense and is appropriate. Success and decisions that
8 were chosen by the world is the right way to restore
9 an endangered aquatic resource and the decision to
10 allow the salmon to live.

11 This friend of mine is a member of the
12 Chehalis and the Kootenai Tribes out of Montana, --

13 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Time is up,
14 Dick.

15 MR. DICK SHERWOOD: One of the best
16 letters I have ever read, and I would just like some
17 of the Tribes to think about what some of the other
18 tribes have to say.

19 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you very
20 much. If you want to put that in the record, bring it
21 up.

22 If I can again remind you, if we can keep
23 the clapping down, it will really help us get through
24 tonight.

25 Tim Snead, followed by Jay Minthorn.

1 MR. TIM SNEAD: Okay. Thank you. My
2 name is Tim Snead, County Commissioner from Grant
3 County. I represent over 70,000 people, and we are
4 opposed to breaching of the dams. When asked about
5 breaching the dams, the response to me is, are they
6 crazy?

7 I'm not going to talk about the devastation
8 to the economy or infrastructure in Washington state
9 because of dam destruction, but the damage to the
10 environment.

11 Dams are a clean industry. They produce
12 electricity through the use of a renewable resource;
13 water.

14 President Clinton, your boss, in his state
15 of the union address expressed great concern for
16 global warming. Removing dams will only promote
17 global warming.

18 The loss of electrical generation could
19 only be made up by either coal, gas or nuclear
20 generation. It would be totally irresponsible for the
21 federal government to destroy dams that are a clean
22 renewable resource industry and replace them with
23 industries that are a nonrenewable resource and that
24 will also contribute to global warming.

25 The increase of truck and rail traffic with

1 the loss of barge traffic will also attribute to
2 global warming. Wind or solar generation will not
3 make up the difference of lost power generation. Also
4 conservation will not make up the difference.

5 The population in the Pacific Northwest
6 will continue to grow. We need all the power
7 generation we can get. You must consider the long
8 term overall impact to our environment.

9 Destroying the dams will have a negative
10 impact on our environment. The federal government
11 should channel their efforts to fish friendly turbines
12 on the dams, increased barging of smolts, reduction of
13 harvest on nontribal lands, and working with, not
14 dictating to local governments on habitat restoration.

15 Thank you.

16 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you very
17 much.

18 And we can move now to Jay Minthorn,
19 followed by Armand Minthorn, followed by Katherine
20 Brigham.

21 MR. JAY MINTHORN: Thank you, and
22 good evening. I am not going to read nothing, because
23 if you rehearse these things, it don't work.

24 I'm glad to be speaking to these people in
25 front who don't know the issues. They didn't witness

1 them. A lot of you people here are younger. You've
2 got to think back to the days on the original Columbia
3 River. You've got to think of the unique Celilo
4 Falls, where the wild fish were.

5 Pasco, you've got to remember, if there's
6 breaching on the upper dams, you would have the
7 biggest port around. That would give you something to
8 think about. Maybe I'm supporting you on this. Maybe
9 you will have. You have the shipping and the
10 railroads. This is just something to think about.

11 I've been here, I'm 64 old, I've been on
12 the council 12 now. I had the unique witnessing of
13 the original Columbia River, to see the natural flows,
14 the clear water.

15 I heard a man say, and you will say the
16 same thing, you couldn't pay me a hundred dollars to
17 take a drink out of the Columbia River. How many of
18 you folks will do this? Raise your hand. I'll be at
19 your funeral.

20 These are the issues that you have to look
21 at. We were fighting the dams. We were fighting
22 those dams. You folks remember it. You folks are all
23 younger generation. I am sorry. You older ones will
24 remember.

25 Now what are we doing? We're fighting for

1 removal of these same dams.

2 We were talking, just like you folks are
3 sitting here listening to us, we were opposing these
4 things.

5 Habitat. In them days you could go along
6 there, you could see the habitat along the rivers.
7 You could see the natural flows. You could see the
8 rocks sticking out among there. You could see our
9 tribal people fishing there. You see thousands of
10 nets in the river. Those are what you call buoys.

11 We get one season a year, which is ten
12 days. I would like to challenge the people who say
13 the Indians are catching thousands of fish.

14 The Umatillas have accomplished a success
15 in our river, after 70 years.

16 You folks are aware of the Umatilla Basin
17 Project. People like you folks were a part of the
18 Umatilla Basin Project. Also Gordon Smith.

19 That's what we need to do. We need to work
20 cooperatively, come to a consensus, and not be sitting
21 here fighting. We're not children no more. We've got
22 to learn how to communicate, consult, and agree and
23 work cooperatively.

24 Thank you.

25 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you very

1 much, Jay.

2 Armand Minthorn, followed by Katherine
3 Brigham, and Antone Minthorn, if you are here.

4 MR. ARMAND MINTHORN: I need to I
5 guess express myself the best that I can here.

6 First I want to cite my concerns with the
7 presentation that the Corps gave and NMFS gave.

8 I have some concerns with some of the
9 things that you presented, and I would personally like
10 to invite you to come and visit us.

11 My name is Armand Minthorn. I am a member
12 of the Board of Trustees, Umatilla Tribe.

13 I would personally like to invite you as a
14 panel or as individuals to come and visit us. We need
15 to discuss these matters heart to heart.

16 Second, I'll say it here, that the Umatilla
17 Tribes are pro-breaching. We want these dams removed.
18 I'm not going to criticize anyone's lifestyle here.
19 I'm not going to criticize your religion. I'm not
20 going to criticize the way you live. I'm not that
21 kind of a judge to do that.

22 I sat here earlier and listened to some of
23 the people that talked. It really hurt me to hear
24 some of the things that were said about my life, about
25 my culture.

1 What concerns me the most is that, like one
2 of my friends told me during supper, we're getting
3 pitted against each other.

4 That's wrong. It's truly wrong.

5 What I want to tell you in a good way, in
6 the best way that I can, is that we have government,
7 whether we like it or not, we have to work with them.
8 But I have to work with you folks. And if I'm going
9 to work with you in a good manner, then we need to be
10 treated as equals.

11 I'll try to do the best that I can to work
12 with you. But it makes it a little bit difficult when
13 my way of life is criticized. It truly makes it a
14 little bit difficult.

15 But I wanted to point this out. This is an
16 environmental issue for some, it's a way of life for
17 others, but it's truly a part of my life, what we're
18 talking about here. It will truly have an effect on
19 my way of life, and I'll do anything and everything
20 that I can to protect what's important to me and my
21 people.

22 Thank you.

23 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you
24 very much.

25 Kathy Brigham.

1 MS. KATHERINE BRIGHAM: My name is
2 Katherine Brigham. I'm on the Board of Trustees and
3 on the Umatilla Fish and Wildlife Committee.

4 This evening, looking at your presentation,
5 I was shocked and I was pleased, and I was
6 disappointed as well. Because these are the same
7 things we used to tell the people 20 years old, you
8 have to look at gravel to gravel management, you have
9 to put the fish back, you have to watch these dam
10 operations so that they bypass these fish.

11 Unless you do these types of things, you
12 are going to run our fish to extinction. And here we
13 are today, fighting amongst each other, to try to
14 protect the salmon, and yet if you put the fish back
15 where they belong, if you would have done it 20 years
16 ago, ten years ago, five years ago, we would not be in
17 this situation.

18 And we are still having those problems with
19 the state and federal agencies. They are, rather than
20 working with us, they are fighting us and saying we
21 can't put those fish back, because you have allowed
22 the use to be so narrowly defined we cannot do
23 anything.

24 You need to change that, and these people
25 need to know that if we get a definition of ESU's, we

1 can rebuild these runs. But until you do that, we're
2 going to be fighting and we're going to have a slowed
3 incline, and rather than a greater one so that we can
4 have salmon to fish upon, so we can have our
5 ceremonial and subsistence fisheries on the Columbia
6 River.

7 And I was disappointed in that your
8 presentation, that you said the treaty harvest is
9 there for the fall Chinook. Yet you never said that
10 when the tribal fishery does take place, it goes
11 through Oregon. And the first thing we look at is the
12 run size. Is the run size big enough to have a
13 fishery.

14 And then the next thing we look at is how
15 many of those fish are going to be lost to dams. And
16 that's called inter-dam loss. We take those off even
17 before we go to the next step.

18 What is the escapement level? That has to
19 be removed from that run size.

20 And then we look at the allocation. Is
21 there enough to have a harvest?

22 So I'm disappointed in that you don't give
23 full factual information on tribal harvest.

24 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you
25 very much, Katherine.

1 Is Antone Minthorn here? Antone?

2 Okay. All right. Thank you to our elected
3 officials. And let's move to our public members that
4 are here for testimony tonight. Thank you.

5 The way this is going to work, I will call
6 the first name, then the next person, and the person
7 on deck. If you could get up once you hear your name
8 and move to the microphone, we will be able to move
9 right through tonight and get out of here maybe before
10 midnight. We've got 70, almost 80 here tonight, and
11 we will be here to listen to you until we are done.

12 So we are starting with Sara Patton, next
13 after her is Ken Beck, and on deck will be Heidi
14 Brunkal. I will give you a few more names here. You
15 don't have to all jump up, but just so you know you
16 are coming. Bob Carson, Eric Espenhorst, and let me
17 apologize now in advance if I mispronounce your name,
18 and then Bob Wilson.

19 So, Sara Patton, are you there? Right
20 there. Okay. And Ken Beck and Heidi Brunkal.

21 MS. SARA PATTON: Good evening. My
22 name is Sara Patton. I'm the director of the
23 Northwest Energy Coalition. We're a coalition of
24 approximately 90 groups. They are in Washington,
25 Oregon, Idaho and Montana, a few outliers in

1 California. And they consist of environmental groups,
2 civic groups, like the League of Women Voters,
3 consumer protection groups, low income weatherization
4 and energy assistance groups, energy efficiency
5 businesses, renewable energy developers, and
6 utilities. All united for a clean and affordable
7 energy future.

8 The Northwest Energy Coalition endorsed the
9 removal of the four lower Snake dams to restore salmon
10 and steelhead on the Snake River in November of 1998.

11 The endorsement is both to remove the dams
12 and to replace the energy from those dams with clean
13 energy from energy conservation and renewables.

14 We spent a great deal of time coming to
15 that endorsement. At least two years of study looking
16 at bringing in speakers from all points of view,
17 looking at the science, looking at the economics, and
18 very importantly, looking at the clean energy
19 available to replace the power from the dams.

20 The process took a long time. We were
21 convinced that the science says it's time. It's the
22 only way to take -- excuse me, to return the salmon,
23 is to take out those dams. And we were convinced that
24 the economics were affordable.

25 Even more important, for an energy

1 coalition that deals with energy conservation, was the
2 availability of clean energy to replace that power.
3 We've done a study. We've looked at the Power
4 Council's analysis, we've looked at the analysis of
5 clean energy from wind and solar, and we are convinced
6 that there is at least 1500 megawatts of cost
7 effective conservation that you can use.

8 There is good, solid economically
9 sustainable potential from wind to solar geothermal
10 and soon fuel cells and that we can replace. This is
11 so clear to us that we have utilities who own
12 hydroelectric facilities endorsing the removal of the
13 dams, or the continued study of removal of dams. So
14 that's the very good news.

15 And I think that we would like to leave
16 with you the thought that this is the way to bring the
17 salmon back.

18 We need salmon. Those dams don't make
19 sense. We can have wild salmon and clean energy in
20 abundance in the Northwest if we act now.

21 Thank you.

22 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you,
23 Sara.

24 Kent Beck, followed by Heidi Brunkal,
25 followed by Bob Carson.

1 Kent?

2 DR. KENT BECK: I am Dr. Kent Beck.
3 I work at Pacific Northwest National Laboratories. I
4 work in the Tri-Cities. I'm representing myself here
5 tonight. And as I do, my family, my father came to
6 Pasco in 1942 as a construction crew foreman to build
7 the Hanford reservation.

8 He stayed on and built a heavy construction
9 company in the 1950s here and in fact his first
10 project was building the Tank Farms for Tidewater
11 Barge, now Tidewater Holdings, at the mouth of the
12 Snake River.

13 He believed and had faith in the economic
14 progress of this region. He saw the natural resources
15 as unlimited, as most people did in 1950.

16 At the time there was no reason to doubt
17 it. He told me as a kid that I could travel anywhere
18 in the world like he had, but this region would be the
19 most bountiful and beautiful and I would find not a
20 better place to live, and the quality of life was the
21 key to him, even though he saw progress through
22 industrialization of this area.

23 He took me salmon fishing to Astoria, to
24 the Puget Sound, he took me salmon fishing to the
25 Snake River when I was a kid before there were dams.

1 I remember catching my first large Chinook, which at
2 the time was almost as big as I am, at the time, three
3 and a half foot. There are no three and a half or
4 four foot Snake River Chinook today. At least I
5 haven't seen any accounts of them.

6 In fact I don't think there's any kids
7 today or any fathers today who can go out and fish
8 like I did with my dad in the early '50s, mid '50s.

9 In the 1950s before the dams hundreds of
10 thousands of fall and spring Chinook salmon took the
11 course of the Snake River to spawn. The Red Fish
12 Lake, as many people and I know it was named for, the
13 carcasses, as they died there.

14 There are no Snake River Sockeye to talk of
15 today. Nine made the trip last year. One made the
16 trip in 1994. It was known as lonesome Larry.
17 Lonesome Larry, you can go see him. He got stuffed.
18 He's in the U.W. museum in Seattle. I went to see
19 him. You should go see him. You should take your
20 kids to go see him. Because he will be the only Snake
21 River Sockeye that your kids will ever see.

22 And in fact, you know, I think if we don't
23 act to preserve the Snake River salmon species, their
24 habitat, their diversity, and their ability to spawn,
25 very well all join lonesome Larry.

1 There are many factors. The first step to
2 recovery and the principal solution most directly
3 under our control, under our control tonight and under
4 our control in the future, is the dam removal.

5 Scientific findings for the best possible
6 solution and in some cases the only possible solution
7 is the national river option and the dam decommission.

8 We have to remember the reason those dams
9 were built. Hanford Reservation needed power. It was
10 the Cold War. Those dams by Congress were sanctioned
11 for generation for the Hanford reservation. For
12 national security.

13 The Cold War is over. We have a Russian
14 restaurant in Richland. We have Russian scientists at
15 the Pacific Northwest Lab. But the Cold War goes on.
16 Then decommissioning of the dams is the first step.

17 Thank you very much.

18 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you,
19 Kent.

20 Heidi Brunkal, Bob Carson and Eric
21 Espenhorst.

22 MS. HEIDI BRUNKAL: Hi. My name is
23 Heidi Brunkal. I am a resident of Richland,
24 Washington.

25 I'm here tonight, I don't think I will need

1 all three minutes. I can pretty much sum this up in
2 three words.

3 Extinction is forever, and I think it's a
4 shame to try to work our way around the obvious answer
5 here, and I would like to say that I support breaching
6 the Snake River dams to increase habitat for the Snake
7 River salmon runs and increase their ability to
8 reproduce naturally as they have for thousands of
9 years.

10 I think this is a very complex issue and I
11 don't think that the dams are the only answer. Of
12 course they are only one part of this complex problem.
13 We're talking about a complex animal with a complex
14 life history. I don't think we can look at this with
15 a simple answer. I don't think we can point directly
16 to one thing or the other.

17 But I think the consequences are severe,
18 and I think if we use our analogy, if you found out
19 you had cancer, and you had a tumor, would you just go
20 have the tumor removed and refuse to do chemotherapy
21 or something else to help yourself survive? I don't
22 think so.

23 And I think if the dams are the first step,
24 it's a step we need to take, but we also need to look
25 at all of the other issues as well.

1 Another issue I'd like to address, I think
2 this is kind of muddled up by the people who spoke
3 initially about this issue, but each of these
4 different things that have been listed are
5 individually unique runs, they are all part of the
6 diversity up there, and I don't think even losing one
7 of them would be anything somebody should want, and I
8 don't think we should forego saving the Snake River
9 salmon for other runs in the Columbia. They are all
10 extinct and I think each of them, or if any of them
11 were to go extinct, it would be a real shame and a
12 real tragedy.

13 I think all of us need to think more long
14 term and think less about the short-term. You know,
15 these dams were put in in my lifetime, they were put
16 in in the '60s and '70s, which wasn't that long ago,
17 and I refuse to believe that we are not adaptable
18 enough to change our lifestyles within the second half
19 of my lifetime to protect these fish.

20 So, anyway, I guess that's my final
21 comment. Thank you very much.

22 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you,
23 Heidi.

24 Bob Carson, followed by Eric Espenhorst,
25 followed by Bob Wilson.

1 MS. SARA CONISBERG: Bob Carson was
2 unable to attend. My name is Sara Conisberg and I am
3 a sophomore and an environmental studies major at
4 Whitman College and I am in favor of removing the
5 lower Snake River dams.

6 We can't change the past and there is
7 really no part in arguing about whether they should
8 have been put in or not put in. They were meant to do
9 good. We can see now that they are not doing good.

10 We are faced with a problem and we need to
11 do the best we can to fix it.

12 The salmon are in danger of extinction.
13 This is a big issue. You cannot bring something back
14 once it is extinct. This would hurt the economics of
15 commercial fishing, it would hurt the tribal
16 lifestyles that involve the salmon, this would hurt
17 the ecosystems all along the length of all of the
18 rivers involved.

19 We cannot have a successful population of
20 wild fish if they are not wild. Shipping them in
21 barges and trucking them is not going to bring them
22 back. Leaving the dams and doing the best we can with
23 the dams there is not going to bring them back.

24 We can't think that we as American humans
25 can completely successfully manage the life of this

1 entire species by just fixing it a little and carrying
2 them in trucks.

3 We need to do what we can to solve the
4 problem right now, and the immediate thing to do is to
5 remove the dams. There will be a loss of jobs, there
6 will be a loss of power, but these are things that are
7 a problem right now.

8 Losing a species is a problem forever. We
9 have to look to the future, to the big issues here.
10 We can come up with other ways to deal with these
11 problems. We need to stop worrying about the problems
12 right now. We need to move forward. The benefits far
13 outweigh these inconveniences.

14 We need to breach the dams, and I hope that
15 people can understand that, yes, we will have problems
16 to work through, but it's much more important that we
17 work through them and work together and try to find
18 ways to get around these, than simply worrying about
19 where we are right now in our lives, and get beyond
20 that to save the fish.

21 Thank you.

22 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you.

23 Eric Espenhorst, followed by Bob Wilson,
24 followed by Andrew Ray.

25 MR. ERIC ESPENHORST: Thank you. My

1 name is Eric Espenhorst, and I work for a citizen
2 based environmental group called Friends of Earth.

3 Thank you for the opportunity to speak
4 tonight in behalf of removing the Lower Snake River
5 dams and finding a way to mitigate the economic
6 effects which will be much easier to mitigate than the
7 extension of the salmon, which is the path that we are
8 on right now.

9 My first request is, you have talked about
10 a lot of different modeling approaches. You should
11 make the data available on an Internet site or a CD
12 Rom.

13 COL. ERIC MOGREN: It is.

14 MR. ERIC ESPENHORST: It is.

15 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Check your
16 information packet.

17 MR. ERIC ESPENHORST: Thank you. I
18 will be checking your latest square test soon.

19 The first question, a couple years ago you
20 paid Harza Consultants to look at the Snake River
21 dams, and they suggested removing the dams sooner
22 rather than later. Advice you declined.

23 But I am really interested. You said you
24 allowed them a significant level of independence in
25 the development of this report. And I am curious as

1 to whether the independence you allow your consultants
2 when they do their reports affects their outcome.

3 You didn't hire Harza to do the EIS. You
4 hired Foster Wheeler.

5 Did you allow them, Harza, three years ago?
6 I don't think so.

7 Foster Wheeler builds power plants. They
8 build dams. They have a vested interest in a
9 particular outcome. And I don't think you allowed
10 them the scientific and intellectual independence that
11 is essential for this process. Which again you gave
12 to Harza.

13 They gave you an answer you didn't like.
14 This is not building trust.

15 Moving along. The region is growing and we
16 need electricity. If we move these dams you have to
17 find electricity somewhere else.

18 Where do you do that? You looked at the
19 Bonneville system operation review from five years
20 ago. You did a very cursory look at economic -- or
21 energy rates here. I commend your attention to
22 Bonneville Power's administration business plan and
23 determine the least cost, least environmental impact
24 alternative, which they passed up on, involved
25 pursuing more energy, renewable power which was

1 cheaper than building gas and buying a gas power
2 plant, which is the path they are on.

3 There is still time to change that. There
4 are numerous subsidies that we provide to industrial
5 users in the Lower Snake River, which are both harming
6 our economy and harming the salmon runs to the extent
7 that this is going to cost money to fix, we should be
8 using those subsidies and the federal government to
9 protect wild fish runs and restoring the economy,
10 looking for mitigation for the transportation and the
11 navigation effects.

12 And lastly, science proceeds on the basis
13 of observation. I am curious as to whether you have
14 ever observed barged fish populations recovering.

15 It's never happened. There is no
16 observation. There is no science there.

17 Let's get the fish in the river and let's
18 fix the rail and the road systems and make the economy
19 work.

20 Thank you.

21 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you,
22 Eric.

23 Bob Wilson, followed by Andrew Ray,
24 followed by Stan either Lehigh or Leja.

25 MR. BOB WILSON: My name is Bob

1 Wilson. I live right here in the Tri-Cities,
2 Richland, Washington. And I speak tonight in favor of
3 breaching of the Lower Snake River dams.

4 The best available science has shown that
5 only breaching the Lower Snake River dams can restore
6 salmon that are the birth right of every Northwest
7 resident.

8 The argument for breaching these dams is
9 both economic and ethical.

10 The Corps of Engineers Draft EIS grossly
11 overvalued existing dam operations and undervalued the
12 economic benefits of a free-flowing Snake River and
13 restoration of our salmon stocks.

14 For example, salmon mortality caused by the
15 dams isn't even calculated against the cost of
16 maintaining these dams. In accounting that's called
17 cooking the books.

18 Our regional economy and the operation of
19 these dams are destined to change due to economic
20 forces besides salmon recovery. Even now global
21 trading, deregulation and shifting agricultural
22 markets are making the operation of the Snake River
23 system less and less economical by the day.

24 After breaching the Port of Pasco would be
25 the terminus of the river transportation system

1 providing a huge stimulus to the Tri-Cities economy,
2 yet the Draft EIS fails to assess this benefit.

3 Considering these economic benefits why
4 should we lose our salmon and an annually renewable
5 resource to support a heavily subsidized and
6 antiquated economic system that is destined to change
7 anyway?

8 These dams don't make either common sense
9 or dollars and cents. But there is even more
10 compelling reasons to remove the dams in addition to
11 economics. Debating whether to remove the Snake River
12 dams, is playing God with God's creations.

13 Faced with this choice, a truly God fearing
14 people wouldn't hesitate, they would rush to tear down
15 these dams.

16 We didn't create salmon, God did. God
17 didn't create the Snake River dams. Man did. Clearly
18 opposition to breaching the Snake River dams not about
19 reserving God's creations, it's about fear of change
20 and a vain attempt to preserve the economic status
21 quo.

22 And any argument that places the economic
23 status quo above God's creations from extinction is
24 fundamentally immoral. Leaving our country a better
25 place than we found it.

1 Any argument that places the economic
2 status quo above protecting the endangered species is
3 an example of short-term thinking at its worst.

4 The history of the Lower Snake River dams
5 is summarized in Keith Peterson's book, River of Life,
6 Channel of Death.

7 History shows us that these dams were fish
8 killing boondoggles when they were built and they are
9 fish killing boondoggles now.

10 Thanks a lot.

11 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you,
12 Bob.

13 Andrew Ray, followed by Stan, you can tell
14 us your last name, followed by Marc Butler.

15 MR. ANDREW RAY: Hello. My name is
16 Andrew Ray, and I am here to speak on the Draft EIS.

17 I have been here for quite a while today
18 and I have heard a lot of testimony, a lot of stories,
19 a lot of opinions, a lot of alternatives, a lot of
20 accusations, and a lot of politics.

21 There is only the one issue tonight, folks.
22 The salmon are soon to be extinct. Denying that is
23 denying the holocaust.

24 The removal of the dams will not help the
25 fish. It's like denial that the earth is a sphere.

1 The popular cry tonight is save our dams, because
2 people here in the Northwest are accustomed to them.

3 We think we cannot live without them.

4 Sure, we can. We lived fine for hundreds of years
5 without them. But the fish cannot live with them.

6 Are we willing to let salmon become extinct
7 to save the dams? Have we become so deprived in our
8 technology loving age that we love life better than
9 concrete?

10 The dams must be breached to save the fish.
11 It is something we are legally and morally obligated
12 to do. The rest is smoke and mirrors.

13 Some of the best times I have spent with my
14 father is when we were steelhead and salmon fishing.
15 I hope that some day my children will be able to fish
16 for salmon and steelhead with their father and
17 grandfather.

18 This will only happen if the dams are
19 breached. There is no middle of the road. If you
20 stand in the middle of the road, you are going to get
21 run over.

22 Thank you.

23 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you,
24 Andrew.

25 Stan Leja, followed by Marc Butler,

1 followed by Rick Leaumont.

2 MR. STAN LEJA: My name is Stanley
3 Leja. I am a hydrogeologist with the state of
4 Washington at the Hanford Site. I live in Walla
5 Walla. I have been here in the Mid-Columbia for six
6 years.

7 I am here because I enjoy the environment,
8 I love nature, and from what I have observed since I
9 have been here, I think that the industries, primarily
10 agriculture, power, transportation, are trying to
11 hammer nature into oblivion.

12 I think that the Snake River salmon benefit
13 many more people than just the Mid-Columbia. The
14 fishermen down on the entire Columbia River system,
15 even up into Alaska, are dependent to some degree on
16 the Snake River salmon.

17 I think that science over the last three or
18 four years, whether it's the independent scientific
19 group or ISSAP or Path or Fish and Wildlife or the
20 Idaho Fish and Game, the consensus from all of these
21 scientific efforts has been that to save the Snake
22 River salmon, you need to breach the dams.

23 I think that in terms of economics, the
24 gloom and doom projections on behalf of agriculture
25 and the Mid-Columbia industries have been overblown.

1 The drawdown regional economic working
2 group has shown both short term and long term benefits
3 to breaching the dam. A number of other independent
4 economic analyses have been written, performed. And
5 they indicate benefits to breaching the dams.

6 I work for a bureaucracy at Hanford, highly
7 politicized environment, and I know how difficult it
8 is for bureaucracy to make a tough decision.
9 Bureaucrats are not known to take risks.

10 And so I urge you to make a decision that's
11 going to benefit every person that depends on the
12 Snake River salmon, not be swayed by some of the
13 rhetoric that you hear from the local ag industry, or
14 the power industry, or the aluminum industry, and make
15 a decision that's going to benefit everybody who
16 depends on the Snake River salmon.

17 I urge you to breach the dams.

18 Thank you.

19 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you,
20 Steve.

21 Marc Butler, followed by Rick Leaumont and
22 Stacey Mitchell.

23 MR. MARC BUTLER: My name is Marc
24 Butler, and I'm a member of the PACE Local 369. Labor
25 opposes any breaching of the Snake River dams. We

1 consider any such a solution to the problem to be
2 premature and based on improper evaluations. The loss
3 of power, irrigation, and transportation will cost
4 thousands of jobs and may not solve the problem. We
5 can think of no other circumstance where a species is
6 declared endangered that they have to run a gauntlet
7 of fishing nets all the way from the coast of Alaska
8 to the river's mouth.

9 Having made that part of their journey
10 safely, they face an obstacle course of seals, birds
11 and tribal nets all the way up the river to their
12 spawning ground.

13 This type of predation on an endangered
14 species is unheard of. Appropriate regulations over
15 harvest have to be made.

16 We sympathize with the tribal's cultural
17 rights. However, times change and we have to change
18 with them. Hopefully with the proper care, the runs
19 will be restored, and with the restoration, the
20 Tribe's ability to an appropriate harvest.

21 We often hear the statement that just a few
22 barge workers' jobs would be affected by the breaching
23 of the dams.

24 Nothing could be further from the truth.
25 The loss of jobs in the agriculture sector would be

1 extreme.

2 Cheap power fuels our aluminum production
3 facilities in the region as well as countless other
4 regions, all the way down the coast of California.
5 Anyone currently looking at rising fuel costs can see
6 that the replacement by gas, oil or coal would not be
7 cheap.

8 That type of replacement would pour tons of
9 hydrocarbons into an already sick atmosphere.

10 The rule of thumb or measurement for job
11 loss is that one family's wage job creates three jobs
12 in the service sector. The trickle down effect from
13 the dam breaching would have a disastrous economic
14 effect throughout the region.

15 Labor feels that with the proper studies
16 and harvest restraint, we can save our jobs, the dams,
17 and the salmon.

18 Thank you.

19 MS. SILVERBERG: Stacy Mitchell and
20 Kelly Harding.

21 MR. RICK LEAUMONT: I am Rick
22 Leaumont, and I am speaking for myself as an
23 individual today.

24 I would like to say that salmon spawn in
25 rivers. They begin and end their life cycles in

1 rivers.

2 If we want the Snake to produce salmon and
3 for salmon to thrive in the Snake, we need to stop
4 managing it as a lake and start managing it as a
5 river.

6 And for the past two decades the Tri-Cities
7 has faced three economic crises, when our leaders told
8 us if we lost the Supply System, we would become a
9 ghost town. That was when the Supply System nuclear
10 reactor construction stopped on it. When the N
11 Reactor closed down. And when we lost the Fast Flux
12 Test Facility.

13 The community drew a line in the sand and
14 said, we cannot give up on these assets. If we do,
15 we're bankrupt, we're out of business.

16 Well, guess what. We lost them. And we
17 didn't go bankrupt. And we're more -- we're a
18 thriving community, we're more prosperous today than
19 we ever were before.

20 But our community leaders did not negotiate
21 for our community. And we received no mitigation for
22 the loss of those assets.

23 And I am calling upon our community leaders
24 today to send a strong message to the Corps, to
25 Congress, to the nation, that when you breach these

1 dams, you need to compensate this community, you need
2 to pay to relocate pumps for agriculture, you need to
3 provide federal funding to rebuild our rail system,
4 and to expand and improve our highway system. And we
5 need to provide job training and job placement for
6 each and every person who loses as job as a result of
7 this breaching.

8 Now, if we do this, not only will we save
9 salmon, but our community will thrive, will become a
10 transportation hub, it will be a win-win solution.

11 But, if we paint ourselves into a corner
12 and refuse to negotiate, we're going to lose big time.

13 Thank you.

14 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you very
15 much, Rick.

16 Stacey Mitchell, followed by Kelly Harding,
17 followed by Tim Stearns.

18 MS. STACEY MITCHELL: My name is
19 Stacey Mitchell, and I have lived here in Washington
20 state my whole life. My family moved to the Pacific
21 Northwest, one reason being, of the beauty and
22 abundance of the natural resources that we have here.
23 Including the salmon. It's something that we've never
24 taken for granted.

25 And I think that it's necessary to protect

1 the salmon and to not let another species go extinct.

2 And according to the majority of
3 scientists, including the Path group, an independent
4 scientific group, it is necessary to remove the dams
5 to have harvestable salmon levels.

6 And specific to the NMFS All-H paper, it
7 seems to only analyze the risks of extinction, but
8 does not tell how to rebuild back the salmon runs.
9 And I think this is flawed.

10 Also according to the U.S. Corps of
11 Engineers EIS, it doesn't consider the economic
12 benefits of mitigation or consider the cost of salmon
13 extinction. I think this is also flawed.

14 So I hope the National Marine Fisheries
15 Service and the U.S. Corps of Engineers does the right
16 thing by approving and suggesting the breaching of the
17 dams.

18 Thank you.

19 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you,
20 Stacey.

21 Kelly Harding, followed by Tim Stearns,
22 followed by Brenda Alford.

23 MR. KELLY HARDING: My name is Kelly
24 Harding. I have worked for Tidewater Terminal Company
25 here in Pasco for the last 15 years.

1 I am here tonight speaking on behalf of
2 myself. I have been involved with several of these
3 meetings here that have been through the past four or
4 five years. I have never dreamed it would get to this
5 point of being serious about breaching these four
6 Snake River dams.

7 Of course five years ago I wouldn't have
8 thought it possible to spend 20 million taxpayer
9 dollars to come up with the report that is so vague.

10 Why anyone would consider breaching some of
11 the cleanest power sources of electricity in the world
12 is beyond me.

13 These dams also provide an irreplaceable
14 form of transportation for our area's agricultural
15 commodity. Yet, there is rail and trucking available
16 at a much higher cost to our producers. But do you
17 realize that it takes 140 rail cars or approximately
18 400 trucks to replace a single four barge tow?

19 If this dam breaching ever comes to pass, I
20 can just imagine the outcry from people having to wait
21 at rail crossings who travel over crowded highways.

22 All this talk of breaching these four Snake
23 River dams is taking the emphasis off of what should
24 have been done when the fish were put on the
25 endangered species list.

1 Stop all forms of harvest, and control the
2 various predators feeding on the smolt and the adult
3 salmon. Where else have you ever heard of eating
4 endangered species except in the Pacific Northwest?

5 Why won't any of these agencies stand up
6 and implement these measures to protect the fish?

7 I feel they are afraid. If we cannot
8 protect these fish once they are in the ocean or on
9 their way back up the river, why on earth would we
10 spend so much money and ruin our region's All-H
11 breaching these four dams?

12 The regional director of the U. S. Fish and
13 Wildlife Service made a statement in December that it
14 is really a no brainer that native fish and wildlife
15 of free-flowing river is better than a dammed river.

16 I would tend to agree if the river never
17 had been dammed in the first place. What's going to
18 happen to the salmon smolt and returning adult fish in
19 the projected ten years it's going to take to flush
20 the millions of cubic yards of sediment to a new
21 resting place?

22 To me that's a no brainer recipe for
23 extinction. Of the 34 fishes on the endangered
24 species list or candidates, only four go up the Snake
25 River.

1 Let's start putting our money where it
2 starts doing some good for all the fish, install fish
3 friendly turbines, control the predators, subsidize
4 the fisheries if we have to, but do something that we
5 know will work instead of spending it on these
6 studies.

7 Thank you.

8 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you,
9 Kelly.

10 Tim Stearns, Brenda Alford, and Jay
11 McConnaughey. Tim Stearns. Brenda Alford?

12 MS. BRENDA ALFORD: My name is
13 Brenda Alford. I am Vice-President of the Alford
14 Farm, Inc., a family farm located here in Pasco.

15 God in the book of Genesis gave me a free
16 will and dominion over all the animals on the earth.

17 My ancestors were around at that time, but
18 I am still here, so are my children, and next month I
19 will be a grandma.

20 I'm speaking to the ridiculous idea of
21 actually removing our dams, and I represent all
22 passionate like minded people.

23 For those of you up there who are employees
24 of the federal government, nobody voted for you. Bill
25 Clinton is your boss.

1 Federal agencies must begin to listen to
2 local citizens, or face the consequences of civil
3 disobedience. We the peoples, the locals and the
4 private property owners, will not allow the federal
5 government and its agency drones to take away or even
6 significantly alter our way of life.

7 Our Constitution is the world's oldest
8 surviving constitution and it has been adopted by over
9 100 countries around the world. The tenth amendment
10 of our constitution says, and I quote, the powers not
11 delegated to the United States by the Constitution,
12 nor prohibited by it to the states are reserved to the
13 states respectively or to the people.

14 You and your boss are not the state, you
15 are not the people, you and the President have not
16 been delegated the power to breach or remove our dams.
17 You don't have the right, you don't have the power.
18 Regardless of how much of the taxpayers money Clinton
19 gives you to breach or remove our dams.

20 This United States of America, this
21 Republic, cannot afford to effectively wipe out our
22 established way of life and our culture. You and your
23 boss are threatening our very lives. You have pushed
24 us as law abiding and freedom loving citizens to the
25 point of pushing back. If you ever thought these

1 ridiculous actions concerning our dams would happen,
2 you were wrong.

3 If you East Coast Yankees, or any of you
4 others here, think for one minute that the south put
5 up a fight, you ain't seen nothing yet. This is the
6 West, we are Westerners. You are not going to take
7 away our way of life any more than you have going to
8 fly to the moon on eagle's wings.

9 Consider this fight your own personal
10 Vietnam. Your cause is unpopular, unfounded,
11 unsupported, and futile, and you will not win.
12 Because you are threatening us, you can now consider
13 yourselves officially threatened, too.

14 As the old west saying goes, whiskey is for
15 drinking and water is for fighting, and you can drink
16 to that.

17 I and others are realizing more and more
18 just how important our second amendment rights are.

19 And by the way, George W. Bush is the only
20 Presidential candidate who has come out against
21 removal of the dams.

22 In conclusion, breaching or removal of the
23 dams is not an option. I suggest all of you and your
24 boss just stop talking about it.

25 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Jay

1 McConnaughey, Aaron Miles, Ron Richards. If you spoke
2 this afternoon, please don't speak again. Once is all
3 you need to do. Thank you.

4 MR. JAY McCONNAUGHEY: Good evening.
5 My name is Jay McConnaughey. I reside in Kennewick.
6 I speak here tonight as an individual.

7 We are here tonight to debate whether the
8 remaining anadromous fisheries of the Snake River
9 system should be able to recover to self-sustaining
10 populations or allowed to go extinct in the 21st
11 Century.

12 The former is a major challenge requiring
13 great leadership, vision, commitment. The latter does
14 not.

15 Since the construction of Ice Harbor, Lower
16 Monumental, Lower Goose, and Lower Granite, anadromous
17 fisheries of the Snake River fisheries have been
18 significantly reduced with several salmon species
19 observed going extent.

20 The biological data clearly indicates that
21 the remaining stocks will go extent in our lifetime
22 unless the earthen portion of the four Lower Snake
23 River dams are removed.

24 Extinction is an unacceptable option for
25 the remaining salmon species. Anadromous salmonids

1 play a vital role in the Northwest ecosystem. The
2 adults spawn new life and provide central nutrients to
3 other organisms from their remains.

4 The cycle has been documented throughout
5 oral history. Salmon and steelhead are part of this
6 nation's heritage and icons of the Northwest.

7 I call upon Senators Murray and Gorton and
8 Representative Hastings to support the removal of the
9 earthen portion of the four lower Snake River dams. I
10 pray that the Army Corps of Engineers decision makers
11 involved with this action find the necessary courage,
12 strength and guidance to decide that the partial
13 removal of the dam structures is the only alternative
14 that will ensure Snake River salmon and steelhead
15 populations recover and thrive into the 22nd century
16 and beyond.

17 Thank you.

18 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you,
19 Jay.

20 Karen Miles, Ron Richards, and Joe Marie
21 Tessmarl. Aaron Miles? Ron Richards?

22 MR. RON RICHARDS: Thank you. My
23 name is Ron Richards. I live in Aurora, Colorado.

24 The reason I'm here tonight is because,
25 from the time I was one years old until the time I

1 finished college in 1967, I lived in Richland, and I
2 spent a whole lot of my time when I lived in Richland
3 fishing this Columbia and Snake River for salmon and
4 steelhead and whatever I could catch.

5 I've witnessed the decline of the fish.
6 And I can tell you it's caused by the dams, and
7 there's no question about that.

8 So long as the dams remain on the Snake
9 River, I see no chance of the salmon and steelhead
10 returning to the Snake in acceptable numbers.

11 I very much favor the removal of the four
12 Lower Snake River dams.

13 When you consider the 4-Hs, I think two
14 of -- I think two of almost -- I think two of the Hs
15 are of primary significance, hydropower and habitat.

16 The first of the other Hs, hatcheries, was
17 in large part brought about as a mitigation tool for
18 the impact of hydropower. If you address the
19 hydropower appropriately, you will eliminate the need
20 for hatcheries.

21 Any change in the second of the other Hs,
22 harvesting, will not contribute significantly to a
23 return of the salmon and steelhead.

24 Sports fishing, Indian commercial fishing
25 and white commercial fishing, have been cut so far

1 already that almost nothing can be gained from cutting
2 them further. Unless perhaps you are talking about a
3 reduced political lobby for improving the prospects
4 for fish.

5 An example that I would like to add here is
6 the Snake River Sockeye. Because of where they
7 migrate from the ocean, because of the timing of their
8 run, they are virtually untouched by commercial
9 fisheries. Yet they were the first fish to come so
10 close to the brink of extinction.

11 I have heard a lot of comments here tonight
12 that ocean harvest is the real problem here.

13 Look at the steelhead. They are virtually
14 untouched in the ocean.

15 The dams are the problem. Anyway, if you
16 don't do hatcheries, you don't do harvest, because you
17 won't gain anything. That leaves the hydropower and
18 habitat as the real place where the solution and other
19 salmon problems must be found.

20 In these two, in the case of Snake River,
21 you can't hide the fact that the hydropower is the
22 real problem. In fact the hydropower, you have all of
23 the 4-Hs. Including harvest, habitat and hatcheries.

24 Hydropower is by far the biggest harvester
25 of salmon and steelhead.

1 The number of fish harvested by fishermen
2 is insignificant to those both adults and juveniles
3 that are killed by the dams, and hydropower, by a
4 multitude of other evils, is a big destroyer of
5 habitat.

6 As I have said before, hydro --

7 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: You need to
8 wrap up.

9 MR. RON RICHARDS: Hydropower brought
10 about the need for hatcheries. If you take care of
11 that problem, you will take care of the total problem.

12 I would like to add, too, a gentleman
13 earlier today mentioned about the time when they took
14 out the Fast Flux Test Facility. At the time the
15 Hanford cleanup was proposed, the local industrialists
16 and community leaders here fought that tooth and nail.
17 They finally saw the light in the early '80s and began
18 to support that.

19 Ever since this area has benefited
20 tremendously from that. I think if they had the
21 courage to support the removal of the dams, this area
22 would benefit freely from that also.

23 Thank you.

24 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you for
25 your thoughts.

1 Jo Marie Tessmarl, followed by Larry Lodge,
2 followed by Perry Kelly. Jo Marie Tessmarl.

3 MS. JO MARIE TESSMARL: Thank you.
4 Good evening. My name is Jo Marie Tessmarl.

5 I am an enrolled member of the Confederated
6 Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. I also
7 serve in a political capacity as Vice-Chairman, and
8 grew up in a farming community and family farm in the
9 Tualitin Valley and have an intimate knowledge of the
10 farming issues that are in this region.

11 Our tribe depends on agricultural business
12 for a large portion of its All-H. Our people have
13 been here since the beginning of time. Have been many
14 stories, many lessons, many ways of life that we have
15 learned over a considerable length of time.

16 In the mid 1800's we signed a treaty with
17 those that came through, and we gave to the federal
18 government the land that now many of these people live
19 on and make their livelihood on and raise their family
20 on.

21 In the 1835 case of Georgia versus the
22 Serico Nation, Justice Marcy Thergood said it at the
23 time, the treaties are the supreme law of the land.

24 At the time my ancestors signed those
25 treaties, some had the foresight to see what was

1 happening to the environment. Over that length of
2 time in the 150 years at least 90 percent of the
3 environment has been drastically altered. We have 10
4 percent remaining.

5 We do not understand the complexities of
6 the Creator and how this was put together. But one
7 thing that we learned as people from the beginning of
8 our time, is that we have a responsibility to all
9 living things. That's the laws that we live by and
10 that's what we follow. There is no way we can ever
11 replace what has been taken away.

12 I was born at the time that the Celilo Dam
13 was built. And the Celilo falls was flooded. I never
14 saw those things.

15 I'm in a generation that's looking at
16 potential extinction of a creature that we give honor
17 to every year, who feeds us, who keeps us going. It
18 is a terrible burden to live in this generation as an
19 Indian person and watch what is happening.

20 My ancestors did not foresee the great
21 destruction that has taken place. I strongly urge
22 that you think long and hard about the long term
23 effects on all human beings, to destroy any life is to
24 eventually destroy ourselves.

25 The earth can live just fine without human

1 beings. We forget that. But what happens to all
2 creatures through this chain of life will eventually
3 happen to us.

4 I thank you for your time.

5 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you
6 very much.

7 Larry Lodge, followed by Perry Kelly,
8 followed by Margie VanCleave.

9 MR. LARRY LODGE: Hello. My name is
10 Larry Lodge. I thank you for the opportunity to talk
11 to you tonight. This is a very volatile issue. Many
12 things that people have said come right from their
13 heart, and I appreciate all of that.

14 One of the things I'm confused about,
15 though, is all the studies that you people have put
16 together, I feel like I have paid 20 million dollars
17 for three words, and that's maybe, we believe, we
18 think.

19 I don't see how we can go about tearing
20 down dams if we don't even know it's going to work.

21 The Tribes talk about honor. They talk
22 about their brothers and sisters swimming up the
23 rivers.

24 Last year in the Lewis & Clark valley, we
25 had a whole boat launch fool of salmon just thrown out

1 there. I wondered if that was a religious ceremony or
2 not.

3 It saddens me to see the salmon go. But
4 people are here to stay forever. If the salmon can be
5 bought, they can be bought right down here in this
6 restaurant. Salmon fillets, 11.95. You can go down
7 to the store and buy them in the can.

8 Are the salmon extinct? I don't think so.
9 They're still catching them. They're still killing
10 them. Everywhere. Along this river. I know people
11 that catch salmon where I live. I can't catch salmon
12 there. It's against the law. It's against the law to
13 kill eagles. But the nations use those eagle feathers
14 in religious ceremonies? I can't do that.

15 I'm an American. I don't care what treaty
16 we live under. I don't care what treaty they live
17 under. They are Americans. We shop in the same
18 stores. We buy the same gas. We take our kids to the
19 same schools. And they're telling me I'm not good
20 enough. They're better. They deserve more.

21 My tax dollars have paid for more and more
22 and more, and frankly, I'm fed up with it. It's time
23 you guys put a stop to this insanity, a stop to this
24 argument on taking out the dams.

25 Thank you.

1 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you,
2 Larry.

3 Perry Kelly, followed by Margie VanCleave,
4 followed by John Williams.

5 MR. PERRY KELLY: Hello. My name is
6 Perry Kelly. And I am glad to be here this evening.

7 My father-in-law is a farmer in Idaho, and
8 I brought my family up here in the Tri-Cities and have
9 enjoyed living here very much.

10 I know that we have talked a lot about
11 respecting life, respecting our nature and our
12 community, respecting each other. And one of the
13 things that I kind of wonder about with breaching the
14 dams and increasing truck traffic and whatnot between
15 here and Portland is how many people are going to die
16 on the road because there's too many trucks on the
17 road. How many kids are going to die in car
18 accidents?

19 Last summer we had a car accident like
20 crazy down in Oregon because of a horrible dust storm.
21 People -- It was horrible. And trucks were running
22 into it. And it just compounded itself. If we add
23 more trucks to it, is it going to be worse?

24 I think that there's a lot more to it.
25 Having the barge traffic has helped our transportation

1 system in a large sense.

2 Now, is that worth the salmon? I don't
3 think so. Not fully. I mean, we need to look at
4 those things, though.

5 My dad used to take me fishing. I used to
6 just call it waiting. We didn't catch a lot. I don't
7 think we were very good at it. But nonetheless, I
8 think we need to look at the transportation issue a
9 lot more closely.

10 If we breach dams without taking care of
11 that, we will have some problems in the Tri-Cities,
12 and will certainly have some problems on our highways.
13 And I would certainly hate to see people get hurt
14 because somebody decided that we were going to add
15 more trucks to the road and not even think about the
16 human loss of life.

17 And that's all I'm going to say.

18 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thanks very
19 much.

20 Margie VanCleave, followed by John
21 Williams, followed by Scott Levy.

22 MS. MARGIE VAN CLEVE: Hello. My
23 name is Margie VanCleave. I live in Selah, Washington.
24 I am also the Vice-Chairman, Regional Conservation
25 Committee for the Sierra Club.

1 My testimony is on behalf of the 35,000
2 members of the Sierra Club of the Pacific Northwest
3 and the more than 600,000 members nationwide.

4 I'm here to advocate partial removal of the
5 four Lower Snake River dams.

6 When I was a child I was given a board game
7 on Christmas. The game involved moving the game
8 pieces which were shaped like small mice around the
9 board, adding pieces to make sort of a Rube Goldberg
10 contraption that was part of the game.

11 The object of the game was to complete the
12 contraption by placing the opponent's mouse under the
13 gaze, turn the crank and see if the contraption worked
14 to catch the mouse. Sometimes it worked and sometimes
15 it didn't.

16 Recently I visited the Lower Granite Dam.
17 There were all sorts of salmon apparatuses that were
18 still in use that reminded me.

19 Three generations of barges used to
20 transport juvenile salmon to a reservoir that is now
21 too dangerous to the fish, not the fish friendly
22 turbines with their associated screen, as well as
23 enough salmon being hydraulic tubes to set up a real
24 game of chutes and ladders.

25 The problem is that these contraptions are

1 catching the salmon of the lower Snake. The Snake
2 River was once swollen with millions of Sockeye, coho
3 and Chinook. These millions of magnificent wild fish
4 have now dwindled to endangered status.

5 Our request is that the Corps of Engineers
6 add to their Draft EIS an analysis that calculates,
7 salmon go extinct. United States Government has treaty
8 obligations with the government of Canada as well as
9 the sovereign American Indian Tribes. The 19th
10 century treaty with the American Tribes guarantee
11 salmon fishing in perpetuity.

12 I would like the court to calculate the
13 cost of those treaties, in the EIS.

14 I also request the Corps document analyze
15 mitigation measures for removing of the four lower
16 Snake River dams. For example, conservation of
17 renewable resources to replace the power generated by
18 the four Lower Snake River dams.

19 Likewise, an investment of approximately
20 315 million would result in better roads and rail
21 service for S. W. Washington wheat. Presently as a
22 federal taxpayer I hope to subsidize annually for
23 operation and maintenance of the federal waterway. I
24 would like to see all of those costs on the table as
25 the Corps is documenting their options.

1 I would also like to see the Corps
2 precisely document the measures and costs they are
3 intending to pursue as a part of keeping the dams in
4 place.

5 Specifically, which technologies are they
6 intending to use for reduction of water temperatures
7 and reduction of resolved gases in the reservoirs?

8 In other words, how much irrigation water
9 is the Corps intending to take from Idaho farmers to
10 continue barging fish from the locks of the lower
11 Snake?

12 I would like to thank you for giving me
13 this opportunity to state my support for the salmon in
14 the lower Snake and removal of the dams.

15 Thank you.

16 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you,
17 Margie.

18 Don Williams, followed by Scott Levy,
19 followed by Don Jackson.

20 MR. DON WILLIAMS: Yes. I have lived
21 here since the early 1940s. I am a retired Hanford
22 employee, and I also own my own business now.

23 Over the years I've also fished the rivers,
24 and done many of the things that people have talked
25 about this afternoon and this evening. I actually

1 spent the whole afternoon listening and I was going to
2 go home, but I thought, well, I would come back here
3 and filibuster a little bit myself.

4 I basically oppose the breaching of the
5 dams, and therefore submit the following comments for
6 the record. I have submitted this so I won't go
7 through the whole thing.

8 A very candid opinion of mine is, it's the
9 most important part to begin with, is the only
10 endangered species that you can buy in a can is the
11 salmon.

12 Salmon, I also would like to comment on the
13 science and the loose term that has been used in this
14 thing. What you actually have is a model, and being a
15 past engineer and a scientist, I sort of take offense
16 to the use of the word science in many things.

17 The only thing that you have measured
18 scientifically is the fish escapement and return at
19 the mouth of the Columbia River and through the
20 Columbia. It appears to me that there's a fair amount
21 of escapement, and there are some problems either in
22 the ocean, may be associated with the warming of the
23 oceans, or the catch, the harvest.

24 Salmon survival based on dam breaching is
25 not poor science. It is not science at all. To the

1 extent it is only hypotheses derived from computer
2 modeling for determining survivability.

3 Results of models which do not get a very
4 high probability, over a very short duration of time
5 should be seriously questioned as to a valid basis of
6 making a significant decision.

7 Minor changes in assumption can drastically
8 affect the results of modeling. Modeling and studies
9 thus far cannot give sufficient, survivability of the
10 salmon. Predicted effect is 50 years from now. Which
11 is beyond the lifetime of myself and most of the
12 people currently testifying here and making comment.

13 The distinction between wild salmon and
14 hatchery salmon on the Snake and Columbia River system
15 is invalid as there is no genetic difference that can
16 be proven.

17 Therefore, there should be no distinction
18 as inferred by diversification of species when
19 determining the survival numbers of each species of
20 fish.

21 I will skip the next point here. Sorry.

22 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: John, the red
23 light just popped on there. Can you give us a final
24 statement, or you said you've got the comments in
25 writing for us, is that right?

1 MR. JOHN WILLIAMS: Yeah. I'll just
2 make -- I want to make one minor -- one quick --

3 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Closing
4 comment?

5 MR. JOHN WILLIAMS: Yes. In the
6 tragic event the dams are breached, the following
7 should be implemented. Compensation and loss of water
8 rights, agricultural land investments, loss of income
9 and livelihood to all parties concerned.

10 Limit all population migration to
11 Washington State until electrical power generation
12 sources are replaced. That is very radical. Ban the
13 commercial, Indian and sport taking of salmon and
14 steelhead, in the rivers and coastal areas.

15 Control salmon predators. And enhance the
16 Lower Columbia River.

17 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Okay. Thank
18 you. Thanks for sticking with us tonight, as well as
19 this afternoon.

20 Scott Levy, and followed by Don Jackson,
21 followed by Joanna Meninik. No. She gave up. So
22 followed by Bill Bosch.

23 MR. SCOTT LEVY: Okay. My name is
24 Scott Levy. I created the film Red Fish Blue Fish,
25 which I recommend you all check out.

1 Tonight I would like to address the
2 concerns of 13 agribusinesses that pump water from Ice
3 Harbor reservoir to irrigate 36,000 acres of farmland.

4 BPA ratepayers pay 435 million dollars per
5 year for salmon recovery efforts. Congress authorized
6 these dam projects based on an Army Corps report which
7 assigned irrigation 4.11 percent of the, quote, coast
8 care abilities. 4.11 percent of 435 million dollars
9 is 18 million divided by 36,000 acres is \$500 per acre
10 per year that irrigators currently do not pay.

11 A hundred thousand acre-feet of irrigation
12 water removed annually from the Ice Harbor reservoir,
13 half a million dollars worth of hydropower revenue. A
14 half a million dollars annually that irrigators do not
15 pay. Roughly equivalent amount is lost to evaporation
16 from the reservoirs.

17 Currently the pumping costs of these
18 irrigators is on average about \$750 per acre. The
19 benefit of the Ice Harbor reservoir is saving them
20 about \$150 per acre. This 20 percent savings is a
21 benefit that these agribusinesses are asking to
22 protect.

23 From listening to the irrigators' valid
24 concerns, and with the interest of the goal of
25 minimizing any economic effect, I would agree that

1 along with the dam breach alternative, irrigators
2 should continue to receive up to 600 cfs of irrigation
3 water at the current shoreline altitude of 440 feet
4 above sea level.

5 A plan similar to the system of pumps and
6 pipes suggested in the Corps draft report would work,
7 but I would ask that you consider a system that uses
8 gravitational energy more efficiently. Consider
9 collecting water a few miles above Lower Monumental
10 dam at 500 feet above sea level. A pipe along the old
11 railroad grade flooded 30 years ago would work. This
12 railroad grade is an excellent grade, runs all the way
13 to Ice Harbor dam. With bridges over ravines, still
14 in place.

15 Furthermore, it is likely that coordinating
16 the various irrigation schedules will reduce the
17 projected 680 cfs, therefore reducing cost thrust.
18 When water is not being used for irrigation, it can be
19 used to generate hydropower, possibly at the Ice
20 Harbor Dam facility, but now with an additional 60
21 foot elevated head.

22 This suggestion may amount to a million
23 dollars per year, which could help repay the cost of
24 this irrigation system which has an estimated cost of
25 roughly 25 million. Reusing what has already been

1 built is the beauty of this system. Continuing to
2 provide irrigators with the dam benefit that they
3 currently receive.

4 I ask that we breach the Lower Snake River
5 dams and no economic effect need be felt. Thank you
6 for your time.

7 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you,
8 Scott.

9 Don Jackson, followed by Bill Rosch,
10 followed by Mike Clements.

11 MR. DON JACKSON: This little green
12 light's not on yet. I was watching for it.

13 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: She will wait
14 until you start talking.

15 MR. DON JACKSON: My name is Don
16 Jackson. I am not a biologist. I am not a scientist.
17 I am not a fish expert. In fact I am not an expert on
18 much of anything, when it comes right down to it.

19 But I have something that these fish
20 experts don't have. I worked at Little Goose Dam for
21 the first six years after it came on line. I worked
22 there for the National Marine Fisheries Services.

23 We were trying to get all of the smolts
24 past the dam that we could back at that time.

25 We had excellent results with steelhead.

1 We trapped the little steelhead there in the race
2 ways, we took them down below the Bonneville, dog
3 point, released them. Had excellent returns. It
4 worked good.

5 Idaho refused to let us transport any of
6 the Chinook down. So we couldn't -- we had no results
7 on that. When I worked out there, I worked about 70
8 days straight, I worked nights, I was all along, I am
9 the only one that actually saw to those fish there at
10 night. When I would go to work at night, after dark,
11 my job was to open the race ways, take the crowder,
12 crowd all of these little Chinook in. We could have
13 hauled them down, but Idaho wouldn't let us. We had
14 to release them after dark, because if we didn't, the
15 sea gulls would get most of them.

16 I am not smarter than these fish experts.
17 I just had a chance to see a lot more than they did.
18 Monumental and Granite and Little Goose, they were
19 built with only half a power house, only three
20 generators and three skeleton bays, back later. Had
21 record flows of water from the Snake for the first few
22 years.

23 There wasn't room for the water to go
24 through those three generators. They had to open it
25 so that it killed hundreds and hundreds of thousands.

1 I saw it happen. I saw thousands of those smolts,
2 with eyes popped out of their head.

3 No one knew what to do with that nitrogen.
4 It was a new problem. It hadn't been faced before. A
5 lot of experiments were done to try to save these
6 fish. Most of them failed.

7 Finally someone came up with the idea of
8 open the gates on the skeleton bays. That way we
9 could close the spillway gates. That cut the nitrogen
10 problem, and that pretty well solved all the problems
11 with the nitrogen killing these fish.

12 We put in a new bypass system at Little
13 Goose. I worked on that for 15 months. Those
14 problems were solved with the fish on the Snake River
15 dams years ago.

16 These dam reaches have only one problem.
17 You are all 25 years too late. The problem was solved
18 about 25 years ago at the dams.

19 Fish are being killed not in the Snake
20 River, but in the Lower Columbia. There is a hundred
21 thousand predator birds below Tri-Cities. I saw a
22 picture the other day, he had 25 smolts, they slit him
23 open. A hundred thousand fish-eating birds. Eats
24 five fish a day, that's 500,000, half a million smolts
25 a day are being killed by these fish-eating birds.

1 Sea lions --

2 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: The light came
3 on.

4 MR. DON JACKSON: Okay. I see that
5 it is.

6 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you,
7 Don.

8 MR. DON JACKSON: Hey, thank you very
9 much.

10 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thanks very
11 much, Don.

12 Bill Bosch, followed by Mike Clements,
13 followed by Cathleen Williams.

14 MR. BILL BOSCH: My name is Bill
15 Bosch. I was born and raised in Spokane and I have
16 lived in Yakima for the pass ten years, working on
17 Columbia River salmon issues.

18 Although a lot of attention is paid to
19 conflicting results, we cannot ignore the fact that
20 the scientists agree on one thing. If we want more
21 fish, we need to let the river be more of a river.

22 This is the underlying message of return to
23 the river and many of the other volumes of work on the
24 issue.

25 After 20 years of processes, programs, and

1 billions of dollars dedicated to recovering Columbia
2 River salmon stocks, it is obvious that we are not
3 succeeding.

4 The reason we have failed is because all
5 this time we have been trying to figure out how
6 natural fish can survive in an unnatural environment.
7 What we need to do is figure out how we humans can
8 live with the natural river.

9 Therefore, I propose the following overhaul
10 of base and level implementation principles and
11 strategies.

12 One, the mainstem dams should stay in place
13 for now. We need time to do research and development
14 so that we can build a research beyond the dams. We
15 need time to practice on smaller dams so we can learn
16 the dos and don'ts of dam removal.

17 Two. Redirect the fisheries research
18 engine to figure out how we replace the clean energy,
19 irrigation water and transportation benefits supplied
20 by the hydropower system.

21 Three. Redirect federal ESA process
22 efforts. One farmer was quoted at one of these
23 meetings as having said, I know I need to stop using
24 pollutants on my farm. I need you people to tell me
25 how to do that.

1 In other words, the federal government
2 needs to stop telling people what to do, and start
3 telling them how to make the necessary changes in
4 their practices to protect fish and fish habitat.

5 We also need to provide the resources
6 necessary for implementation of these changes. The
7 region would be much better served if the resources
8 currently devoted to the ESA process were redirected
9 towards this end.

10 Four. Utilize hatcheries as short to mid
11 term fishery mitigation and gene banking tools.

12 Given that these are long-term strategies,
13 it is important that we maintain our existing
14 demographic and fishery resource.

15 Hatcheries can allow us to observe
16 fisheries and genes while we wait for fixes.

17 What are the alternatives? We can continue
18 down our present path of tinkering and bickering and
19 pour more money down the rat hole, we can call the God
20 squad out here, declare the fish extinct and go about
21 our business. In either case we and our children and
22 grandchildren lose.

23 Or we can learn to live with the natural
24 river. We can have healthy fish runs, a healthy river
25 system, and a healthy economy, but the only way to get

1 there is to accept that deep changes in our existing
2 practices are necessary and then accept the risk
3 involved in making these changes.

4 Thank you.

5 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you,
6 Bill.

7 Mike Clements and then Cathy Williams, and
8 then we are going to take a ten minute break.

9 So, Mike Clements, are you there? Cathy
10 Williams?

11 MS. CATHLEEN WILLIAMS: I am another
12 one that's been here most of the day. I am Cathleen
13 Williams. I am a business owner and I am a member of
14 the Washington Women for Agriculture.

15 I say to you on the panel, can you prove to
16 me that everyone here and everyone here beyond a
17 reasonable doubt, that the fish population will return
18 in greater numbers in the event the dams are breached?
19 And what will happen if it doesn't work? Oops. You
20 made a mistake?

21 Keep in mind that for every action, there
22 is a reaction, and for every decision, there are
23 consequences. Increased silt from behind the dams
24 will most likely kill existing warm water species.
25 And damage their habitat. Other species and their

1 habitat will also be affected.

2 Increased silt can clog the Snake and the
3 Columbia River, thus cause the need for more dredging,
4 thus costing millions, and how long will it go on?
5 Increased silt and less water will mean new pumping
6 stations for irrigation, to cost the farmer sometimes
7 to go out of business because of the added cost.

8 Which means food cost will go up or there
9 will be a shortage. No barging means the need for new
10 grain and fuel terminals at the cost of millions. No
11 barging means new roads, new railroads, thus causing
12 more traffic and pollution. Less power means the need
13 for more sources of power, such as fossil and natural
14 gas. Which also adds to pollution and to the
15 dwindling supply of these resources.

16 Less water means relocation or modifying of
17 parks, boat launches, because they were built for the
18 existing river levels.

19 How will you address all of these issues
20 and what will the dollar cost be? And how will it be
21 paid for? Is the government going to pay for it or
22 are we going to pay for it, the citizens?

23 The fact is, we could never go back to the
24 way it was before. Desert, jackrabbits, and
25 sagebrush. We have to go forward and we all have to

1 make sacrifices. The Native Americans, the farmers,
2 the government, the environmentalists, and the
3 citizens.

4 No one side can have it all at the expense
5 of others.

6 You can't deny we all like a good quality
7 of life. So I'm asking you on this panel to take back
8 to Washington, D.C., look at all the alternatives
9 before making a decision because you are going to
10 affect all of the people of the Northwest.

11 Thank you.

12 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you,
13 Cathleen.

14 Thank all of you for being such a great
15 audience tonight and listening. Let me tell you, the
16 first thing after the break, we will hear from David
17 VanCleave, Lloyd Piercy, Marlene White, then Chris
18 Moore, Doug Kolwaite I think it is, Alisa Huckaby, and
19 Jim Berry.

20 There is still more to come after that, but
21 I just wanted to give you guys a heads up.

22 Let's take ten minutes, and we will be back
23 here promptly.

24 (Short recess).

25 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: If you could all

1 take your seats, we are ready to proceed, and we will
2 continue with our pace, see if we can get everyone out
3 of here in a reasonable time.

4 We are going to start with David VanCleave,
5 then go to Lloyd Piercy, and Marleen White. So if I
6 could ask everyone to be quiet and ask David
7 VanCleave, are you here? There you are. Step right
8 up there, sir.

9 MR. DAVID VAN CLEVE: I am the only
10 person tonight that brought the technology with me to
11 save all the electricity that will be lost from the
12 Snake River dams. I have brought a compact
13 fluorescent bulb.

14 If more people in this region use these
15 things, we wouldn't need the electricity from the
16 Snake River dam. By that, I bring this as an example,
17 because all the negative effects of removing the dams
18 can be mitigated.

19 The only fact that cannot be mitigated from
20 leaving the dams in is we cannot save the salmon if
21 the dams are in.

22 We can improve the roads. We can improve
23 the railroads. By doing that, create more jobs. I
24 know some people will lose their jobs, because the
25 barge traffic will go away. I'm sorry. But we cannot

1 do that. We can also save the water for the
2 irrigators. We can mitigate that effect by pumping it
3 uphill or doing as the guy said tonight, by letting it
4 flow by gravity, has its possibility.

5 But what we cannot do is mitigate the
6 effect of the extension of the salmon.

7 I also heard somebody say tonight, these
8 are our dams, you can't take our dams.

9 I helped pay for those dams. I pay my tax
10 dollars every year. They are my dams, too. I want
11 them gone.

12 All I ask you to do tonight is do the right
13 thing. Listen to the biologists that state that if
14 the dams stay, the salmon go extinct.

15 The cost of extinction is not worth it. We
16 do not have the right to kill a magnificent fish
17 forever. It is wrong. It is wrong. It is wrong.
18 It is also economically wrong.

19 Your report is that it does not compare
20 apples to apples. It is deficient in that. It
21 leaves out the very big cost that the salmon go
22 extinct.

23 It does not include the subsidies that the
24 barge operators receive because they do not have to
25 pay for the operation, maintenance or construction of

1 the dams.

2 It does not include the cost of the below
3 market electricity that we all receive because loan
4 subsidies for the construction of the dams have not
5 been totally included.

6 It does not include the cost that will
7 occur when payments will be paid to the Tribes when we
8 abrogate the treaty rights that we have signed with
9 them.

10 Do the right thing. Save the salmon.
11 Remove the dams.

12 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you,
13 David.

14 Lloyd Piercy, Marleen White, then Chris
15 Moore.

16 MR. LLOYD PIERCE: I am Lloyd Piercy.
17 I am a farmer businessman in Umatilla County, Oregon.
18 I live along this river. I fish along this river. I
19 love this river.

20 I've heard a lot of really, really divisive
21 comments tonight. I've heard people that talk about
22 agriculture, shipping, have great theories about how
23 it should work.

24 I've seen studies done by people that are
25 not involved in these industries and their science is

1 bunk.

2 I have also heard farmers with theory on
3 Indian fishing, that that should not be done, who
4 don't even have a clue about what is being done.

5 So the whole thing is really, really
6 divisive.

7 I am really frightened by the fact that we
8 have decided one indigenous south is greater than
9 another. That is racism.

10 A Norweigan that grows up on the ground
11 eating whales is no different than a Shosone Indian
12 that grew up hunting deer.

13 And we all come from the same roots. Every
14 single one of us are hunters and gatherers in an
15 earlier time. That's how we made our living. And
16 then we evolved into a more modern society.

17 This river system is what was a brilliant
18 conception, some really, really bright motivated
19 thinking people that built things.

20 Is it flawed? Yes. Was it wrong? No.
21 They created the engine that drove this whole economy
22 for every one of us, whether you are on one side of
23 the issue or not.

24 You have all got an advantage from this.
25 The Port of Portland, the Port of Seattle, the whole

1 city thrives because of the waterways and the energy
2 and the tax revenues that are generated by this great
3 resource that has been used.

4 Does it need to be fixed? Of course.
5 Always it needs to be fixed. I really don't care
6 personally whether the dams are removed or not. I
7 just want good science. And there is no good science
8 to say they should be removed. And if there is, I'll
9 support it.

10 We're smart people. We're surrounded by
11 smart people. This idea is that there's one answer to
12 saving fish is bunk.

13 We need to use our intelligence and save
14 the salmon and continue to be a prosperous society.

15 One other thing I'd like to say is that
16 some of these decisions that you make really unfairly
17 affect the poor.

18 The educated people, the people that have
19 gone to school, most of the people that are going to
20 speak in this room or sit in this room, they can go
21 anywhere and do anything. But there's a lot of people
22 that are not here.

23 And when the power rate goes up, they make
24 a thousand dollars a month, and they're trying to
25 support their little family. They suffer. So don't

1 forget.

2 You know, as you sit there, that you are
3 gods over the poor people. That's what you are. Your
4 decisions affect them all. So don't just look at the
5 papers, don't just look at somebody's science. Try to
6 think about all of the people that are involved and
7 use good science.

8 That's what I've got to say. If the
9 science is there, great. But it is not there. There
10 is nothing to suggest that it is.

11 Thank you.

12 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you,
13 Lloyd.

14 Marlene White, followed by Chris Moore,
15 followed by Doug Kolwaite.

16 MS. MARLENE WHITE: Good evening. My
17 name is Marlene White, and I am a member of the Yakama
18 Nation. I am --

19 It's kind of hard to know what to say here
20 tonight, listening to a lot of these words that get
21 said.

22 The elders in my home have taught me that
23 mean words don't get us anywhere. And it doesn't.
24 We're all standing still here today. There's
25 differences throughout this country.

1 I heard one lady get up here tonight and
2 say they have to give things up, everybody has to give
3 things up.

4 I think Indian people are one of the ones
5 that have given up the most. Now you are asking us to
6 give up one of the things that means a lot to us,
7 which is a natural resource.

8 The fish. I am a preparer of the
9 traditional foods in the long house. I take care of
10 the fish, the deer meat, the roots and the berries.
11 And in the last few years, maybe five years, we
12 haven't had any fresh salmon at our tables.

13 I know you people here probably can't
14 appreciate that. Because you've mentioned we can buy
15 salmon in a can. And that's true.

16 But we look at fish differently, and I
17 don't know how we can portray that to you. I don't
18 know how we can say how much more different we are
19 than you.

20 But we're the same, because we care about
21 our families. Fish mean a lot to our Indian people.
22 Our water means a lot to our people.

23 So I am in favor of breaching the dams. I
24 am old enough to remember standing at Celilo Falls,
25 never thinking in my wildest dreams that that would be

1 gone today. But it's gone.

2 And I drive by it every time I go to
3 Portland and my heart gets sad.

4 So I am in favor of breaching the dams.
5 But it's awfully fearful to get up here amongst all of
6 you people that are different color than I am.

7 But you still have a heart that beats just
8 like mine. You pray to a Creator on Sunday. That's
9 no different than me, no different than my people.

10 So I ask you, listen to us, because I don't
11 want the salmon to die. I don't want any species to
12 die.

13 I had a grandchild being born today, this
14 morning. That's where I came from; the hospital. And
15 as I watched that little boy being born today, I
16 wondered in my heart, when he came out of the womb, I
17 wondered if he would have fish out there in the rivers
18 and the streams to be able to harvest.

19 I wonder if my granddaughters are going to
20 be able to prepare traditional foods. We can take it
21 so lightly that a species can be gone in the blink of
22 an eye.

23 I ask all of you out there, as well as you
24 people sitting in the front, please hear this, that we
25 are not different, we all have a beating heart. Let's

1 respect one another, let's respect the species that is
2 leaving us.

3 Thank you.

4 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you,
5 Marlene.

6 Chris Moore, followed by Doug Kolwaite,
7 followed by Alisa Huckaby.

8 MR. CHRIS MOORE: My message follows
9 hers. I seem to speak best in our society.

10 My name is Chris Moore. Our families have
11 lived in the Northwest since the 1900s. I don't do
12 farming or fishing, but I have studied economics and
13 these are some of the things that I have observed.

14 Salmon are a huge part of the Northwest,
15 the only place in the lower 48 that wild salmon can
16 thrive. The population once reached more than ten
17 million as stated by the Corps. But their number has
18 dwindled to less than 10 percent of that number. Most
19 of them originate in hatcheries.

20 If we do not act now, we will end up with
21 one more domesticated animal. Agriculture has been a
22 major reason to keep the dams, but is not a necessary
23 industry in this region.

24 Grains harvested in this region can easily
25 be grown in other parts of the country.

1 Salmon cannot exist in the Mississippi, the
2 Missouri or the Colorado Rivers.

3 Comparative analysis and natural resource
4 management clearly gives salmon a priority in this
5 region. The crops grown here are not even a
6 profitable commodity. They decrease in value and have
7 been plagued by surpluses. Adjusted for inflation the
8 price of wheat fell 82 percent from 1916 to 1992. It
9 fell 73 percent from 1950 to 1992. That's data from
10 the USDA.

11 The major benefit of these dams is the
12 electricity they generate. Hydropower has made the
13 cleanest power in the nation. In fact for example,
14 the average electricity rate paid by industry in
15 Washington state is in 1997, 1998 was 2.6 cents per
16 kilowatt hour. In Idaho it was 2.5 per kilowatt hour.
17 The average for the country was 4.87. Even in the 5
18 percent as the Corps indicates, Washington and Idaho
19 would still be among the cheapest four states in the
20 country to get power from. And that is from the
21 energy information agency.

22 The federal government that installed these
23 dams, at some point in the future water falls. But
24 are you to keep the dams to retain jobs, is the
25 slippery slope.

1 At what point does the term socialism
2 apply? When jobs are dependent upon government
3 subsidies, when the government decimates the resources
4 of the region because it refuses to recognize
5 scientific facts, the government dependent economic
6 region that refuses to adapt to changing resources
7 sounds more like the Soviet Union than the United
8 States.

9 The Corps says communities would likely
10 adjust and everyone agrees that new industries will
11 come. For example, fishermen watch towers, use whale
12 watching towers to supplement their flagging revenues
13 from fishing.

14 The dams will, that are used to subsidize
15 government programs, will override the importance of
16 preserving the salmon fisheries of the region. The
17 agricultural, electrical and economic reasons for
18 these dams are not strong enough to keep them --

19 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Chris?

20 MR. CHRIS MOORE: -- removed for the
21 sake of our salmon industry.

22 Thanks.

23 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you
24 very much, Chris.

25 Okay. So Doug Kolwaite, followed by Alisa

1 Huckaby, followed by Jim Berry.

2 DR. DOUG KOLWAITE: Hi. I am Doug
3 Kolwaite. I'm Dr. Doug Kolwaite. I work here at
4 Pacific Northwest National Labs.

5 The question we have here is do we want to
6 look our children and grandchildren in the eye and say
7 there used to be salmon in this river? Knowing that
8 we had the opportunity to prevent their extinction.

9 I have already seen that disappointment as
10 a river guide on the upper main Salmon. I guided
11 there from 1992 to 1997. The first year I was guide
12 there I was able to show my guests the circular
13 patches, denote a place that a wild Chinook has
14 spawned.

15 Five years later there were no reds to be
16 found. In that short time span the dropoff in numbers
17 was precipitous and deeply troubling. Guests would
18 ask, would we see salmon on this river trip, and I
19 would be forced to honestly reply, maybe a few years
20 ago, but not now, they're gone.

21 Some of the kids were funny because they
22 would say this is the Salmon River, right? And I
23 would have to say, yes, it is the Salmon River, but
24 there are no salmon.

25 That's when I started to become concerned

1 with this issue. And I honestly feel the only way to
2 recover the salmon to this river system is to breach
3 the dams.

4 These people that I took down the river are
5 not just people from Washington, Idaho and Oregon.
6 They came from throughout the nation, from all walks
7 of life to enjoy the splendors of the Northwest.

8 These people are the same people that
9 provided the money to build these dams and the money
10 to maintain these dams. These dams are not the
11 property of Eastern Washington. The river is not the
12 property of Eastern Washington. It is the property of
13 this nation.

14 So are the salmon. Both the river and the
15 salmon are actually the property of our children. The
16 people of Idaho and this nation have already had the
17 foresight to protect thousands of miles of rivers and
18 streams in Idaho in the upper Snake River drainage.
19 Five wild and scenic rivers. Salmon and Main Salmon,
20 and Snake River itself, contribute water to the
21 drainage. They are all declared wild and scenic, at
22 least in some sections.

23 I have been fortunate to spend time on all
24 of them. Their scenic beauty is astounding. These
25 rivers run clear even in spring flooding. That's how

1 healthy the habitat is on these rivers. They don't
2 have the pressure of degradation that plague so many
3 of our Washington rivers and they are in the same
4 pristine condition that they were when they were the
5 destination of millions of returning adult salmon.

6 The only thing missing from these rivers is
7 the annual lifeblood of salmon that is prevented by
8 these four salmon killing structures.

9 Yes, the Salmon River may face other --
10 yes, the salmon may face other problems, but we need
11 to only look to the Columbia Reach to see that salmon
12 could surmount the first four dams. The runs have
13 remained relatively stable in the last few years in
14 the reach. But the passage of eight dams is the
15 passage to extinction. Let's not let that happen
16 here.

17 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you,
18 Doug.

19 Alisa Huckaby, followed by Jim Berry,
20 followed by Tim Hester.

21 MS. ALISA HUCKABY: Good evening. My
22 name is Alisa Huckaby and I live in Richland. I
23 appreciate this opportunity to speak.

24 I would like to begin by saying that I
25 speak tonight as a mother of two children. I would

1 like to read a passage from a book entitled River of
2 Life, Channel of Death, by Keith Peterson. Peterson's
3 words express my feelings better than I am able. I
4 quote. "The decisions we make, the compromises we
5 choose about salmon and wildlife and energy and
6 transportation and the balance between them will
7 affect not only our children but theirs, and theirs.
8 Distant generations would seldom contemplate, the
9 people nonetheless will thank us if we choose wisely.
10 We need to personalize these future generations, to
11 think of them as our children. It is difficult to
12 perceive our responsibility to nature. But if we look
13 to human life as a continuum, as a chain of hands that
14 links the generations of the distant past with those
15 of the distant future, then we can personalize our
16 responsibility for nature, for ourselves, and for our
17 children. Only then will we be able to say no to
18 short-term greed in favor of long-term society good.
19 Only then can we make the short-term decisions that
20 will enable nature and humans to coexist along the
21 lower Snake far into the future, end of quote.

22 Some people believe we have made sacrifices
23 for the fish by investing hundreds of millions of
24 dollars on fish friendly dams. I submit we have not
25 really sacrificed at all. We paid for those fish

1 salvage efforts while enjoying the cleanest
2 electricity in the nation, and while supporting a huge
3 toll free navigable waterway.

4 We have not known sacrifice. We simply
5 haven't begun to make the regional lifestyle changes
6 that might actually be required to save these fish.
7 If we don't make the necessary changes, we condemn the
8 salmon. If the salmon die, the canneries of the Snake
9 River, there will no longer be an indicator species of
10 significant economic or symbolic value to prevent us
11 from completely destroying this complex river system.
12 We must take action and not continue to watch fish
13 die.

14 While we lapse into a stupor, bureaucratic
15 wrangling, we have the scientific knowledge to take
16 the necessary action to save these fish, and in this
17 society we know what must be done in the short-term.

18 The only real question is whether or not we
19 have the courage to take the necessary steps. I
20 request Senators Murray and Gorton, Representative
21 Hastings and decision makers of the Army Corps of
22 Engineers to support the removal of the earthen
23 portion of the Lower Snake River dams.

24 Thank you.

25 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you,

1 Alisa.

2 Jim Berry, followed by Tim Hester, followed
3 by Bill Gaffney.

4 MR. JIM BERRY: Thank you. I am Jim
5 Berry from Spokane.

6 My training is in geology. In the summer
7 of 1992 I stood on the foot bridge over Red Fish Creek
8 near where the creek comes out of Red Fish Lake. Up
9 the Salmon River from Salmon, Idaho.

10 The lone Sockeye for that year, an adult
11 male, swam under the bridge, headed for his birthplace
12 to reproduce. But no females this year. This wild
13 Sockeye began three years earlier here. Then down the
14 Salmon, down the Snake, and through the four dams, and
15 then the four Columbia dams, down the Columbia to the
16 Pacific. Then to return that 900 miles back to his
17 place.

18 This wild male Sockeye, and we're talking
19 about the wild fish here tonight, we're not talking
20 about hatchery fish, this wild male Sockeye has been
21 one of just a few to make it through all the hazards,
22 both natural and man caused recently.

23 These few have been netted, their sperm and
24 eggs mixed by the biologists who placed the young back
25 in Red Fish Lake, hoping the run will survive. And I

1 hope they do.

2 The Columbia Basin runs were ten to 16
3 million adult salmon and steelhead at the time of
4 Lewis & Clark 200 years ago. The Nez Perce, with
5 salmon, saved the expedition from starvation. In
6 September 1805, high in the snowy bitter root
7 mountains.

8 Since then we foreigners have been causing
9 most of the fish decline. Natural hazards have been
10 constant. For hundreds of years. Then Grand Coulee,
11 Dwarshach, Hells Canyon dams stopped the fish. We had
12 been hoping runs would continue, running the Snake and
13 the Snake tributaries that are open, the Sellway, the
14 Salmon Rivers.

15 But the drastic decline has continued. The
16 spawning beds are empty up those tributaries. And
17 this decline began big time in the '60s, 1960s and
18 '70s. This is when the four lower dams, Snake River
19 dams, were built. What's happened? The wild Coho are
20 extinct in 1986.

21 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Jim, I need
22 to point out that the red light has come on.

23 MR. JIM BERRY: Okay. Eight more
24 runs are in danger. The Hanford Reach Chinook are in
25 good shape. They are doing well.

1 Why? They have four dams to go through,
2 while the Snake runs have eight dams to go through.
3 They are very weak.

4 Well, we can breach these dams, we can make
5 Pasco a great port, we can build, rebuild the
6 railroads, and that's the big thing, to replace the
7 barging of the products from Lewiston to Clarkston to
8 Pasco.

9 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Jim, I hate to
10 cut you off, but I have got a lot more people I've got
11 to get to tonight.

12 MR. JIM BERRY: We've got a federal
13 surplus of money and money that we can save, put it
14 all together, and we can do the job.

15 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Okay. Thank
16 you. And please give us your written comments there,
17 we will include those in the record. Okay. Thank
18 you.

19 After Jim was Tim Lester, and then Bill
20 Gaffney and Carl Merkle.

21 MR. TIM HESTER: My name is Tim
22 Hester. I have seen you folks on the road show.
23 Sorry. I was unable to wash my red shirt and tie in
24 between Tuesday and today, otherwise I should be in
25 red.

1 I come in here today, it was a very
2 difficult choice. I've lived in Portland. This
3 morning, kind of a lot of controversial debates,
4 people asked me, where are you from? I said I did
5 spend ten years here but I do reside in Portland.

6 A lot of folks told me I don't belong here.

7 But I just want to say, spending the entire
8 day from 7:30 this morning until now talking face to
9 face with folks that have just as much passion in
10 something opposite that I believe in, I have to say
11 that I am very glad and very happy that I was able to
12 come here and experience this.

13 Because I think that what I've learned
14 today is that we're really not far apart. People here
15 in the Tri-Cities, people from Astoria, people in
16 Portland, we all want to save the salmon. What we
17 need to do is we need to sit down and talk about all
18 the options and everything that needs to be done.

19 And what I want to request from you folks
20 to do, and I wasn't able to include this in my last
21 testimony, is that it would be much more helpful for
22 us to have this debate, is if we can get more economic
23 reality numbers from you.

24 Right now all we're hearing about is the
25 economy of dam removal. But if we could sit down and

1 talk about the other pain involved in salmon recovery,
2 because no matter what, I think everyone understands
3 that there will be economic pain in any salmon
4 recovery plan.

5 And so we need to know how much flow
6 augmentation is going to cost society, we need to know
7 how much harvest restrictions is going to cost. If
8 we're going to cut back 50 percent in river, 50
9 percent in ocean harvest, what is that going to cost
10 people? And we need to be able to have that on the
11 table so that when we come here and we talk to people
12 who think we're going after their livelihood, we can
13 have an honest and open debate about the options and
14 we can weigh everything on the table.

15 And in the end, people hopefully will
16 understand that we're not a bunch of Communists that
17 want to take over and control their way of life, that
18 it really does make sense to take these dams out. And
19 I think we'll see that.

20 You know, I work in Portland, and I want to
21 offer, I wish I could have spoke earlier to folks, I'm
22 more than willing to come out here and meet with any
23 group and talk about the facts. Because I think
24 what's happening is there's a big distortion between
25 what one side thinks and another side thinks, and

1 before we can get to an agreement, we need to move
2 closer together on the actual facts. You know,
3 quickly.

4 You know, the salmon that you buy in the
5 store is hatchery salmon. That is not wild salmon. I
6 mean, we need to be able to figure those basic
7 fundamentals out first before we come to the table.

8 And with that, I want to thank you, it's
9 late, and I know we've all been up for a long time,
10 and I know you folks are ready to go to bed, and I
11 know I am, too, so thank you.

12 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thanks, Tim.

13 Bill Gaffney, Carl Merkle, Craig Contor I
14 think it is. Bill Gaffney? Not here. Carl Merkle.
15 Then Craig Contor, and then Walt Meglasson.

16 MR. CARL MERKLE: Thank you. Thank
17 you for this opportunity to speak tonight. And for
18 your attention throughout this long day.

19 My name is Carl Merkle. I am with the
20 staff of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla
21 Indian Reservation, their Department of Natural
22 Resources.

23 It's difficult to follow some of the Tribal
24 members and leaders that spoke earlier today, earlier
25 this evening.

1 I would like to say I'm very proud to be
2 one of their employees, I'm proud to work for folks
3 that regard their religion very highly, their cultural
4 practices very highly, and are trying desperately to
5 maintain them, those practices, those ceremonies in
6 the face of very difficult times, very difficult
7 circumstances. I am very proud to work for folks that
8 don't use their religion for weapons against others,
9 that don't necessarily take the same views as they do.

10 If some of you have a chance to see some of
11 the displays in the room next door, you will see that
12 our tribe had a display there, and some materials.

13 One of the things we have was a policy that
14 the Tribes passed way back in 1995. Now five years
15 ago. That policy was a comprehensive policy. It's
16 relatively short. It's a lot less than the packing
17 crate worth of materials that the Corps has presented
18 us with. It's about 16 pages long. But it does take
19 what's now called an All-H, or 4-H approach. It was
20 done five years ago, and I'd like to commend the
21 federal government, all nine federal agencies, for now
22 five years later, recognizing that all Hs need to be
23 addressed.

24 The Tribes recognized it five years ago,
25 and many years before that, five years ago in written

1 form. And the Umatilla Tribes along with other treaty
2 Tribes in the region, the other three Columbia River
3 treaty Tribes, also in 1995, developed a much more
4 detailed plan for all 4-Hs, which is yet to be
5 extensively evaluated or modeled or examined by the
6 federal government.

7 But we believe it's a sound plan based on
8 sound science, and it will restore the fish, and it's
9 not merely a breaching plan. It deals with all 4 Hs.
10 But it does, the policy and the more detailed plan
11 includes breaching as an alternative.

12 The Umatilla Tribes since 1995 have
13 supported breaching, and they still support it to this
14 day. All the evidence that has accumulated up until
15 this point evidenced by unbiased, independent
16 scientists and scientists who feel at liberty to speak
17 freely, who work for federal agencies and state
18 agencies, as well as tribal agencies, have come to the
19 conclusion that breaching the four Lower Snake River
20 dams is the only alternative with a certain outcome of
21 success, in some cases, two to one, over any other
22 alternative, and that is why 206 scientists support
23 us, why the U.S. Fish and Wildlife has referred to,
24 U.S. fish and Wildlife Service has referred to
25 breaching, the biological benefits that will accrue to

1 fish from breaching as a no brainer.

2 Unfortunately there seems to be a
3 reluctance to accept that fact.

4 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Carl, I hope
5 you see the red light's up.

6 MR. CARL MERKLE: Okay. Okay. The
7 issue is we can breach these dams. The Umatilla
8 Tribes are ready and willing to work with the region
9 to do it and to preserve and protect local economies
10 throughout the region the way they did in the Umatilla
11 River basin.

12 Thank you.

13 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you,
14 Carl.

15 Fred Contor, followed by Walt Meglasson. I
16 am sorry, I am butchering that. Scott Nicolai. Craig
17 Contor? Are you there? Walt, are you here?

18 MR. WALT MEGLASSON: I am here. My
19 name is Walt Meglasson. I am from the Benton City
20 area.

21 I almost feel like the lone ranger here.
22 But, in any case, from what I have heard and from what
23 I have seen, I feel that breaching these dams and the
24 idea behind them is about the stupidest, the most
25 ridiculous, the most cost money wasting effort I have

1 ever heard of.

2 I very sincerely believe that it reminds me
3 of that old bedtime story about the moon being made
4 out of green cheese. To continue the study of this
5 sort of reminds me of the fact that, well, we might as
6 well send another moon mission up there to find out if
7 the moon really is made of green cheese, because it
8 was never proved during the previous missions.

9 I think that a lot of the arguments about
10 dam breaching basically boarder on hypocrisy.

11 Just last week several environmental groups
12 filed a lawsuit to stop the dredging of the parts of
13 the Columbia River which were necessary to be deepened
14 by about three feet to allow the passage ships with
15 greater draft. In the process they said that they
16 instituted the lawsuit primarily because of the fact
17 that it was going to stir up a lot of dredge and a lot
18 of dirt and silt, and thus harm the fish passage.

19 How conveniently they ignore the fact that
20 this very same thing is going to happen if they breach
21 the dams. They're going to have a wall of silt coming
22 down that will probably have to rename the Snake the
23 Old Muddy, and I wouldn't be surprised a bit if you
24 could actually walk across it.

25 I believe it's time to derail this funding,

1 and I believe that with the help of our Congressional
2 delegation and cooler heads in Congress, I think that
3 they will pull the funding for this travesty and get
4 this railroad back on track toward solving the mission
5 and accomplishing the restoration of the fish without
6 destroying our economy, without destroying our
7 livelihood, and at the same time, preserving our
8 environment.

9 Thank you.

10 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you
11 very much.

12 Scott Nicolai, followed by Mike Kontor,
13 followed by Frank Remley.

14 MR. SCOTT NICOLAI: My name is Scott
15 Nicolai. I am a father of two and I have lived in
16 North Central Washington for the last 20 years.

17 I am speaking upon regarding the All-H
18 paper primarily, the section on habitat. I will make
19 this real short, since it's so late.

20 But your habitat's options do not go far
21 enough in my opinion. Under option number 2, you talk
22 about a lot of deference towards locally developed
23 plans, and that gives me a lot of concern because
24 where I live and work, a lot of the local elected
25 officials really don't care about salmon at all. In

1 fact one of the elected officials was quoted as saying
2 at one public hearing why should I raise the salmon
3 for a fisherman, I don't see them raising cows for me.
4 And this is a county elected official.

5 Now I am supposed to develop a habitat
6 conservation plan with him? It won't work. I'm
7 sorry.

8 Under Option 3 you talk about increased
9 federal role, enforcement of the Clean Water Act, and
10 the Endangered Species Act, and those are noble goals.
11 But you need to include requiring that the state can
12 force other regulations that are pertinent and part of
13 these salmon recovery efforts, including the Growth
14 Management Act that requires the local counties and
15 cities adopt ordinances for protection of critical
16 areas, including riparian areas, wetlands.

17 Water rights. We need enforcement of water
18 rights. I decided to go out and do an audit on one
19 water right that's been fully adjudicated in my basin,
20 and I have found that just the first one I checked out
21 of the box, the person was diverting all year around
22 when he had a right to divert just during the
23 irrigation season.

24 He was diverting five or six times what his
25 instantaneous right was. He was drying up the creek

1 at the end of the irrigation season in August, and he
2 was irrigating the wrong land.

3 So we need enforcement of water rights,
4 also Surface Mine Reclamation Act, and fish passage
5 and screening requirements that have been in place for
6 50 years.

7 And I want to comment on, I would like you
8 to comment on the effectiveness of the enforcement of
9 those regulations in your document. We need funding
10 for establishment of land acquisition programs in all
11 the watersheds. We need a small amount of funding for
12 education of local incentive based programs for
13 protection of watersheds, including the conservation
14 reserve incentive -- enhancement program, open space
15 taxation act and another acts.

16 We need to get serious about energy
17 efficiency. When I converted my hot water tank in my
18 residence from electric to natural gas, my electricity
19 bill was decreased overnight by 40 percent.

20 In the last 20 years we have made great
21 strides on solar technology. Now we can heat our
22 domestic hot water just from the sun for nine or ten
23 months of the year at absolutely no cost.

24 Thank you very much.

25 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you,

1 Scott.

2 Mike Kontor, followed by Frank Remley,
3 followed by Mike Lilga. Mike Kontor? Then Frank
4 Remley, if you are in the room, if you could stand up.
5 Great.

6 MR. MIKE KONTOR: I am Mike Kontor.
7 I am from Umatilla, Oregon. I am a small farmer.

8 If you take the dams out, I just wonder if
9 you are all smart enough to know and understand that
10 this room is pretty empty now, but just think, if you
11 take those dams out, are you going to be here?

12 Are you all smart enough up there to even
13 know how you could impact and how you could take care
14 of the people and what the side effects are?

15 I mean, like that lady said earlier
16 tonight, you know, I would really like to know, do you
17 all really know what happens in this part of, where we
18 live? And what happens? Or do you all just think, I
19 have a lot of questions, you know.

20 I mean, other than that, I just hope all of
21 you are all real smart. If you pull them dams out of
22 there, that means you had better be ready. And have a
23 good night.

24 Thank you very much.

25 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Frank Remley.

1 Mike Lilga. Followed by Dennis Lockard, followed by
2 Dick Gias, I think it is.

3 MR. MIKE LILGA: Hi. I am Mick Lilga
4 from Richland. Quote. The multitudes of this fish
5 are almost inconceivable. That's what Lewis and Clark
6 wrote in their journal in 1805.

7 But now salmon are troubled, and may be
8 extinct by 2017. What must we do to bring salmon
9 back?

10 First I know one thing that won't help. It
11 does no good to point fingers at someone else. Each
12 person that burns a light bulb contributes to the
13 problem. We are all a part of the problem, and we
14 must all take responsibility for solving it. Only a
15 comprehensive solution will succeed.

16 In our first attempts to restore salmon, we
17 spent lots of money, but have gotten few results.
18 That tells me that the money has been spent on
19 ineffective recovery methods. We've diluted ourselves
20 by thinking dams can be made invincible to fish and by
21 believing that trumps biology.

22 Our efforts have fallen short. The Pacific
23 Northwest needs its salmon and we must do more. Maybe
24 we need to simply ask, what were the conditions like
25 when fish were plentiful. Rivers flowed as rivers are

1 supposed to. There was plenty of habitat for, there
2 was a balance between reproduction and predation.
3 Salmon were not being overharvested.

4 But a lot has changed since the times of
5 Lewis and Clark. Rivers are now lakes. Habitat is
6 gone or severely degraded. We have removed salmon
7 faster than they reproduce.

8 These things harm salmon. To bring salmon
9 back, we must remedy anything that harms wild salmon.
10 We know that salmon need a river but they have a lake.
11 We know that dams harm fish.

12 The first thing we need to do, turn the
13 Snake back into a river and breach the four Snake
14 River dams.

15 But in addition, there's more we must do.
16 Improve habitat on both the mainstem and the
17 tributaries. There may be four more Hanford Reaches
18 hiding behind those dams.

19 We must also provide adequate buffers and
20 remove cattle from the shoreline and river. We must
21 reduce all harvests in the ocean and on the river.
22 Phase out hatcheries and work to rebuild wild streams
23 of fish.

24 In other words, if this is a multiple
25 choice test, we must pick all of the above as our

1 answer. We must do them all.

2 The problem of course is that we will all
3 be impacted and none of us will like it. But that's
4 okay because as I said earlier, we are all part of the
5 problem and we all have a responsibility.

6 The problems we create by breaching the
7 dams are technological, and we can resolve them by any
8 number of technological means. However, the problems
9 we have created for salmon are biological. No
10 technological fix has changed salmon biology, changed
11 a fish's basic needs, or changed its instincts.

12 The fundamental point is this: There is
13 only one way to be a fish and we have no control over
14 that. We must change our systems and our habits.
15 There's no way to change the fish.

16 And I implore you for you to provide for
17 salmon's basic needs. Start by giving them a river.
18 Breach the four Lower Snake River dams.

19 Thank you.

20 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you,
21 Mike.

22 Dennis Lockard. Dennis Lockard, are you
23 still here? Dick Gias? Roger Marchand. Neil Taylor.
24 Followed by Sara Koeningsberg, followed by Cory
25 Reeves.

1 MR. NEIL TAYLOR: I am a college
2 student. I am Neil Taylor. I am a Whitman College
3 student and I grew up in Virginia. I spent a lot of
4 my time when I was little, and just kind of playing
5 around in that. And, all those days of playing with
6 my friends and cousins and tubing and all of that, to
7 see that river, a wild river, and I believe that you
8 will all in the Northwest have not only the
9 opportunity to see the Snake River be more of a wild
10 river but you also have the chance to save the salmon
11 that are obviously having problems because of the
12 dams.

13 And I would just think that you can't weigh
14 money against species of salmon that are being harmed
15 here, and I just think that that needs to be fixed.

16 And to all those who need evidence of dam
17 breaching working, you can just look to the dam in
18 Maine that was taken out last year that was blocking
19 about 19 species of fish, and they predicted that the
20 fish would start coming back in five years. But they
21 are already starting to see the fish come back now.

22 So, I would just like to say that I believe
23 that breaching the dams will help. It won't
24 necessarily be the only answer, that there might be
25 unforeseen and foreseen problems that you will need to

1 fix after that, but that will be a start.

2 Thanks.

3 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you,
4 Neil.

5 Sarah Koeningsberg, followed by Cory
6 Reeves, followed by Ron Sullivan.

7 MS. SARAH KOENINGSBERG: My name is
8 Sarah Koeningsberg. I am a native Idahoan, and I am
9 currently living in Walla Walla right now, and I am
10 also 19 years old.

11 I was born after all these dams were put
12 in, and I never got to see the wild salmon runs. I am
13 kind of really sad about that.

14 I think breaching the dams is the best
15 opportunity that I have. 2017 is one of those
16 extinction dates, and I will be 37, and I would like
17 to see salmon a lot longer than that. And so I think
18 breaching the dams gives us a little bit more hope,
19 and I think there's a lot of problems associated with
20 it, yes, but it can be dealt with. So please take the
21 dams out.

22 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thanks,
23 Sarah.

24 Cory Reeves, followed by Ron Sullivan,
25 followed by Russ Whipple.

1 MR. CORY REEVES: My name is Cory
2 Reeves, and it's a pleasure to be here this evening.

3 I would like to thank everyone who lunge
4 out for their patience. I would like to thank
5 everyone from both sides of the issues for coming here
6 tonight, expressing their concerns. I consider that
7 more valuable than any fish.

8 I do respect the salmon. I do respect the
9 people and members of the local community. I also
10 respect the federal government and the efforts that it
11 makes. This is obviously a much more far reaching
12 issue.

13 What we're talking about here in many cases
14 as a lack of power is more an economic issue. It has
15 a far greater impact on the lives, the livelihoods and
16 the safety of humanity in general.

17 We take for granted the fact that some of
18 these issues mean life and death to human beings.
19 Many of us take for granted the call to the ambulance,
20 the call to the police officer, and the power that
21 provides the equipment in the hospital, etc., etc.,
22 etc. These are additional issues to take into
23 consideration.

24 I believe that there is a medium ground. I
25 don't know exactly what kind of a staging or phasing

1 process the Army Corps of Engineers has chosen to
2 adopt if, and I stress the term if, they choose to
3 breach the dams, the earthen part of the dams, so I
4 would advise caution, and I would advise doing it over
5 a lengthy period of time, not all at once, for obvious
6 reasons.

7 I don't necessarily agree with a complete
8 breach of the dams. I believe that the benefits to
9 human life far outweigh the concerns over another
10 animal species. I also know that the only thing that
11 stays the same is change.

12 So from my perspective, being a member of
13 this community, and a landowner that will be directly
14 and severely impacted if the dams are breached, I
15 believe I will trust my government, and I believe I
16 will trust my fellow members of my community and my
17 nation, to come up with a reasonable and executable
18 plan that will solve the major issues while taking
19 into consideration things besides financial gain.

20 And I believe that's all I came here to say
21 this evening. Thank you for your time.

22 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you,
23 Cory.

24 Ron Sullivan, followed by Russ Whipple,
25 followed by Rebecca Fronick. Ron Sullivan, are you

1 here? No. What about Russ Whipple? No Russ Whipple.
2 What about Rebecca? And how many people are still on
3 my list? Oh. Well, I am really glad I did that.
4 Okay. Saved ten minutes of name reading.

5 So let's just take the two of you and we'll
6 go on from there. Three. Just come on up to the
7 microphone, the three of you.

8 MR. JIM LANGFORD: My name is Jim
9 Langford. I am a retired scientist, 44 years,
10 Battelle, and when they did have radioactivity out
11 there, we studied it, we were the ones that studied
12 the migratory habits of salmon throughout the Pacific
13 Ocean. Couldn't have been at that time, at any other
14 time probably.

15 Anyway, I am 70 years old, and I want to
16 start out my story by letting you know that about
17 1808, a scientist, I say scientist, a pseudo scientist
18 said New York City could not get any better, because
19 they couldn't get the fertilizer from the horses out
20 of town. Then they invented a car.

21 I'm trying to tell you that science works.
22 And a farm I lived on, we got 40 bushel to the acre of
23 corn. Now it's 200. That's why you have food to eat.

24 Any of these people who think they are
25 going to get food if the dams are removed, I don't

1 think they know what they're talking about.

2 I have two sons who are physicists, and
3 they say that the other energy sources, it doesn't
4 calculate out.

5 Well, what would probably happen is we
6 would have sagebrush, and if we were eating, it would
7 be berries. What do we mean by natural? 14,000 years
8 ago this part of the Columbia River did not even
9 exist. And they're trying to tell us they want to
10 take the river back to what it used to be.

11 The same is true on radioactivity. I've
12 talked to EPA about this sort of thing. In order to
13 make the world like it used to be, we'd have to add
14 radioactivity to the earth.

15 People don't understand these things. It's
16 not true that the agricultural land that would be
17 taken out of service here could be replaced. The
18 government's been laying up land, taking it out of
19 production. It just isn't true.

20 I object to the study being only on salmon.
21 We have many more wildlife here, geese, so forth,
22 because of the irrigation. So if you take -- if you
23 think that you are going to take the dams out, and
24 keep the regular wildlife, you don't know what you're
25 talking about. James could call in his book, The

1 Great Salmon Hoax, he says it isn't the dam problem.

2 They have the same problem on rivers without dams.

3 There are a few exceptions, of course.

4 That makes sense. Read his book, The Great Salmon

5 Hoax.

6 I think the way to get results is to give
7 people money if they produce results. And stop giving
8 activists money when they don't do anything. That's
9 the big problem.

10 And the final thing I have to say is,
11 according to my religion, people who fail to progress
12 lose it. That's the rule.

13 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you,
14 Jim.

15 Right over here? You've got the
16 microphone.

17 MR. LARRY NASH: My name is Larry
18 Nash. I'm a licensed professional civil engineer.

19 It seems to me that we lose sight of a lot
20 of things when we allow ourselves to be divided and
21 conquered. That's something that Cesar understood.
22 It's something that all the death spots of the world
23 understand. If we are divided, then they can slice us
24 up so easy.

25 First of all, like the gentleman said, it's

1 not a dam problem. Because the Snake River dams are
2 the newest and most modern dams in the system.

3 If they are a problem, what about the dams
4 downstream on the Columbia? Are they the next to be
5 breached? And what do we do about the towns and the
6 irrigation and the jobs that will be lost? Will they
7 become ghost towns? Will we say 20 years down the
8 road, we made a mistake, and then the cost will be
9 prohibitive to replace those dams?

10 Well, when they go, they will be gone
11 forever. Now, if I thought for one second that
12 breaching those dams would bring back the salmon, I
13 would be all for it. But it won't. And nobody out
14 there in that panel, and none of the things I have
15 read, say that it will. They say it might. Well,
16 might's not quite good enough.

17 The problem is out at sea. Quite simply,
18 when you truck and barge smolt around the dams, turn
19 them lose, and less than 2 percent come back, you know
20 the problem's downstream. It's countries that come
21 and fish our grounds, take our fish, grind them up for
22 fertilizer or stock food or whatever.

23 They don't have any hatchery programs. Why
24 should they? We're providing them with the fish.
25 We're hatching the fish for them. We're virtually

1 carrying the load, the bulk of it, by ourselves,
2 trying to preserve these species.

3 They say that the steelhead and the Sockeye
4 are not being harvested out there at sea. How do they
5 know? They don't have any international observers
6 aboard those factory ships out there. They don't know
7 what their catch boats bring in.

8 Oh, if you ask them they would say, we're
9 just harvesting hallock. But they don't know. And
10 our Coast Guard is not protecting our waters.

11 So, I guess in conclusion, it's not the
12 dams, it's the overharvesting. Let's give Greenpeace
13 a submarine with torpedoes, and maybe that will help.
14 Thank you.

15 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you,
16 Larry.

17 Who was next? There we go.

18 MR. NANCY STAYDAHUR: I am Nancy
19 Staydahur. I live in Richland, have lived here almost
20 my entire life. And a year ago I had to write a paper
21 for a college class that I was taking, and so I
22 decided to write it on the dam and salmon issue to try
23 to get some understanding of what was going on there.

24 And my original thesis was that it was
25 pretty ludicrous to think about breaching the dams.

1 It just was the stupidest idea I had ever heard.

2 But after studying for this paper, my
3 conclusion was that breaching the dams would have the
4 most positive impact on helping us to save the salmon.

5 And I was so surprised by that I really
6 didn't expect to come to that conclusion.

7 I wanted to come tonight because I know
8 that a lot of our elected officials in the area have
9 come out opposing this dam breaching idea. And I
10 wanted to make sure that you realized that not all the
11 citizens in this community agree with our elected
12 officials. And so I hope that you will base this on
13 scientific information and my own personal opinion
14 that that information is there and it is convincing,
15 that breaching the dams as well as some of the other
16 ideas that you have already heard about tonight will
17 help us to save that species, and I think it's
18 important for us to realize that right now we might
19 not know what the impact's going to be if those
20 species become extinct. I don't think we want to let
21 that happen, and then find out.

22 Thank you.

23 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: It looks like
24 I've got one last person there. Yes.

25 MR. JIM BAKER: Thank you. For the

1 record, my name is Jim Baker. I'm a resident of
2 Whitman County, Washington. I work for the Sierra
3 Club, but I am speaking tonight on my own behalf.

4 This morning my fellow Americans of this
5 community told me bluntly to sit down and shut up
6 until everyone else had had an opportunity to testify.

7 I hope those who are still here who have
8 worn a yellow ribbon today will report that I did so.
9 I hope they will also report what I am about to say.

10 Is the Sierra Club trying to destroy the
11 agricultural economy of Eastern Washington? I sure
12 hope not. Because my wife and I own property out in
13 the wheat fields west of Pullman. So if my employer
14 is secretly trying to destroy the economy, my wife and
15 I are going down with the ship.

16 The Tri-City Herald asked in a recent
17 editorial just what conservationists are really up to.
18 Here are what conservationists are trying to do.

19 Save our salmon and steelhead from
20 extinction and rebuild fish populations to sustain
21 harvestable numbers.

22 That's it. That's all. The vast majority
23 of scientists believe that partial removal of the four
24 lower Snake dams is an essential, though not
25 exclusive, action necessary to recover the big fish.

1 The new biology report from the National
2 Marine Fisheries Service reaches the same conclusion.

3 Our neighbors in this community did not
4 create this crisis, so we conservationists are
5 committed to save the salmon and steelhead, not ruin
6 the backs of local people. We do not want to mitigate
7 the economic impacts of the partial removal the Lower
8 Snake River dams.

9 Instead we want investments in the local
10 economy to put this community in a better position to
11 do business in the 21st Century. Where there is today
12 a monopoly by barge companies on shipping grains to
13 markets, we want to restore competition among
14 different modes of transportation. Train, truck and
15 barge on the Columbia River, where there are today
16 productive farms irrigated from the Ice Harbor pool,
17 we want to extend the pump intakes so that production
18 continues for the foreseeable future.

19 Where there is today only a loose look in
20 our future, we want a win-win. Our plea this evening
21 to this community is to join with us in securing this
22 bright tomorrow before it is too late.

23 If these salmon and steelhead go extinct,
24 and the biologists tell us that that is what will
25 happen if the four lower Snake dams remain, it will

1 violate multiple laws and treaties, not just the
2 Endangered Species Act.

3 So the cost of extinction will run into the
4 tens of billions of dollars, crushing the entire
5 Northwest economy, sending us into the worst case
6 scenario of no salmon, no fishing industries, no cheap
7 power, no cheap shipping, no cheap irrigation water,
8 and worst of all, no investments to secure these
9 economic blessings in the 21st Century.

10 Please, let's work past the stereotypes and
11 paranoia, let's save the salmon and steelhead, not
12 just for the sake of these magnificent creatures, but
13 for our families, for our future.

14 Thank you.

15 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you very
16 much. And thank you all very, very much.

17 Was there anyone else on the list that
18 didn't get the opportunity to stand up yet that wants
19 to still?

20 Okay. Thank you all very, very much for
21 being such a cooperative audience, and I'd like to
22 thank the panel members and folks that have been
23 helping us here today.

24 One last one?

25 MR. PAUL KEESLER: After hearing the

1 extensive evening of comments, I have chosen that I
2 have to speak. My name is Paul Keesler. I live in
3 Pasco. I have lived here for a long time. Was born
4 here. I am an engineer. I'm not a scientist.

5 But I think the numbers speak for
6 themselves. The number of fish that are not coming
7 back to the river provide the basis by which we can
8 restore the salmon without taking out the dams,
9 without doing a lot of things.

10 If the fish go to the ocean and do not
11 return, that says that they are either harvested,
12 there is some condition in the ocean that is
13 detrimental to their well-being and their potential
14 return.

15 So rather than immediately strike out at
16 the dams as the primary alternative to restoring the
17 salmon runs, there's some additional work that needs
18 to be done.

19 The scientific community says we need more
20 data. I understand that more data in this case may
21 require some time. There's not a lot of time if the
22 fish are truly endangered.

23 But things like barging, number of fish
24 that get down the river, they're there, they're just
25 not coming back. So perhaps, as well as looking at

1 the in-river things, we need to look at the offshore
2 problems with the fish.

3 Thank you.

4 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: Thank you very
5 much. Okay. There we have it. All right. Thank you
6 all very, very much. You have been terrific, very
7 cooperative. I appreciate all of your help for
8 getting through tonight, and thank you for making your
9 thoughts known to everybody. We really, really
10 appreciate it.

11 Any comments?

12 COL. ERIC MOGREN: Yeah. I would just
13 like to add my thanks, too. Again in keeping with
14 what has been a trend in all these public hearings,
15 there's a lot of folks who have a lot of deeply held
16 feelings and a lot of emotions surrounding these
17 feelings, and I think it is a real testament to all
18 these communities, that this can be discussed in a
19 very civil, cordial way, and I want you all to know,
20 and I would hope that the other 2,000 people who
21 showed up during the course of the day here could hear
22 me say that, thank you all.

23 MS. DONNA SILVERBERG: That concludes
24 this meeting. Thank you all again for attending. We
25 will be adjourned.

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(10:50 p.m.)

* * *

1 STATE OF OREGON)
2 County of Umatilla) ss.
3)

4 I, William J. Bridges, do hereby certify
5 that at the time and place heretofore mentioned in the
6 caption of the foregoing matter, I was a Certified
7 Shorthand Reporter for the State of Oregon; that at
8 said time and place I reported in stenotype all
9 testimony adduced and proceedings had in the foregoing
10 matter; that thereafter my notes were reduced to
11 typewriting and that the foregoing transcript
12 consisting, of 123 typewritten pages is a true and
13 correct transcript of all such testimony adduced and
14 proceedings had and of the whole thereof.

15 Witness my hand at Pendleton, Oregon, on
16 this _____ day of April, 2000.

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William J. Bridges
Certified Shorthand Reporter
Certificate No. 91-0244
My certificate expires: 10-31-01