



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
441 G STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20314-1000

AUG 06 2018

Amy Eberling
Anacortes, WA
703-477-7432
anorman2@gmail.com

Dear Ms. Eberling:

*THANKS!!
VERY DETAILED
PACKET!!*

I am responding to your letter dated 6 July 2018, in which you reference the USACE Campaign Plan and request immediate action on the Lower Snake River Dams, Washington. In your letter, you cite Bonneville Power Authorities financial situation and call for priority breaching of two dams on the Lower Snake.

Specific to your points on lower Snake River dams, these dams were authorized by Congress to provide a variety of services to the people and industries of the Pacific Northwest and the Nation. Therefore, the Corps must make decisions regarding operations and maintenance of these dams consistent with its mandate for fulfilling all of the authorized missions it has been tasked to accomplish. Stated differently, the Corps must continue to fulfill these authorized purposes until Congress directs the Corps otherwise. In addition, the Corps must work with other federal agencies, such as the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), to coordinate these operations in an effort to allow these agencies to meet their authorized missions, as well.

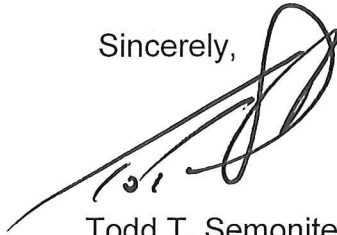
As you know, the Corps is currently working with BPA and Reclamation, as co-lead agencies, to prepare the Columbia River System Operations Environmental Impact Statement (CRSO EIS) using the most current data and science available, and considering all aspects of impacts to the region and its citizens. A lot of data and analysis has been prepared regarding these facilities over the past couple of decades, but those materials are not up-to-date. The Corps of Engineers, BPA, and Reclamation are almost two years into preparing a study to determine whether any changes should be made to the long-term operations, maintenance, and configuration of the 14 federal dams in the Columbia River System, including the lower Snake River dams. We will continue to gather the facts and use them to complete this review. The materials you provided will be added to the record and reviewed as part of the CRSO study.

As part of this effort, dam breaching is one of several alternatives being reviewed. And, if that alternative is identified as the preferred alternative, we will initiate steps to seek authorization and appropriations within the established processes for such an action.

I firmly believe you will be more productive in expressing your points with the Northwestern Division leadership. We have a new commander there, Brigadier General D. Peter Helmlinger. I have asked him to look into setting up an appointment with you, as well.

*You Willing To Have
You Fly To Washington, DC
To Meet With My Director
Of Civil Works - Or
With My New MWD
CDR in Portland, Oregon.
Interested in Your Opinion?*

Sincerely,



Todd T. Semonite
Lieutenant General, U.S. Army
Commanding