



**SKAGIT COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

DON MUNKS, First District
KENNETH A. DAHLSTEDT, Second District
TED W. ANDERSON, Third District

November 6, 2006

Jorge Carrasco
Seattle City Light Superintendent
Seattle Municipal Tower
700 Fifth Avenue - Suite 3300
Seattle, WA 98124-4023

RE: Skagit System Flood Control Storage from Ross Dam

Dear Mr. Carrasco:

Skagit County recognizes and appreciates Seattle City Light's role in flood control on the Skagit River. The timely and efficient operation of Ross Dam and the nearby Puget Sound Energy Baker River Hydroelectric Project helped minimize the peak flows from the October 2003 flood event, thereby reducing flood damages by millions of dollars. Although only 120,000 acre-feet of storage is currently authorized by your license with the Federal Emergency Regulatory Commission, the license envisions the potential to provide up to 180,000 acre-feet of flood storage in Ross Reservoir. Fortunately, in leading up to the October 2003 flood event, the space was available, and Ross Reservoir stored over 170,000 acre-feet of water. We are grateful Seattle City Light utilized this storage which resulted in the protection of lives and property downstream.

On behalf of the citizens of Skagit County, we sincerely appreciate the efforts of you and your staff in reducing flood damages along the Skagit River.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON


KENNETH A. DAHLSTEDT, Chairman


TED W. ANDERSON, Commissioner


DON MUNKS, Commissioner

BCC/ejb



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November 6, 2006

Eric Markell
Senior V.P. Energy Resources
Puget Sound Energy
10885 NE 4th Street
Bellevue, WA 98009-9734

RE: Skagit System Flood Control Storage from Puget Sound Energy Baker Project

Dear Mr. Markell:

Skagit County recognizes and appreciates Puget Sound Energy's role in flood control on the Skagit River. The timely and efficient operation of your reservoirs and the nearby Seattle City Light Skagit River Project reservoirs helped minimize the peak flows from the October 2003 flood event, thereby reducing flood damages by millions of dollars. For this reason, we respectfully request Puget Sound Energy manage the reservoirs to provide at least 140,000 acre-feet of flood storage in advance of an impending flood event during this upcoming flood season and restrict release from Lower Baker Dam to the absolute minimum beginning at least six hours before a projected flood peak of 90,000 cfs at Concrete. Skagit County was pleased to see that FERC acknowledged the importance of this concept in their recently released Final Environmental Impact Statement on relicensing the Baker River Hydroelectric Project, by stating on page 5-21: "*..., we recommend adding additional language to Proposed Article 107 to permit Puget to temporarily modify storage requirements if required by an emergency and if the Corps mutually agrees to the modification.*"

On behalf of the citizens of Skagit County, we sincerely appreciate the efforts of you and your staff in reducing flood damages along the Skagit River.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON


KENNETH A. DAHLSTEDT, Chairman


TED W. ANDERSON, Commissioner


DON MUNKS, Commissioner

BCC/ejb

SKAGIT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING

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