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Email jchuesby@bmi.net

December 07, 2001

Peter Donaldson  
Watershed Legacy  
3635 88th Ave. SE  
Mercer Island, WA 98040

Dear Peter,

This letter is to reiterate my support of the Watershed Legacy Learning Community. As a landowner, farmer, and irrigator, I remain deeply committed to evolving long-term, balanced solutions among the various Walla Walla River water stakeholders -- both people and fish. I believe this Learning Community is precisely what is needed to build partnerships and set appropriate courses of action as "citizen stewards".

Leadership requires Vision -- an idea in the mind's eye of what could be done; Wisdom -- knowledge tempered with experience about what can be done; and Action -- what is being done. As an innovator/farmer, I am actively working toward this balance between the growing needs of fish (Native Americans), agriculture (irrigation districts and landowners), and the general society (domestic water, power, recreation, food) by pursuing the idea of off-stream, off-season, on-farm storage of water.

A series of small on-farm reservoirs filled when there is enough water for everyone could serve multiple uses in addition to irrigation. As demand increases on a finite water supply, I am doing my part through example as well as through my participation in organizations such as the Watershed Legacy.

Good ideas, good communication, and good education about these opportunities can't happen without funding. I encourage the Bonneville Power Administration to provide financial assistance which will enable the Watershed Legacy the ability to pursue these ends.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joel Huesby". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Joel Huesby