



Nelson Irrigation Corporation



848 Airport Road, Walla Walla, WA 99362-2271

December 14, 2001

RE: Watershed Legacy proposal to the BPA

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter in support of the Watershed Legacy proposal to the Bonneville Power Administration.

I have lived in the Walla Walla Watershed for the past 30 years. I am involved in business here, including a farming operation which depends upon irrigation water out of tributaries to the Walla Walla river. I am active in, and committed to restoring the fishery in the Walla Walla, as well as preserving a healthy and sustainable agricultural economy in the basin.

As this letter is being written, a new entity is being formed which will be called the Walla Walla Watershed Alliance. This alliance will bring together the landowners, the Tribes and the environmental community in a proactive program to develop a model for our watershed enhancement. This is a local process, involving all the citizenry, and the Watershed Legacy proposal will fulfill an extremely important component of our plans, i.e. that of focusing on the challenge of nurturing social behavioral change during this process.

I encourage a favorable ruling for funding this proposal.

Sincerely,

Bob Rugar
Vice President