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**RICK RAY**30649 Northeast Hurt Road  
Springdale, Oregon 97060

Thursday, September 19, 2002

Bonneville Power Administration  
PO Box 12999, Portland, OR 97208**Re: Balancing Power and Fish**

I live in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic area. I've seen that historically, salmon have taken a back seat whenever water is scarce or energy markets are unstable.

As the competition for limited water resources increases our reliance on hydropower as the source for the majority of the Northwest's electricity production creates an unstable energy future. Fish and wildlife programs are negatively impacted when energy markets are unstable and water resources are limited. These impacts usually are in the form of budget reductions dedicated to salmon and failures to implement measures that salmon need for migration. Over-reliance on hydropower limits our ability to do what is necessary to save wild salmon from extinction.

BPA needs to diversify its energy sources in order to stabilize energy markets, economies, and programs that benefit salmon. Investing in clean and renewable energy sources could benefit wild salmon and steelhead by lessening the pressure on water resources and stabilizing funding for fish and wildlife programs.

Thank you for your time and your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,