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Noel Johnson
lewisriver.com
6412 NW Amidon Rd.
Woodland, WA 98674

Dear Noel,

It was a pleasure to meet with you, Rawley Stohr, and Jim Thuney on May 10. This was a positive and constructive meeting. We understand that residents below Merwin Dam have legitimate concerns about the safety of the Lewis River Hydroelectric Projects. We are dedicated to working together with the Lewis River community, PacifiCorp, and Cowlitz County to ensure that reasonable measures are taken to ensure the safety of the projects and to protect life and property from dam-related emergencies.

We came away from the meeting with the impression that we have a lot of the same interests and concerns in regard to dam safety and the dam relicensing. We both want to see a comprehensive notification system for the area that could be impacted by a dam-related emergency. We would also like to see consideration of more aggressive management of high flows to protect downstream property and to ensure that ingress and egress routes are passable. In general, we would also like to ensure that there is regular and effective communication and coordination between PacifiCorp and the Lewis River community and public safety officials both before and during any incident on the projects.

We plan on staying engaged in the relicensing process so that we can try to meet these needs. CRESA and Cowlitz County Emergency Management are coordinating our involvement in the negotiations. We will participate in the relicensing negotiations during discussions of flood management issues.

You might be interested to know that CRESA and other public safety agencies met with PacifiCorp on June 12 to discuss the response to the Swift Canal failure incident. This also was a productive meeting. We discussed several ideas for improving response to emergency incidents in the Lewis River Projects. In future emergencies, PacifiCorp has agreed to assign a government liaison. This person's primary responsibility will be to coordinate with local governments. We are also going to work with PacifiCorp to test improved procedures for notifying public safety agencies during an emergency.

We truly appreciate your tireless involvement in the relicensing process. You are an excellent advocate for the safety of your community. We look forward to working with you to ensure that the outcome of the negotiations provide for the protection of the life and property from the impacts of floods, dam failures, and other possible emergencies related to the Lewis River Hydroelectric Projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Griffith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "T".

Tom Griffith, Director