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IPC-E-90-8.
Idaho Public Utilities Commission
Office of the Secretary
RECEIVED
JUN 28 1990

June 26, 1990

Rt. 1 Box 241
Rupert, ID 83350

Boise, Idaho

TO: Idaho Public Utilities Commission

Subject: Idaho Power Plant at Milner Dam

I strike in opposition to such an endeavor. We have had two consecutive short water years. This power plant is not multiple-use of the water; only by Idaho Power at their plants clear through Hells Canyon. This water comes out of Milner Dam down Twin Falls canal for approximately a mile then down into the Snake River Canyon, which has run nearly dry to Thousand Springs. Any water that falls into the canyon at Milner or this new facility is lost to Idaho and its economy.

Idaho gave Idaho Power a gold mine when they were allowed to build three dams in Hells Canyon instead of one large Bureau of Reclamation Dam. Look at the history of Idaho Power; they were very instrumental in killing the Lynn Crandal Dam (approximately 50 miles below Palisades) one million acre feet of reserve storage plus 90 megawatts of power. Look what that would have done for the economy of Idaho the last two years. Just the water alone!

What good came to Idaho when Idaho Power was allowed to direct Pennstock American Falls Dam; they have the potential for nine times the energy?

Whose water are they going to divert down the canyon? Sure, I know they have water rights in the system; but will they be satisfied with only that? By whose measurements will Idaho go by? What records can we stand on? If we need more power, why not use larger generators upstream. Then water can be used to irrigate.

California is after Idaho water...if we release more for power (not a primary use) they will have better grounds for a case to demand Idaho water. We have areas as "Oakley Fan" and Carey, Richfield and Dietrich areas that could use water out of Lynn Crandal if it were in place.

Thanks for taking the time to listen.

Sincerely,


Clarence Bellem

CB:imp

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