



THE WASHINGTON WATER POWER COMPANY

P. O. DRAWER 1445

SPOKANE 10, WASHINGTON

May 6, 1955

KINSEY M. ROBINSON, PRESIDENT

The Honorable A. B. Curtis
Mayor of the City of Orofino
Orofino, Idaho

Dear Bert:

I have your letter of April 29, enclosing a letter from Senator Dworshak and excerpts from General Sturgis' testimony. The Senator sent me a copy of this same material.

I believe General Sturgis did not mean that the private companies were not interested in building the power plant. I think he intended to say that he doubted the private companies could build the entire project unless they could receive benefits from the downstream storage, which, of course, under the law could not be done at the present time.

There is considerable discussion going on in Washington, D. C. as to the type of bill to be introduced. I think the majority of the Administration is inclined toward a bill for government construction of the dam and a period of time - one or one-half years - to work out provisions with local interests to build, own, and operate the power facilities. We have advised them that we would be interested in this proposal since it would permit much earlier construction than probably would occur if we waited for legislation to permit us to do the whole job and secure the downstream benefits plus a contribution from the government for the flood control and navigation features.

I am in hopes that the Senator will decide to introduce this kind of a bill at a rather early date so that it may have a chance of getting through this session of Congress. This, I think, would eliminate also a lot of the fish problem, as the government can do many things that a private company would find hard to do.

I am returning the enclosures as I have copies of this material.

P.S. you sure did a good
job at the Hell's Canyon
Barrage and I'm sure
you will gain by it

Sincerely,

Kinsey M. Robinson

enc.
R. w

KMR