



PORT of KENNEWICK

COMMISSIONERS | DAVID W. HANSON | GENE WAGNER | SKIP NOVAKOVICH

January 17, 2010

J.V. Parrish
Chief Executive Officer
Energy Northwest
P.O. Box 968, Mail Drop 1023
Richland, WA 99352-0968

Dear Mr. Parrish:

The Port of Kennewick enthusiastically supports Energy Northwest's efforts to renew its operating license for the Columbia Generating Station. This project is of critical importance to meeting the region's current and future energy needs. It will help ensure reasonable power costs, and foster energy independence on a national level by supporting nuclear energy as a low-cost power source.

The Columbia Generating Station has a proven track record of safe and efficient power production. They are environmentally responsible and have demonstrated that security and safety of used fuel is a top priority. Renewal of this license will ensure clean, affordable electricity into the future.

In addition, Columbia Generating Station contributes millions of tax dollars to the state of Washington—monies which are then used to support schools, roads, water, sewer, and other critical services. And the plant itself employs a significant number of people who not support our economy by purchasing goods and services locally, they actively invest their time, talents, and treasure to benefit charitable organizations; helping improve our quality of life.

The Port of Kennewick is actively working to expand commercial, business, and manufacturing activities within the Quad-City region. And, as the Mid-Columbia region continues to grow, operation of the Columbia Generating Station will help ensure a prosperous and diversified economic future. Therefore, the Port of Kennewick wholeheartedly supports Energy Northwest's application to renew their Columbia Generating Station operating license through 2043.

Sincerely,

Tana Bader Inghima
Director of Governmental Relations & Marketing