



## Washington State Senate

**Senator Tim Sheldon**  
35th Legislative District

**Olympia Office:**  
412 Legislative Building  
PO Box 40435  
Olympia, WA 98504-0435  
(360) 786-7668  
FAX: (360) 786-1323  
e-mail: sheldon.timothy@leg.wa.gov

**Residence:**  
Potlatch  
PO Box 474  
Hoodsport, WA 98548  
Phone: (360) 877-5768

April 9, 2010

Michael T. Lesar  
Chief, Rulemaking and Directives Branch  
Office of Administration  
Mailstop TWB 05-BOIM  
U. S. Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555-001

RE: Renewal of the operating license for the Columbia Generating Station

Dear Mr. Lesar:

I strongly support the relicensing of the Columbia Generating Station.

The relicensing of CGS will play a crucial role in helping the region meet the growing demand for carbon-free power. According to the Bonneville Power Administration, replacing the power output of CGS with market purchases generated by fossil fuels would increase the carbon emissions of the Federal Columbia River Power System by about 3.7 million metric tons a year. CGS is also vital to a reliable and stable regional power system. The firm power from CGS complements variable hydroelectric and wind power.

In addition to providing the region with safe, cost-effective carbon-free power, CGS is a major source of economic stability in Washington's Tri-Cities. CGS employs a large work force, it provides significant tax revenues, and it lends support to local charitable organizations.

For these reasons, the relicensing of CGS has my strong support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Sheldon".

Senator Tim Sheldon