

PUGET SOUND POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

860 Stuart Building
Seattle 1, Washington
January 26, 1950

Colonel E. C. Itschner
District Engineer
Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army
4735 E. Marginal Way
Seattle 4, Washington

Ref: 800.5 (Skagit Riv & Tribs) 48 NPSGP

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of January 23 concerning possible flood control of the Baker River by use of the Baker River Dam. We have given careful consideration to the points which you raise.

I am sure you recognize the fact that under the present acute power situation which prevails throughout the entire Northwest, it would be impractical for us to consider the operation of the Baker River Plant at a reduced lake level in order to provide storage for possible flood control. As you no doubt know, every available generating plant in the entire Northwest is on the line and operating. This even includes steam generating plants of customers of the several utilities involved. Under these conditions, which according to the Bonneville Power Administration will last until about 1957 at least, I am sure you can understand that it would be impossible for the Company to comply with such a request.

With regard to the suggestion that the height of the Baker River Dam be increased 20 to 30 feet, the entire Baker River development was designed and constructed about 25 years ago by the Stone & Webster Engineering Corporation. All the designs, calculations, surveys, studies, etc. pertaining to this development are in their possession, and it would be impossible for the Puget Sound Power & Light Company to give you an answer to this question without referring the problem to the Stone & Webster Engineering Corporation. The determination of the feasibility and cost of raising the dam would necessitate extensive surveys, calculations and studies which would entail the expenditure of a very considerable sum of money and would require many months to complete. We will be glad to authorize the Stone & Webster Corporation to make such a study, provided the Company is reimbursed for the expenses thus incurred.

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

NPS 800.5 (Skagit River & Tribs) 48 NPSGP

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Would you like to have us ask the Stone & Webster Engineering Corporation as to the approximate cost of making such surveys and studies? Our desire is to be helpful and we will await your further advice.

Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army
1235 E. Marginal Way
Seattle 2, Washington

Yours very truly,

Frank McLaughlin
Frank McLaughlin
President

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of January 21 concerning possible flood control of the Baker River by use of the Baker River Dam. We have given careful consideration to the points which you raise.

As sure you recognize the fact that under the present power situation which prevails throughout the entire Northwest, it would be impractical for us to consider the operation of the Baker River Plant at a reduced flow level in order to provide storage for possible flood control. As you are doubtless aware, every available generating plant in the entire Northwest is or the line and operating. This even includes steam generating plants of various sizes at the several utilities involved. Under these conditions, which according to the Bonneville Power Administration will last until about 1957 at least, I am sure you can understand that it would be impossible for the Company to comply with such a request.

With regard to the suggestion that the height of the Baker River Dam be increased 20 to 30 feet, the entire Baker River development was designed and constructed about 25 years ago by the Stone & Webster Engineering Corporation. All the designs, calculations, surveys, studies, etc. pertaining to this development are in their possession, and it would be impossible for the Puget Sound Power & Light Company to give you an answer to this question without referring the problem to the Stone & Webster Engineering Corporation. The determination of the feasibility and cost of raising the dam would necessitate extensive surveys, calculations and studies which would entail the expenditure of a very considerable sum of money and would require very much time to complete. We will be glad to authorize the Stone & Webster Corporation to make such a study, provided the Company is reimbursed for the expenses thus incurred.

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