



## SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RON WESEN, First District  
KENNETH A. DAHLSTEDT, Second District  
SHARON D. DILLON, Third District

June 15, 2009

Dear Skagit County Flood Control Zone District Advisory Committee Members:

We appreciate the concern of some members of the Skagit Flood Control Zone District Advisory Committee in regard to the Interlocal Agreement we signed with several other local jurisdictions, including the Cities of Anacortes, Burlington, Mount Vernon, and Sedro-Woolley; the Towns of Lyman, Hamilton, La Conner and Concrete; and Dike Districts 1, 3, 5, 12, 17, 20 and 22, titled *Interlocal Agreement to Advance the Community's Interests with Respect to Flood Storage in the Skagit River Basin*.

Skagit County's former Public Works Director James Voetberg brought the Interlocal Agreement to the attention of the Skagit County Flood Control Zone District Advisory Committee prior to our signature, but unfortunately the dialogue ended there.

We apologize for the miscommunication. We agree that an improved communication process needs to be in place between our office and the Advisory Committee and are open to suggestions on how to improve that.

Since no action has been taken on this Interlocal Agreement, we encourage an open discussion between the Board of Commissioners and the Advisory Committee on this topic before we proceed with any activities regarding the Interlocal Agreement.

An issue that is at hand is the United States Army Corps of Engineers' Water Control Manual in regard to the operation of the Lower Baker Dam during flood events. Skagit County has been pursuing this action for several months with Puget Sound Energy in relation to the Baker River Hydroelectric Project Settlement Agreement dated November 30, 2004, which allowed Puget Sound Energy to obtain a new license for the Baker River Hydroelectric Project from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

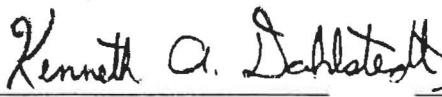

It is the position of Skagit County that this is an ongoing negotiation that needs to proceed. We would also like to have an open dialogue with the Advisory Committee on this issue as well.

Another topic for discussion for our Advisory Committee is what level of involvement you feel is appropriate for all flood prevention actions taken by any of the jurisdictions who are at the table.

Once again, we apologize for the miscommunication. Let's work together to bring some clarity to our mission.

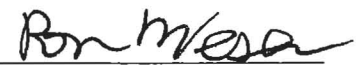
Sincerely,

Skagit County Board of Commissioners

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Chairman

Sharon D. Dillon, Commissioner



Ron Wesen, Commissioner

SKAGIT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING

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