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WATER RESOURCES WESTERN REGION

January 27, 1995

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Mr. Dav. Manager

JIONal Office

2735 Air way

Boise, Idaho 83705-5082

Mr. Jerrold Gregg U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Central Snake Projects Office 214 Broadway Boise, ID 83706

Re: Flow Regulation at Black Canyon Dam

## Gentlemen:

A copy of Mr. Tuthill's January 17, 1995 letter to Mr. Gregg relative above subject has come to my attention. This letter was also provided to Messrs Roy Orr, Roy Maxwell, Bob Henggeler, Norm Young and Ms. Helen Bivens.

While Idaho Northern & Pacific Railroad stands ready to cooperate in any effort to raise the level of water in Black Canyon Reservoir, we also want to go on record that any raising of the water level will cause severe damage to the railroad's right-of-way, subgrade and roadbed stability.

The stability of this common carrier railroad property must be preserved as a part of this project. In our opinion, raising the water level at Black Canyon Dam would require a significant expenditure in riprap and could possibly require raising the required gradelines.

Any questions regarding this should be addressed to the undersigned or you may call INPR at 365-6353.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours truly,

Gilbert A. Gillette President and Chief Operating Officer

GAG/lm

CC: David Kerrick, Esq. 1104 Blaine St., P O Box 44 Caldwell, Idaho 83606

> Bob Wolfe Manager of Track and Structures, INPR



## State of Idaho DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

Western Region, 2735 Airport Way, Boise, Idaho 83705-5082 - (208) 334-2190 FAX (208) 334-2348

CECIL D. ANDRUS
GOVERNOR

R. KEITH HIGGINSON DIRECTOR

January 17, 1995

Mr. Jerrold Gregg U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Central Snake Projects Office 214 Broadway Boise, ID 83706 RECEIVED

JAN 3 0 1995

WATER RESOURCES WESTERN REGION

RE: Flow Regulation at Black Canyon Dam

Dear Jerry:

During recent years there have been many discussions regarding the improvement of irrigation efficiency within the Payette River drainage basin. The purpose of this letter is to request investigation and implementation of system modification which would enable Black Canyon Reservoir to be used as a flow regulation reservoir.

As you are aware, one problem with the timing of delivery of storage water from Cascade Reservoir, Deadwood Reservoir and Big Payette Lake is the long distance from these storage sites to the points of delivery within the Payette River Basin. If a rainstorm occurs on an unregulated reach such as the South Fork of the Payette River, the increased river flow will arrive at Black Canyon at the same time as stored flows that have been released from upstream reservoirs. Black Canyon Reservoir must presently must remain full throughout the irrigation season to deliver adequate flows to the Black Canyon Irrigation District canal. Consequently, the reservoir cannot serve as a regulating reservoir and excess flows arriving at Black Canyon are spilled downstream and are often undiverted.

If Black Canyon Reservoir is converted to a regulating reservoir, the Watermaster would be able to capture and make beneficial use of rainstorm flows by decreasing upstream storage releases by the amount of water captured. In addition, regulation capability would provide the watermaster with the option of improving the accuracy of the amount of water delivered past Black Canyon Dam from upstream reservoirs.

One suggestion for adding regulation capability at Black Canyon Dam is to raise the height of the dam by a foot or two. If this can be done without adversely impacting the stability of the structure, recreational values, etc., there could be a distinct increase in water management efficiency.

Please consider this letter to be a formal request from the Idaho Department of Water Resources to study the feasibility of adding regulation capability at Black Canyon Dam.

Sincerely,

David R. Tuthill, Jr., P.E

Manager, Western Regional Office

cc: Roy Orr, BCID

Roy Maxwell, EID

Helen Bivins, Watermaster, WD 65 Bob Henggeler, Chairman, WD 65

Norm Young, State Office

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