



CENTRAL OREGON IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
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A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE STATE OF OREGON

April 9, 2013

Re: SB 837

Senate Committee on Environment & Natural Resources  
Senator Jackie Dingfelder, Chair  
Senator Alan Olsen, Vice-Chair  
Members of the Committee

Chair Dingfelder and Vice-Chair Olsen and Committee Members,

I am the General Manager of Central Oregon Irrigation District and have been an active and contributing member of the working group led by Brett Brownscombe for over a year. The purpose of my involvement was to help craft a bill to support two objectives:

- Encourage in-conduit hydroelectric project development (renewable energy)
- Provide funding to assist in meeting State of Oregon fish passage needs

COID owns and operates two hydroelectric facilities with the most recent an In-Conduit Hydro commercially operational in 2010 built in one of our main irrigation canals north of Bend. It is currently providing enough renewable energy to power over 2,000 homes a year and providing the District, and its patrons, future financial benefit. In the course of developing this project there was disagreement but eventual resolution addressing fish passage needs with ODFW. It was because of this experience that COID is supportive of this bill so that other in-conduit hydro developers will clearly be aware of any potential obligations and budget accordingly without any surprises.

**COID is in total support of the bill and any amendments as presented to the Committee in consensus by the working group. Please pass SB 837.**

Sincerely,



Steven C Johnson  
District General Manager