



Confederated Tribes and Bands
of the Yakama Nation

Established by the
Treaty of June 9, 1855

Erik Steimle,
Rye Development,
745 Atlantic Ave. 8th Floor
Boston, MA 02111,
(503) 998-0230.

February 14, 2018

RE: FERC Docket 14861-000, Goldendale Energy Storage Project

Erik Steimle,

The Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation (Yakama Nation) received a notice of application from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in regards to the proposed Goldendale Energy Storage Project. The proposed project is within the Ceded Area of the Yakama Nation as set forth in the Treaty of 1855 (12 stat., 951) signed with the United States of America, The Treaty is considered the Supreme Law of the Land according to Article 6 of the U.S. Constitution. It is the policy of the Yakama Nation to preserve, protect, and perpetuate all significant natural and cultural resources. Only the Yakama Nation can determine what is significant to the Tribe.

Upon review of the proposed project and based upon extensive working knowledge of the proposed project area, the Yakama Nation is opposed to this undertaking as it would cause detrimental impacts to significant cultural resources near the John Day Dam and the Columbia Hills. These cultural resources are sacred to the Yakama Nation and include archaeological, ceremonial, burial, petroglyph, monumental, and ancestral use sites. These sites are commonly called Traditional Cultural Properties (TCPs). The TCPs present within the proposed project area are but a remnant of what once was along the Columbia River. It is the responsibility of the Yakama Nation to protect those resources now and in the future for the benefit of those not yet born.

If you have any questions or comments please contact Gregg Kiona at (509) 865-5121 x4603 or Nick Finley at (509) 790-8958.

Sincerely,

Lonnie Selam
Deputy Director
Yakama Nation Cultural Resources



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Cc: JoDe Goudy, YN Tribal Council Chairman
Yakama Nation Culture Committee
Phil Rigdon, YN DNR Superintendent
Elizabeth Sanchez, YN Environmental Program Manager
Kimberly Bose, FERC
Rob Whitlam, DAHP State Archaeologist
Jon Shellenberger, YN Archaeologist
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