March 28, 2012

Grande Ronde Model Watershed

1114 J. Ave

La Grande, OR 97850

Phone: 541.663.0570

Tracy Hauser

Bonneville Power Administration

Environment Fish and Wildlife

Re: CCR 26819 under Contract 56216

Tracy,

The budget for the Lostine River Diversion Structure Replacement project, contract number 56216 needs to be modified. During contracting total project cost was estimated to be $198,378 with BPA contributing $63,000. Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) was to contribute $96,300 with the GRMW contributing another $39,078. Since that time the ODFW contribution has been reduced to $71,250 and the lowest qualified bid for construction came in $12,200 over the engineers construction estimate. This has resulted in a budget shortfall of $37,250 and we are requesting that the total BPA contribution for this project be increased to $100,250.

The GRMW has sufficient unallocated funds in project number 1992-026-01 to cover this proposed increase in project cost. We do not foresee the addition of $37,250 to contract number 56216 compromising our ability to implement other planned fiscal year 2012 projects.

When complete this project will have addressed a multitude of instream parameters of concern in the Lostine River at the project site. Aquatic passage is the primary concern especially in the summer months when the Lostine can experience warm stream temperatures. Habitat conditions upstream are variable but cool water is characteristic above the project. While uncommon, the current diversion does need to be fixed periodically which disturbs the channel and causes sedimentation. The new structure will be more stable and maintenance activities will be eliminated or reduced. When complete the following benefits are anticipated:

1. Improved fish passage.
2. A more natural channel than what currently exists.
3. Low diversion structure maintenance.

Sincerely,

R. Coby Menton

GRMW Project Manager