CORPS OF ENGINEERS, U. S. ARMY
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ENGINEER
PORTLAND, OREGON DISTRICT
628 Pittock Block
Portland 5, Oregon

August 11, 1953

ON JOHN DAY DAM, COLUMBIA RIVER,
WASHINGTON AND OREGON.

Pursuant to Congressional resolution adopted April 22, 1953, which reads as follows: "Resolved by the Committee on Public Works of the United States Senate: That the Board of Engineers for Rivers and Harbors, created under Section 3 of the River and Harbor Act, approved June 13, 1902, be, and is hereby, requested to review the report on the Columbia River and Tributaries, Northwestern United States, submitted in House Document Numbered 531, Eighty-first Congress, Second Session, with respect to the flood control plan for the Columbia River recommended therein, with a view to determining whether any modification in the authorized flood control features of John Day Dam, Washington and Oregon, is advisable at this time," the District Engineer, Portland District, has been directed to make a review of survey to determine whether any modification to plans for the authorized John Day Dam is advisable at this time.

In order that the required report may fully cover the matter, a public hearing will be held in the GRADE SCHOOL GYMNASIUM, ARLINGTON, OREGON, on SEPTEMBER 23, 1953, at 10:00 0 CLOCK A.M.

For your information, the authorized project plan for John Day Dam as described in the project document (House Document 531, Eightyfirst Congress, second session), provides for the construction of a lock and multiple-purpose dam on Columbia River about 217 miles above its mouth near the confluence of John Day River with Columbia River, to form a reservoir for control of floods, navigation, hydroelectric power generation, and other uses. John Day Dam would be one of a system of dams for similar purposes in Columbia River Basin. As it would be the farthest downstream of any dam with flood control storage, it would be used for flood control only as necessary during major floods, or to store heavy run-off from uncontrolled tributaries downstream from other major dams. In normal operation, the pool would be held not higher than elevation 255, mean sea level, but for emergency control of floods up to 2,000,000 acre-feet of storage would be made available by raising the pool to elevation 292. Both pool elevations 255 and 292 would affect lands, towns, and communities along the pool. Information as to such effects will be presented at the hearing. The details of the two pool elevations as they may affect the lands and communities along both

shores of the river are available in the District Engineer's office, and may be inspected during office hours at any time prior to the hearing, or information will be furnished upon request to the District Engineer.

All interested parties are invited to be present or represented at the above time and place, including representatives of Federal, State, county and municipal agencies, and those of commercial, industrial, civic, highway, railroad, and flood control interests, and property owners and others concerned. They will be afforded full opportunity to express their views as to the extent of the improvement desired and the need and advisability of its execution. Sponsors of the improvement are urged to present pertinent factual material bearing upon the general plan of improvement desired and the economic justification of the undertaking. Opposing interests, if any, are also urged to state the reasons for their position.

Oral statements will be heard, but for the accuracy of record all important facts and arguments should be submitted in writing, in sextuplicate, as the records of the hearing will be forwarded for consideration by the Department of the Army. Written statements may be handed to the undersigned at the hearing or mailed to him beforehand.

Please bring the foregoing to the attention of persons known to you to be interested in the matter.

Colonel, Corps of Engineers
Acting District Engineer