

Mr. Don C. Foster,  
Area Director, Bureau of  
Indian Affairs, Portland, Ore.

Nov. 9, 1955

Dear Director:

I have received a copy of the license issued to the Grant County PUD for construction of a dam at Priest Rapids, Project No. 2114. In it I note Article 42:

The Article states that "the Licensee, shall through and with the Assistance of the Area Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Portland, Oregon, formulate an agreement with the Wanapum Band of Indians for the protection of the Indian graves in the project area...

I am sorry that I did not have this information yesterday so I could have asked you personally regarding the interpretation. I am wondering now if you are in a position to clarify it for me, keeping in mind that my interest is not that of meddling, but in complying with what I well know to be the wishes of the Wanapum leaders.

Knowing your expressed attitude, and knowing that a letter on the subject has been previously written, I believe the Department should by now have acquainted you with procedure, etc. in this regard.

If the Department has not advised you of this, may I respectfully request what has made it necessary for the Department to insist on the inclusion of this Article.

I enjoyed listening in on the Conference very much, and gained the impression that there was a multiplicity of problems without expanding into new fields. But if other interests have entered the picture, whereas my interests are strictly of the most humane matter for the people concerned, I wish to determine at the earliest opportunity, the why and wherefore.

I realize the Bureau and Department policies are subject to changes and wish to be as farseeing in this matter as possible.

Congratulations on the conference. An adequate supply of clippings thereto are being sent to the Yakima Agency for filing and forwarding.

Sincerely

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