

Power, Navigation, Flood and Irrigation and the LSRD

1. HYDROPOWER GENERATED BY THE DAMS IS NOT NEEDED

- The Snake River dam hydropower is surplus. If the dams are removed, the energy produced by the dams does not need to be replaced.
- Even if hydropower from the Snake River dams did need to be replaced, it has been replaced more than four times over by wind and solar energy. This energy is greener than hydropower, since it does not destroy entire watersheds.
- The revolution in wind and solar generated energy with battery storage has put BPA in dire financial straits. Wind and solar costs about half as much to produce as BPA's hydropower and is continuing to decline in price, while the price to produce hydropower is continuing to escalate.
- Breaching the 4 lower Snake River dams will reduce BPA's cost of energy production.

2. THE NAVIGATION BENEFIT IS NEGLIGIBLE

- The Snake River is a "river of low use" pursuant to the Army Corps of Engineers' definition.
- Since April 8, 2015 all container shipping on the Snake ceased when the last two container shipping lines, Hanjin and Hapag-Lloyd pulled out of the Port of Portland.
- Bulk shipping has been declining for 20 years and is being replaced by rail.

3. THE DAMS WERE NOT CONSTRUCTED FOR FLOOD CONTROL

- Congress did not authorize flood control as a permitted use of the dams.
- The dams are "run of the river" dams, meaning they were not built to store water.
- Due to sediment build up, Lower Granite Dam actually creates a flood risk to Lewiston, Idaho.

4. IRRIGATION ISSUES CAN BE MITIGATED

- Ice Harbor Dam is the only one of the four dams that provides irrigation for farms. If the dams were breached, irrigation intake pipes could be extended to the river.

