



October 13, 2010

Benton County Board of Commissioners  
620 Market Street  
Prosser, WA 99350

Re: Support for the Preliminary Integrated Water Management Plan

Dear Commissioners:

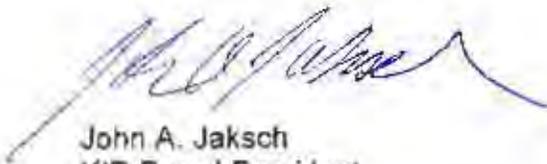
This letter is to express the Kennewick Irrigation District's support for the preliminary integrated water management plan that has been formulated and is currently being finalized by the YRBWEP Workgroup, including first pursuing in-basin water supply alternatives.

The District holds a pro-ratable water right from the Yakima River and long term water supply reliability in the Yakima basin is a critical issue to the landowners served by the District. The District's support of the final plan is contingent upon ensuring adequate, long-term supply for District water users during drought and other water years.

The timing and sequence for potentially seeking a Columbia River inter-basin transfer has been a controversial topic at the Workgroup. To improve understanding, the District requests clarification on the County's position for when and how pursuing a Columbia River inter-basin transfer would occur.

KID shares Benton County's interest in ensuring a long term water supply in the Yakima River basin. We recognize it is critical for basin interests to join together on a Final Integrated Plan if we are going to successfully seek state and federal funding to improve Yakima basin supply and fisheries.

Sincerely,



John A. Jaksch  
KID Board President

cc: Derek Sandison, Department of Ecology  
YRBWEP work group members  
File/LB