

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 6, 2017

Ambassador David MacNaughton
501 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Ambassador MacNaughton:

We write to urge your commitment to enter into a formal renegotiation of the Columbia River Treaty (CRT) with the United States. As you know, in December 2013 the U.S. Entity representing the United States finalized its regional recommendation which identifies potential modifications to the Columbia River Treaty (CRT). In October of 2016, the U.S. Department of State completed their Circular 175 and officially notified the Canadian government of its desire to begin renegotiation of the CRT. Last month, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson met with Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs Chrystia Freeland regarding renegotiations of the CRT. As a result of the United States' repeated attempts to begin discussions without success, we insist Canada immediately enter into renegotiations with the United States.

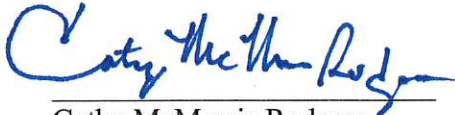
The 1964 treaty has been in place for fifty-three years and has surpassed its balance. Specifically, there is an imbalance of benefits between our two nations in regards to the "Canadian Entitlement", which requires Pacific Northwest electricity consumers to pay Canada for downstream power benefits. It is estimated that our constituents overpay this entitlement by ten times the reciprocal benefit.

Article XIX of the CRT gives either nation the ability to issue a notice to terminate the entitlement provisions of the treaty if an imbalance occurs. The CRT includes an option for either country to terminate the power provisions given at least 10 years notice. If Canada does not immediately seek to enter into formal negotiations, we have requested the Department of State to issue the notice of termination.

The CRT has been beneficial to both our nations. As we seek to modernize this agreement, the delegation in the Pacific Northwest remains committed to the regional recommendation and the benefits of this blueprint to the U.S. and Canada. The new Lead Negotiator has been identified by the

Department of State and looks forward to your speedy response and commitment to enter formal negotiations.

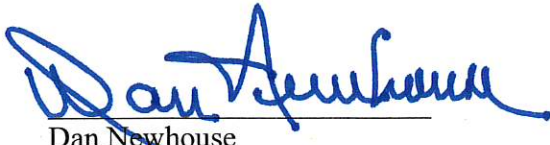
Sincerely,



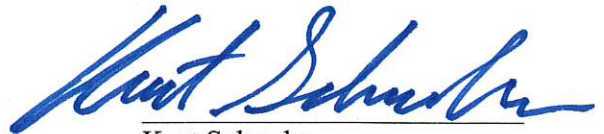
Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Member of Congress



Peter DeFazio
Member of Congress



Dan Newhouse
Member of Congress



Kurt Schrader
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Jaime Herrera Beutler
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Dave Reichert
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