

"Other concerns related to shade requirements, water quality, wetland protection and wildlife management can, we believe, be resolved through what we anticipate will be on-going monitoring and research programs.

"We recognize that, despite the massive effort employed in preparing the regulations, field experience will indicate needed changes. To remain a viable document, the regulations must be reviewed periodically.

"As members of the Forest Practices Board, we trust that the concerns expressed in these comments will specifically be considered in early review phases."

Signed: David Knibb, Polly Dyer, John Biggs, Harry Lydiard. June 15, 1976.

# HIGH ROSS DAM UPDATE

## BY THE KAOPECTATE(né) KEROSENE KID

We last reported to you in late 1974 after the conclusion of the F. P. C. hearings on direct testimony. A lot of water has flowed under the bridge (and over the dam) since that time, and we'll try to bring you just a few of the choicer items:

January 21, 1975. Judge Alan Lande's travelling F. P. C. road show opens at the Seattle Federal Building for 9 days of rebuttal testimony. N3C rebuttal witnesses are Neal Butterworth, retired Park Service official, Patrick Goldsworthy, N3C president, board members Joe and Margaret Miller, U. W. economist Gardner Brown, and W. W. S. C. economist Howard Teasley. ROSS presents a number of biologists, economists and geographers from U. B. C. and Simon Fraser U.

Neal Butterfield (formerly in charge of the North Cascades master plan) testified that recreation in the complex would be better served at the lower level than at 1725 feet. Pat Goldsworthy submits a tabular comparison of recreational values of Big Beaver and other North Cascades valleys. This brings about a half-day attack on Pat's qualifications by City Light's \$100 an hour attorney, Robert McCarty.

Equally ferocious attacks are made on N3C's ecological witnesses, Joe and Margaret Miller, by attorney Rich White. Their rebuttal testimony is devoted to demolishing the scientific basis of the studies submitted by Grant (Old Cedar Tree) Sharpe and Prof. D. R. M. Scott. Particularly upsetting to Counsel White is the Millers' statement, "The Sharpe study . . . . falls more into the category of timber cruising than ecological research."

After producing a few thousand more pages of transcript, the Lande road show moves back to D. C., where City Light's rebuttal witnesses have their turn at the hands of our and ROSS's attorneys. The hearings end on March 5, 1975.

May 31, 1975. N3C attorneys Ric Aramburu and Tom Brucker submit an 181-page brief boiling down pertinent sections from 10,000 pages of transcript. Conclusions: High Ross power is small and expensive. Construction of the project would cause an irreplaceable loss of significant and rare resources.

June 30, 1975. Secret meetings begin between Seattle City Light and British Columbia officials. Presumably they are discussing ways for the province to buy back its "witless agreement" of 1967.

November 10, 1975. B. C. makes an offer of "some power" from the province at full market rates plus an increase of rental payments from City Light for flooded land from \$35,000 a year to \$3.5 million. Seattle turns it down.

February 4, 1976. Judge Lande, whose appreciation of "outdoor recreation" must not extend much beyond watching the Washington Redskins on TV, rules in favor of City Light. Typical comment in his decision: Big Beaver Valley is not popular for hiking and is difficult of access. Would be more valuable for recreation under water. "Ag-g-g-h-h!!!" N3C attorneys file briefs of exception.

February 26, 1976. The new B. C. Socred government announces it will provide "limited" funds to help environmental groups (Canadian groups only?) intervene in a legal challenge if High Ross receives approval of the F. P. C.

February 27, 1976. The Energy 1990 committee's report says, "Conservation of energy through elimination of waste and wise management of electricity use is the most attractive way of meeting future energy needs. There is no fixed relationship between jobs and energy consumption."

May 25, 1976. City Light revises the Energy 1990 study's projected annual growth rate upward by 20% without consulting the citizen members of the committee. All hell busts loose.

Winter, 1977. Where do we stand now after more than 8 years of this fight? The full F. P. C. will undoubtedly approve City Light's application--that's its business, licensing dams. Then we can turn belly-up and play dead, or we can appeal to the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals. The Energy 1990 study blew City Light's projections into a cocked hat, and Judge Lande's decision was based on erroneous data. Our prospects in an appeal are excellent.

It will be costly, though. So far, N3C has spent \$16,999 and the North Cascades Foundation \$36,890 on this unfair struggle. But without N3C, the dam would have been raised years ago. Big Beaver Valley, with its giant cedars and beaver ponds, its birds and mammals, is still there. The Park Service has built a new Big Beaver bridge and a new campground at the mouth of Big Beaver Creek. More and more recreationist have discovered the valley. Hang in there, team! WE CAN'T LOSE IT NOW!

## HARVEY MANNING:



# The Tubing By Our Agents In The Trenches of the Tranquil Methow

The "tranquil Methow Valley", a Seattle newspaper recently described it, but insofar as the adjective any longer applies at all, winter is the sole season -- and for how long? Regrets felt by valley residents about construction of the North Gollydarn Highway were shown by the response to a 1975 survey made by the Methow River Basin Citizens Committee. Of 380 residents answering the questionnaire, 291 said they did not want the highway open in the winter. Following are some typical remarks:

"Leave the highway closed in winter -- we need a vacation from tourists...I would like to see the highway closed year around... It would be better to close it permanently... It destroyed the whole valley... We did not need the highway in the first place... It's a pity it's there... Turn it into a bicycle path..."