

KLICKITAT COUNTY



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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DONALD G. STRUCK, DISTRICT #1

JOAN FREY, DISTRICT #2

RAY THAYER, DISTRICT #3

October 10, 2006

Columbia River Gorge Commission P.O. Box 730 White Salmon, WA 98672

Dear Gorge Commission Members:

Skamania County has a unique opportunity for a quality resort to be constructed by private development interests on the site of the inactive, deteriorating Broughton Mill site located in an area of Skamania County known as Hood.

A new resort would greatly improve the visual quality of the site, create local employment opportunities, improve recreation access, and further the economic development purpose of the act while minimizing the visual and natural impact of the site. The site already has considerable infrastructure, was an active industrial site for decades, and retains residential uses. Klickitat County would also benefit greatly if a viable resort development were allowed on the Broughton Mill Site.

Although the Broughton Mill Site is located in Skamania County, we believe that a resort development at that location would have a positive economic impact on Klickitat County. It would provide tax dollars to the White Salmon School District and the Underwood Fire District as well as would provide employment opportunities for residents of Klickitat County and the communities of Bingen and White Salmon.

The management plan does not allow an industrial site that is not located within an urban area to be converted into a viable resort within the current limits of the commercial recreation regulations without a plan amendment.

In closing, the Klickitat County Commissioners supports the Broughton resort proposal and a plan amendment for the Broughton Mill site at Hood.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS Klickitat County, Washington

Ray Thaver, Chairman

Joan Trey Commissioner

Donald G Struck, Commissioner