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The Preliminary Design Cost Report prepared by the FCZS on June 26, 2025 contained the following statement on page 5.

"PDR design reflects understanding and judgment based on limited prior site investigation and characterization. Design will change to an unknown degree pending:

- Future site characterization results;
- Engineering evaluations targeted to support the dam's configuration and alignment;
- Regulatory requirements resulting from permitting of the project; and
- Better understanding of available construction materials and requirements for quarry development, aggregate production, and aggregate transport.

Because of the above said uncertainties, decision makers do not have all the information they need in the draft EIS. The draft EIS must be postponed until the above certainties are eliminated and environmental impacts are finalized.

Decision makers need the following:

1. Complete characterization at the dam site.
2. Complete engineering evaluations to support the dam's configuration and alignment.
3. Determine the regulatory requirements to achieve permitting the project and incorporate those requirements with their environmental impacts into the next draft EIS.
4. Obtain a final understanding of available construction materials.
5. Determine if proposed quarries have the quality and quantity of aggregate.
6. Define the requirements for quarry development including placement of overburden.
7. If the proposed quarries fail to meet requirements, determine the location of quality basalt in the area (in Doty hills for example) and the cost of aggregate transport to the dam site.

Without this information, decision makers will just be spinning their wheels with the incomplete environmental impacts in the current draft EIS.

What Ecology and the FCZD apparently miss is that there are additional environmental impacts with additional costs looming in the closet. There is a real possibility that such additional information might doom the project. Decision makers want to, and need to be fully informed before making any decisions.

The current draft EIS must be postponed and expanded with the above information so that the

decision makers can be fully informed. The Office of the Chehalis Basin and the Department of Ecology must get their act together and get this job done properly.