

Charlene Kahn

See uploaded letter. Thank you.

Dear Department of Ecology,

I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed FRE dam on the upper Chehalis River. Based on the DEIS, the project would cause significant and unavoidable harm to salmon and steelhead, including major losses of Spring Chinook, Coho, Fall Chinook, and Steelhead populations. This stretch of the river is one of the Basin's key spawning areas, and once damaged, these habitats cannot be replaced.

I am concerned about the scale and cost of the proposed structure, and the unresolved safety and geotechnical risks identified in the DEIS. At an estimated \$1.3–\$2.3 billion, the dam would offer limited benefits while putting the river's ecological health—and the communities that rely on it—at long-term risk

More effective, less damaging flood-reduction approaches already exist for example the Local Actions Non-Dam Alternative. I urge Ecology to pursue these solutions instead of the proposed dam.

Please consider these important concerns and suggestions : environmental harms, expenses; alternative approaches.

Thank you,

*Charlene Kahn
Seattle WA*