November 5, 2007

To: Chelan County PUD Commissioners

Re: Proposed Alcoa Contract

Dear PUD Commissioners,

This letter is in support of the proposed, new Alcoa/PUD contract.

I am aware that Alcoa is among the largest employers in Chelan and Douglas counties—hundreds of families in Chelan county, specifically, bring home over $35 million dollars in total personal income, annually. Additionally, Alcoa operations account for over $1.4 million in local tax revenue. Alone, these should be reason enough to support, today, Alcoa's pursuit of continued economic development and prosperity for our region.

However, Alcoa is far more than a significant employer. Alcoa Wenatchee Works is a model corporate citizen, annually investing in our community and our quality of life. As a specific example, I reference the support our local Alcoa has provided to the Performing Arts Center of Wenatchee since the late 1990's: Nearly $100,000 in Foundation funding; over $11,500 in volunteer labor hours; and thanks to Alcoa-purchased-and-installed solar panels, as part of the Chelan County PUD SNAP program, the Performing Arts Center of Wenatchee is the largest producer of sustainable natural alternative power in Chelan County. Further, the sale of that power is an ongoing source of non-traditional revenue for the non-profit center.

These generous contributions impact thousands of local residents each year (2006-2007 performing arts center attendees exceeded 23,000), and the performing arts center is only one of many organizations and activities, which Alcoa Wenatchee Works participates in.

I strongly encourage the Chelan County PUD to acknowledge the full benefit Alcoa's proposed contract is to our community by voting in favor of the contract. Continuation of Alcoa in our valley is continuation of the community we have today and desire for tomorrow.

Respectfully,

Sara R. Cornell
Executive Director
Performing Arts Center of Wenatchee