RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Yakima Chamber has pioneered in the furthering of irrigation and reclamation development not only of the Yakima Valley but of the entire Pacific Northwest, and

WHEREAS, on principle and as a result of experience we have found that:

1. Before any project can be successfully accomplished it must be considered fully and agreed upon in the community or area most vitally concerned, and

2. Before any project can be seriously presented and acted upon favorably by Congress it must first be thoroughly discussed and understood not only locally but in the entire area affected,

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Yakima Chamber of Commerce:

1. Re-affirms its position in favor of a comprehensive plan for the development of the water resources of the Pacific Northwest based on wholehearted and general community, state and area agreement, and

2. Caution against the hasty adoption of resolutions or programs vitally affecting the development of the arid west such as the action recently taken at the so-called Mid-Columbia Conference held at Kennewick, Washington, on August 17 and 18, 1951, at which time there was endorsed as a part of a comprehensive plan for the development of the Pacific Northwest a "Schedule T" which was never read, considered or discussed at said meeting, and

3. Affirms that as a matter of courtesy, comity and common sense it is improper and inadvisable for the communities of the State of Washington to resolve on the issue of Hells Canyon dam as done at the aforesaid Mid-Columbia Conference until such time as the people of our sister state of Idaho have themselves fully debated and determined their position, and

4. Reiterates its stand previously taken against the California power tie-in which we understand is an integral part of the aforementioned "Schedule T".

October 31, 1951
The following excerpt is taken from the Yakima Morning Herald, October 9, 1951

"CHAPMAN FAVORS HELLS CANYON DAM"

"Washington, Oct. 8 (AP)—The controversial Hells Canyon dam on the Snake river at the Oregon-Idaho boundary was recommended to congress Monday by Interior Secretary Chapman.

The dam, reservoir and power plant would cost $356,810,000 and provide more than 1,400,000 kilowatts of power to the Columbia river system, Chapman said.

The dam would be built in a deep gorge of the Snake midway between Weiser and Lewiston, Ida.

If built as proposed it would be the world’s highest at 740 feet, Hoover (Boulder) dam on the Colorado river now is the world’s highest at 726 feet. The Hells Canyon reservoir would have a 4,400,000 acre-foot capacity.

Congress also received a letter from Budget Director F. J. Lawton, which said:

"I have discussed this matter with the president...the need for additional power in the Pacific Northwest is so essential that he strongly favors the immediate authorization and construction of Hells Canyon power development."