

Welfare reimbursement

Has anyone you know been denied a welfare grant or had it reduced or closed because of money received as the result of a judgement of the Indian Claims Commission or the court of claims since October 19, 1973? A ruling by the Oregon Court of Appeals may make you eligible for back payment of welfare money.

The Oregon Court of Appeals has recently ruled that the state welfare agency had been mistakenly treating per capita payments derived from a judgement of the Indian Claims Commission or the court of claims as income or resources in determining eligibility or the amount of payment to recipients of Aid to Dependent Children grants.

Per capita distributions from tribal business income are still counted as ordinary income. Those people in Warm Springs who have received money since October 1973 because of judgements such as the Northern Paiute judgement, the California judgement of the Alaskan judgement and had a welfare grant change or denial because of it have money coming to them.

The state has set aside funds to rightfully compensate any Native Americans who were deprived of all or a portion of their ADC entitlement during this period. Eligible persons

must apply to the state for their payments.

The requirements for eligibility are: All Native Americans who have resided in Oregon any time since October 19, 1973 and who 1) were enrolled members of federally recognized tribes, and 2) have received any per capita tribal payments because of a judgement, and 3) have received or could have received ADC payments are eligible to receive compensation from the state fund.

Anyone who might be eligible should fill out an application form and submit it to Adult and Family Services Division of Oregon. These forms can be obtained at the Madras office at 925 4th street. Out-of-state persons should write to the office which last handled their case to receive an application. All applications must be received before December 31, 1981.

Applicants will have to prove how much money was received from the judgement. If proof is not presently available the Bureau of Indian Affairs will get it. The person to contact for that information is June McKellar, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Portland Area Office, P.O. Box 3785, Portland, Oregon 97208. The phone number to call is (503)231-6785.



New rich looking, informative redwood and lava rock signs have been placed at the three major highways leading on to the reservation and at the Tribal Administration building within the last month. The signs were designed and built by Jupe Shiley of Shiley Woodcraft of West Linn, Oregon, who had been contracted for the job by the Tribes. The signs were received last fall and were put into storage until the weather permitted crews to pour the concrete foundations according to contract and construction manager, Les Yaw.

Spilyay Tymoo photo by Leno

HeadStart to begin Sept. 15 at CC

The HeadStart part-day program at the Community Center will begin on Tuesday, September 15. The program runs daily, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Both breakfast and lunch are served to the children.

Registration will be on

Friday, September 11 and Monday, September 14 at the Community Center between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. A physical exam and completion of an immunization record are necessary for your child. Because of this we encourage you to register early.

We also require proof of your family's income, which may be either an income tax form, Social Security stub, W-2 form, pay stub, or letter from your employer. Forms for registration and physicals may be obtained at the HeadStart office in the Community Center.

Members hear project progress report

by Donna Behrend

Under hot, sunny skies near the He He Longhouse, over 50 tribal members met Tuesday with Tribal Council to hear a progress report on the hydroelectric project.

The general council meeting at HeHe was a first in recent years. Council feels that HeHe is a traditional meeting place for the tribe and that it was time to once again use the facility for that purpose.

Project engineer Jerry Dibble explained the progress of the project since its inception and the approval of the \$30 million referendum in 1979. (Up to \$10 million tribal funds and up to \$20 million outside loans.)

Dibble explained that after the \$10 million of tribal funds were spent, a \$5 million no-interest loan was acquired through the federal government. Then in June, through the new Oregon Energy Loan Program, the State of Oregon advertised a bond issue that would finance the tribe's project. Dibble explained that the state initiated the loan program to sell bonds to raise money for loans to companies which are building small-scale projects using renewable resources to create power for Oregonians.

"The concrete work is 50% complete now," said Dibble. "They installed the draft tube liner last week and the rest of the parts will be installed in an orderly sequence soon." The project will be ready to test June 15, 1982.

A transmission line will be run three miles north to the sub-station near Warm Springs. Dibble explained that the reason the power will be transmitted to the sub-station on the reservation and not to

one off the reservation is in case of storms or accidents. The reregulating project could then furnish power to reservation customers without a break in service. Better electrical service year-round can be supplied to the reservation.

Because of unstable topography in the area, extra drilling was necessary to assure the hill just west of the dam would not slide. Also, the complex engineering design, which had to be altered, and the hiring of a new engineering firm delayed the project several months, costing the tribes several thousands of dollars due to inflation.

"We gained through the delay," said Tribal Council chairman Delbert Frank, Sr. "We had no market for our

power—but with the delay we gained \$55 million."

Dibble agreed with Frank's statement, stating that the financial aspects of the project are very promising for the tribe. Dibble explained that the net return to the tribes is 2½ times greater than first estimated in 1979. By the year 2001, the total revenue for the tribe is estimated to be \$142,607,000 and total annual project costs are estimated to be \$53,143,000 leaving an \$89,454,000 net return to the tribes. "Project costs have gone up," says Dibble. "They are crowding the referendum, but the net return to the tribes is much greater."

Earlier this year, the tribes signed the power sales contract with Pacific Power and Light

(PP&L) following negotiations with Portland General Electric, Bonneville Power Administration, Pacific Gas and Electric of California and PP&L. Total revenue of the project is broken down and a fixed payment will be paid to the tribe to cover the 12% interest on the State loan, payment of the Federal loan and operating expenses. This payment is guaranteed even if no power is generated. The balance of the payment received from PP&L will be for kilowatts generated.

At the end of 20 years, PP&L has first option to renew the contract at the best price and the contract will be renegotiated. Dibble explained that this 20-year contract is short as far as hydro contracts are concerned, with most

running 30 to 40 years.

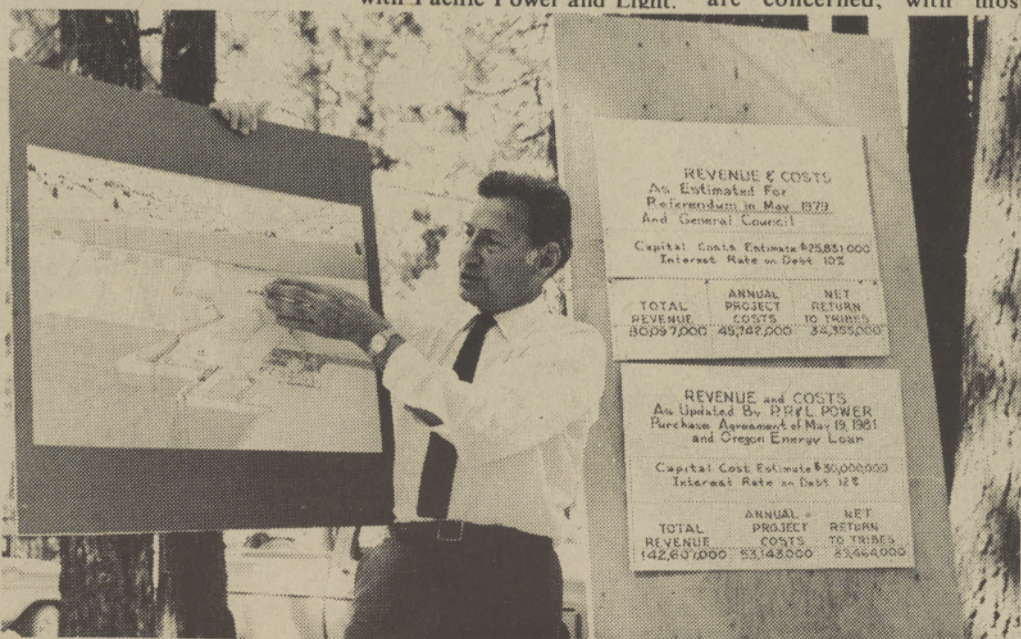
Due to inflation, the tribe is concerned that the \$30 million won't cover all expenses. The Council suggested that a \$1 million contingency fund be included in the 1982 budget for unexpected expenses. The \$1 million figure seems extrava-

...Net return to the tribes will be much greater...

attending the meeting that only about one-third of that amount might be necessary, if used at all. But they felt a large amount should be set aside "just in case."

Interest was expressed concerning employment of Indians at the project. According to a report from A.S.C. (the contractor for the project), 98 people are on the job, 14 of whom are Indian. A total of 31 Indians have worked at the site since construction began in May. "But," said Dibble, "the project is not a big job-maker. PGE will operate the project—it will operate almost completely automatically." He further explained that possibly three or four people would be hired, mainly to conduct tours of the project when it is completed.

Engineers plan to remove the temporary coffer dam in December of this year. But the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife wants to wait until April, saying that increased turbidity would damage the fish runs. However, the tribe would have to pay an additional \$480,000 to PGE to keep the reregulating pool at its present low level.



THIS IS THE WAY IT WILL LOOK—Project engineer Jerry Dibble explained to tribal members attending the general council meeting at He He this week what the new hydro power plant will look like when completed. The \$30 million project is nine months from completion. Presently, 98 people are employed at the project working two, 10-hour shifts per day, six days a week.

Spilyay Tymoo photo by Behrend

REVENUE & COSTS		
As Estimated For Referendum in May 1979 And General Council		
Capital Costs Estimate \$25,851,000 Interest Rate on Debt 10%		
TOTAL REVENUE	ANNUAL PROJECT COSTS	NET RETURN TO TRIBES
\$109,700,000	\$53,143,000	\$56,557,000

REVENUE & COSTS		
As Updated By PP&L POWER Purchase Agreement of May 19, 1981 and Oregon Energy Loan		
Capital Cost Estimate \$30,000,000 Interest Rate on Debt 12%		
TOTAL REVENUE	ANNUAL PROJECT COSTS	NET RETURN TO TRIBES
\$142,607,000	\$53,143,000	\$89,464,000