PacifiCorp willing to spend $300 million on fish ladders

(AP) – PacifiCorp said Wednesday it is willing to spend $300 million to build fish ladders and other means to get salmon over its Klamath River hydroelectric dams rather than tear them out and build a new generating plant to replace the power.

The Portland-based utility serving 1.6 million customers in six Western states said it already has a shortage of power, and feels it is better to hang onto the 150 megawatts produced by the Klamath dams than to face the unknown costs of managing sediment released by dam removal and rising prices of natural gas to generate replacement power.

Company spokesman Dave Kvamme said dam removal remained on the table in settlement talks with Indian Tribes, commercial fishermen, and conservation groups that want them gone as a way of restoring struggling salmon runs in the Klamath.

Federal fisheries agencies last week required the PacifiCorp to provide for salmon to swim freely over the four dams straddling the Oregon-California border as a condition of obtaining a new license to operate them for the next 30 to 50 years, raising pressure on PacifiCorp to consider the cheaper alternative of dam removal.

The river was once the third-biggest producer of salmon on the West Coast, but last year federal fisheries managers practically shut down commercial salmon fishing after the third straight year of poor returns of wild chinook.

Indian tribes, commercial salmon fishermen and conservation groups campaigning to remove the dams said PacifiCorp appeared to be staking out a stronger negotiating position for settlement talks which serve as an alternative to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission licensing process.

Happy Valentines Day...

Happy Valentines Day, Michelle. I love you; lots of hugs and kisses. You mean the world to me. Xoxoxo. Johnny Sr.

Happy Valentines Day Lauren; Johnny Jr. and Xariya. Dad loves you all with lots of hugs and kisses I miss you all.

Happy Valentines Day, Tyson! Love always, your Nonna.

Happy Valentine's Day to our babies Walt and Elaina. From Mom and Dad, with hugs and kisses.

Happy Valentine's Day to my one and only Willieroy. Love you always, Laneda.

Happy V-Day to my cousins Tonya, Leanna, Jackson, nephew Devon and Auntie Selena.

Love you guys lots, Laneda. Happy Valentine's Day to my brother Brandon. Love you lots, your big sister Laneda.

Happy Valentines Day to my favorite sister Morningstar Stormy Brooks! Love you, Charlene.

Happy Valentines Day to Donna. Love your sister, Charlene.

Happy Valentines Day Regan and Krystyn, Lei and Jacob Reed, Derek and Johnson. Love you, Charlene.

Happy Valentines Day Missy, Gayleen and Ellie. From, Charlene.

Happy Valentines Day Johnson Heath Sr. From Johnson Heath Jr. Happy Valentine's Day Roni and family. From Charlene & boys.

Happy Valentines Day Reva, Revonne and Sharina. From Charlene & boys.

Happy Valentines Day Timothy Dawson. I love you, Charlene Dawson.

Happy Valentines Day Captain of pool team. From Charlene.

Happy Valentines Day Puff and "Sam." From Charlene.

Happy Valentines Day Easton, Tina and family. From Charlene & family.

Happy Valentines Day Timothy, Rhonda and Shirley; Charlie and kids; Vickie Nyday and kids. From Charlene and kids.

Happy Valentines Day Eric and Danica. From Timothy and Charlene.

Happy Valentines Day to Jonathan Smith and girls. From Charlene.

Happy Valentines Day Leona, Valden and Ricki. From Charlene.

Happy Valentines Day to brother "Ook." From Charlene.

Happy Valentines Day Steven, White Dove, and Jedidiah. From Charlene.

Happy Valentines Day Bro. Britton and family.

From Charlene and family. Happy Valentines Day Bro. Merlin and family. From Charlene and family.

Happy Valentines Day to my husband Timothy Dawson. Love your wife Charlene Dawson.

To our loving mom, Happy Birthday and Happy Valentines Day. Love, your sons Tristan Blackwolfe, Tyus Azariah, Jaden Michael.

I would like to wish my children a happy belated Valentines Day. Whitley Ruiz, Kevin Ruiz, Clarence McKinley, Denzell Bailey, Nellie Bailey. I love and miss you all.
Love, Mom.

I would also like to say happy belated Valentines Day to Sam, Douglas, Andy, Jon, "to my studdering Stanley," Aaron Stacey "Kiebler," Oriana, Shawnean, Sharita, and to another important person Yvonne Nathan. Love, Jamie McKinley-Bailey.

More birthday wishes...

Happy birthday to my lil' sister Triple H. I love you sister. Hugs and kisses to my niece and nephews. Love always, you NaNa Martha.

Happy birthday to my YaYa Marlon. I'm pretty sure it's this month. I just can't remember which day. Anyways, love you. YaYa. Love, a sister always, Martha.

Happy 11th birthday to my Sunny Bunny on 2-6-07. Smile big, Sonny. I love and miss you a whole bunch. Love always, Mom.

Happy birthday to my niece Mary "Tail" Wolfe on 2-4-07. I love you, honey and take good care of my grandson. Love, Auntie Martha.

Happy birthday, lil' Max. With love, Auntie Eydie.

Happy 17th birthday to Sonny boy on 2-18, Nelson Wolfe with lots of hugs and kisses from the whole Wolfe klan. We love you.

Quality Automotive Service
"We care enough to do our best"
Master ASE Certified Technician
NO APPOINTMENTS NECESSARY
85 SW 3rd, Madras - ph. 475-2412

Black Bear Diner
Grrreat Family Food
Madras' Finest Family Dining
• All Products Prepared Fresh Daily
• Entrees Roasted Daily
• Featuring Hand Cut USDA Choice Steaks
BREAKFAST - LUNCH - DINNER
Served All Day
• Senior Menu • Children's Menu • Daily Specials
All Major Credit Cards Accepted
237 S.W. 4th Street, Madras • 475-6632 OPEN 6 am - 10 pm DAILY

Tires LES SCHWAB
FREE BEEF WITH THE TIRES YOU BUY!
FREE BEEF
WITH THE TIRES YOU BUY!
www.LesSchwab.com
Visit Les Schwab Tire Center in Madras, 28 NE Plum St. ph. 475-3834