



**Press Release  
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## **Dugout canoes generate second-glances at Rocky Mountain Power** Pressure builds for largest dam removal project in U.S. history

SALT LAKE CITY (MAY 1, 2007) – Klamath Basin Tribal leaders and their allies today drove traditional dugout canoes to the front door of PacifiCorp, known here as Rocky Mountain Power. They are on their way to Omaha for a Berkshire Hathaway shareholders meeting to tell Warren Buffett: “Tear down the Klamath River dams.”

The cross-country caravan, towing two hand-crafted 20-foot long redwood canoes, is driven by Klamath stakeholders representing a growing chorus of fishermen, Native American tribes, public health officials, and state and federal agencies calling for the largest dam removal project in U.S. history.

“The Governors of Oregon and California support dam removal, the Pacific Coast fishing industry supports dam removal, the Klamath tribes that depend on the river support dam removal, environmental organizations support removal, even PacifiCorp ratepayers support dam removal,” says Peter Ferenbach, executive director of Friends of the River. “Only PacifiCorp chooses to play the role of obstructionist.”

PacifiCorp was acquired last year by Warren Buffett’s Berkshire Hathaway Inc.

The utility’s dams are destroying what had been one of the great salmon rivers of the world, and the loss of salmon is decimating the fishing industry, tribal cultures, and all the communities dependent on them. Much of the Pacific Coast salmon fishing industry was effectively shut down last year because of the damage done by these dams.

The dams, which generate less than 1 percent of PacifiCorp’s electricity sales, also have created a serious public health hazard with toxic algae concentrations 3,900 times greater than a standard set by the World Health Organization. Local public health agencies post warnings to avoid physical contact with the water.

The caravan, launched last week from Fisherman’s Wharf in San Francisco, will continue on to Omaha, home of Berkshire Hathaway. The traditional tribal canoes, normally used for fishing, will be used instead to get across the message that there are no fish left to catch.

They will arrive in Omaha at the same time Berkshire Hathaway Chairman Warren Buffett meets with shareholders, May 4-5, at the company’s annual “Woodstock of Capitalism” – just in time to tell him that all this is bad business because removing the dams actually is the utility’s cheapest option.

Removing the dams will save PacifiCorp, and Berkshire Hathaway, an estimated \$100 million per year and can be done without increasing greenhouse gas emissions according to the California Energy Commission. Federal and state agencies recommend taking the dams down.

PacifiCorp’s intransigence on these four dams has prompted these diverse stakeholders to take their case directly to Berkshire Hathaway.

“Judging by what we have learned about Mr. Buffett,” says Bob McConnell, a traditional Yurok fisherman, “he just might be the person we need to look to for the solution.” ###