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October 28, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council members

FROM: John Shurts, General Counsel, and John Harrison, Information Officer

SUBJECT: Report on Columbia River Treaty symposium

The Council co-sponsored the *Second Annual Symposium on Transboundary River Governance* in *The Face of Uncertainty: The Columbia River Treaty, 2014*, a three-day conference in Corvallis that will conclude just prior to the beginning of the Council's November meeting. The conference was organized by the Universities Consortium on Columbia Basin Governance, which includes the University of British Columbia, the University of Idaho, the University of Montana, Oregon State University, and the University of Washington. In 2009, the consortium initiated a series of annual symposia to help inform citizens about the future of the Columbia River. The initial symposium was in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

The second annual symposium was at Oregon State University. According to the consortium, the purpose of the 2010 symposium, which had the Columbia River Treaty as its focus, was "to address and provoke discussion around three key themes: needs and benefits, participatory processes, and transboundary governance mechanisms."

At this meeting, Aaron Wolf, a professor in the Department of Geosciences at Oregon State University and Director of the Program in Water Conflict Management and Transformation, will provide an overview of the symposium. Dr. Wolf, an expert on international transboundary water resources and dispute resolution, chaired the steering committee that developed the symposium.

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