revenue expenditures) have more than doubled and continue to increase each year.

Forty percent of BPA's fish and wildlife costs are for the direct cost of the program, while 60 percent of the cost of the program is attributable to the cost of power purchases to meet flow requirements and revenues foregone because of spill or altered hydro availability. Fish and wildlife costs are 19 percent of EPA's total costs.

Reducing the generating capability for the Columbia River Hydro System is not a stranded investment subject to an exit fee concept. It is a change of water use by the federal government which should be subject to a recalculation of the repayment obligation. Transmission under the 1992 changes in the Energy Policy Act is a common carrier which should not be subject to external costs not related to construction and operation of transmission services.

BPA's resource base is 12,000 MW of installed, renewable and low-cost hydro. The advantage of purchasing power long-term from BPA is that it gives a utility access to this federal hydroelectric system, which is insulated from changes in energy costs due to changes in fuel prices. Gas prices and the price of alternate suppliers will not stay low forever while BPA;s costs will decline as the Supply System debt is paid off. This is reason to believe that the BPA will continue to provide cost-effective electricity in the future. A long-term contract with BPA lessens the amount of decision-making on power supply that a utility needs to make. This creates a sense of ''one-stop shopping'' versus being an active participant in the market place. If BPA;s one environmental externality (fish and wildlife concerns) can be addressed in an economically sustainable fashion, this system looks very good for a very long time.

BPA's future is not the only issue before Congress of interest to public power in the Pacific Northwest. For instance, Senator Slade Gorton of Washington is circulating a discussion draft of legislation to remove the public power exemption from regulation of pole attachments by the Federal Communications Commission. If his proposal were enacted into law as part of the telecommunications legislation pending in the Senate, FCC staff in Washington would decide what you could charge for use of your facilities and rights-of-way.

As many of you know, earlier this month, the House of Representatives, by a vote of 309–100, approved an amendment to the Clean Water Act that affirms the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's proper role as a final arbiter over hydro-project licensing cases where Section 401 conditions conflict with FERC's responsibilities under the Federal Power Act. The people who helped make that happen include Representative Randy Tate and Representative Norm Dicks of Washington and Representative Helen Chenoweth of Idaho. The focus now shifts to the Senate, where we again need to explain the need for a final decision-maker to resolve federal-state disputes.

But Bonneville is the big issue. I think the stakes are large and immediate. If the hemorrhaging of water and money cannot be stopped, the agency is not a viable institution. It is unlikely that federal taxpayers will subsidize the operation, and it is unreasonable to expect Northwest electricity consumers to pay more than the going price for power. If the worst happens, Congress is likely to endorse an asset sale of a failing business. That shouldn't happen, and it doesn't need to happen. But your involvement in preventing it from happening is the essential ingredient.

It is important to understand a change in relationships that has taken place in the Pacific Northwest in recent years.

A long-term paternalistic resource planning and acquisition role for BPA is no longer sustainable in an era where planning horizons have shortened to five years and there are literally scores of potential suppliers, some with offerings that cost only ½ of Bonneville's current rates.

Technology choices have changed. Gas-fired combustion turbines can be ordered and brought on-line in less than a year, supplying power with efficiencies of up to 60 percent and prices lower than new hydro.

The partnership of BPA and preference customers cannot be the same when federal power costs more than purchases from IOUs.

Consumer-owned utilities have made payments to BPA over five decades and have built up the significant equity in the system. They have a continuing interest in protecting and enhancing that investment, but like BPA, they must adjust to a world where competitive bidding has replaced sole source suppliers.

BPA will have a more limited role in providing load growth services to its customers. In the future, this will more likely be the province of utilities, acting alone or in concert to diversify supply and reduce risk.

You have your responsibility to your user-owners. BPA has its responsibility to taxpayers. But both of you benefit from working together. And that effort needs to take place now.●

THE 1995 ABERDEEN PHEASANTS

Mr. PRESSLER. Mr. President, when I was growing up, professional baseball flourished in South Dakota. I remember many games from the now-defunct Basin League. Those teams stimulated and nurtured my love of America's greatest pastime. Therefore, as a lifelong baseball fan, I am very pleased to announce that professional baseball has returned to Aberdeen, SD, after a 24-year hiatus.

Last Friday night, June 16, the Aberdeen Pheasants won their home opener at Fossum Field against Saskatchewan's Regina Cyclones, 7–3. Since opening their 71 game season on the road on June 9 against Manitoba's Brandon Greyowls, the Pheasants have played brilliantly, winning eight of their first nine games. They are tied for the lead in their division. I am confident the team's early success is an indication of great seasons and thrilling action in the months and years ahead.

The 1995 Aberdeen Pheasants are part of the newly formed Prairie League, an eight-team independent professional baseball league consisting of four American and four Canadian teams. The Pheasants' ownership committee has a distinct local flavor consisting of 20 Aberdeen residents. The committee's executive leadership consists of Jeff Sveen, Dr. Scott Barry, and Keith Kusler will work closely with Arthur Bright, the vice president of operations and Rich Bosma, the team's general manager. I congratulate them and the entire ownership committee for bringing baseball back to Aberdeen, and for their team's early success this year.

Mr. President, I also am proud, though not surprised, how the entire Aberdeen community has rallied behind the effort to return pro baseball to the area. The Pheasants are the talk of the town. Friday's home opener was very well attended. Knowing the enthusiasm for baseball in the area, I am sure fan support will remain strong throughout the season.

The 1995 Pheasants are the latest chapter in the long and proud history of Aberdeen professional baseball. The city had a class D baseball team in the 1920 South Dakota League and from 1921 to 1923 in the reorganized Dakota League. In 1946, the Aberdeen Pheasants joined the old Northern League as a farm team for the Baltimore Orioles and remained in the Northern League until the entire league collapsed after the 1971 season.

During this 25-year period, as many as 40 Pheasant players went on to play in the Major Leagues. Among the notable Pheasant alumni were Hall of Fame pitcher Jim Palmer; Don Larson, who pitched a perfect game in the 1956 World Series; 1958 Cy Young winner Bob Turley and New York Yankee all-star player Lou Piniella. In addition, Cal Ripken, Sr., managed the Pheasants prior to assuming the same duties for the Baltimore Orioles. I am confident present Pheasants manager Bob Flori, assistant Coach Joe Calfapietra, and their crew of young, talented players will carry on the great traditions established by these players. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to place in the RECORD the team roster of the 1995 Aberdeen Pheasants at the conclusion of my remarks.

Mr. President, on behalf of the people of South Dakota, I want to welcome back the Pheasants to Aberdeen and wish them the best of luck in their inaugural season. Gentlemen, play ball!

TRIBUTE TO HELEN COLE

● Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I wish to recognize an outstanding woman whose hard work and dedication have touched the lives of many individuals. Indeed, it is rare to discover a character so willing to offer one's talents solely to serve and improve the lives of others.

Thus, I would like to take this time to express appreciation for an extraordinary citizen of Nicholas County, Summersville, WV, Helen Cole. Recently, Helen was honored at the Muddlety-Glade Creek Ruritan Club where she received numerous awards, including the prestigious Clara Barton Award, which is known to be the highest award given to volunteer workers. Currently, Helen is employed by Love, Inc., where she helps counsel financial management.

Helen, born in Ansted, WV, located in Fayette County, has been a lifelong resident of West Virginia. Helen has received a bachelor of science degree in home economics as well as a master's degree in extension education. In time, she became employed by WVU and USDA extension agents in Nicholas

County, where she taught home economics in the field and in the home. In addition, Helen conducted radio educational programs in Nicholas and Fayette Counties and performed ''Friends and Neighbors,'' an educational television program. Furthermore, Helen assisted as eastern regional director for the National Home Demonstration Agents Association [HDAA], and also served as State president of the West Virginia chapter of HDAA.

However, Helen's true colors are revealed through her in-depth involvement with the Nicholas County chapter of the American Red Cross. In the past, Helen has been a Red Cross volunteer for many years and has primarily been responsible for locating volunteers to manage crucial programs, such as blood services, first aid and CPR educational programs, service to military families, and disaster relief assistance. From 1976 to 1981, Helen served as the volunteer executive secretary of the American Red Cross. In December 1980, Helen retired after 34 years of teaching home economics to extension homemakers and soon after accepted the dual positions of full-time chapter managers and treasurer.

Although Helen recently retired in December 1994 from her office of chapter manager of the American Red Cross in Summersville, she still remains involved in various volunteer activities in addition to her employment by Love, Inc. For example, Helen continues to volunteer at the Nicholas County chapter of the American Red Cross, where she holds the position of executive secretary and is a member of the board of directors. Also, she occasionally still teaches classes through programs under the WVU extension service concerning lesson leader training. Helen, since 1981, has volunteered with the Food Pantry of the Summersville Ministerial Association, where she organizes food supplies for the pantry. Furthermore, Helen reviews applications for emergency assistance at the Federal Emergency Management Agency program in Summersville. Also, since 1942, Helen has been a Sunday school teacher and continues to teach an adult women's class at Memorial United Methodist Church in addition to a weekly Bible study class.

Helen Cole's accomplishments deserve notice and praise. Her enthusiasm and concern for humankind provide a model we should all strive to follow.●

TEMPORARY STORAGE OF CIVILIAN SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL AT THE HANFORD RESERVATION IN WASHINGTON STATE

● Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I wish to discuss a serious and important issue facing the Nation: Our growing supply of civilian spent nuclear fuel that has no home. My friend from Alaska, Senator MURKOWSKI, submitted a statement for the RECORD before the Senate adjourned for the Memorial Day recess. In it, he discussed a number of policy options to be employed for interim storage. Hanford, WA, and Savannah River, SC were two sites he mentioned as possible interim storage facilities for civilian spent nuclear fuel.

Located in the southeastern part of Washington State, the Hanford Reservation is home to over 80 percent of the Nation's spent plutonium fuel—2,132 metric tons by Senator MURKOWSKI's count. The most potent of that waste sits hundreds of yards from the Columbia River in 50-year-old concrete pools. These pools are not sophisticated and certainly not designed to store some of the deadliest materials produced by man.

Hanford faces a particularly difficult situation. This year the site has incurred serious criticism for the waste and inefficiencies that have become associated with Hanford cleanup. Much of this criticism is well deserved. Some, however, is off-base and ignorant of the monumental task at hand. Hanford has a mission—it is to follow through on the noble and worthy effort this Government undertook to win World War II. The site must be cleaned—that is the task at hand.

Adding more waste to Hanford, as I have said before, makes little sense. As the chairman of the Energy Committee, Senator MURKOWSKI has joined the ranking member, Senator JOHNSTON in introducing a bill that, I fear, would impede ongoing cleanup efforts at the site. So it is puzzling, when my friend suggests Hanford can barely tie its own shoes, but in the next breath, he says the site should be burdened with massive amounts of additional waste. There is a disconnect. I believe Hanford's mission is to focus on cleanup. So let me be clear: Shipping spent civilian nuclear fuel to Hanford sets a dangerous, and perhaps irrevocable, precedent. And unfortunately, despite Senator MURKOWSKI's assurances to the contrary, when dealing with waste that has a half-life of thousands of years, ''interim'' takes on an entirely new meaning.

Senator MURKOWSKI, fortunately, understands there is considerable room for debate on this issue. He is absolutely right to point out the problems the country faces in light of the impending spent fuel storage crisis. I also sympathize with the Senator from Alaska's frustration at both DOE and the President's lack of progress at Yucca Mountain. As he correctly notes, over $4.2 billion has been spent on the Yucca Mountain project to date—with nothing to show for the effort.

Rather than abandon this program altogether—which the House essentially does in its budget resolution this year—does it not make more sense to push through and finish a project that has absorbed significant time and money? Quite clearly, the United States must build a long-term storage facility for its high-level nuclear waste. Yucca Mountain, by most indications, is the logical choice.

As the Senator from Alaska emphasized in his statement, both an interim storage site and transportation system at Yucca Mountain must be developed. If it is the intention of the Federal Government to send waste to Yucca Mountain eventually, why not send the spent fuel there temporarily, until the permanent depository is ready? It is remote, arid, and has had a mission of testing nuclear devices for over 40 years. And perhaps most important, by placing a temporary facility at Yucca Mountain, transporting this deadly material across the Nation is limited to one voyage.

My intent today is not to solve the interim storage problems that the Nation faces with its growing stockpile of spent civilian nuclear fuel. I do, however, want to point out an inconsistency this Congress is contemplating: Cleaning Hanford while simultaneously adding more waste begs common sense. And I urge my colleagues to keep this in mind in their deliberations.●

THE FOSTER NOMINATION

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I rise today to renew my call for the majority leader to schedule a vote on the nomination of Dr. Foster to be Surgeon General of the United States. The Senate has had ample time to review Dr. Foster's record since his nomination was sent to us in February—over 3 months ago. It is time to take the next step and vote. We should not keep Dr. Foster or our Nation waiting.

America needs a strong and experienced voice on public health issues. Historically, the Surgeon General has always played that role. In the 1930's the Surgeon General launched a campaign to educate the public on the dangers of venereal disease. In the 1960's the challenge facing the Surgeon General was smoking; in the 1980's it was AIDS; today, the challenge is teen pregnancy, tuberculosis, and disease prevention.

I am confident that Dr. Foster has what it takes to make his mark in history and to lead us in working on the many public health issues that we face. So do many of my colleagues in this Chamber. Let's remember that Dr. Foster's nomination was favorably reported out by the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee on a 9–7 vote.

There should be no delays and no more evasion of responsibility. It is time for the full Senate to vote on Dr. Foster's nomination for the position of Surgeon General.●

THE INDEPENDENT COUNSEL ACT

● Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, no politician likes to admit that he made a mistake in voting for any bill. But, in life and politics, it is usually better to be right than to be consistent.