

**Tim Connor**

---

**From:** Imhof, Hugh [Hugh.Imhof@avistacorp.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 07, 2008 11:00 AM  
**To:** Tim Connor  
**Subject:** Responses to Sierra club Monroe Street news release

Tim,  
These are the basic messages we sent to news media:

**Avista Performs Monroe Street Dam Rock Removal**

August 6, 2008

- Avista is performing a periodic maintenance procedure at the Monroe Street Dam. The work involves clearing material from behind the dam and moving it downstream.
- The material consists mainly of rocks and gravel that accumulate behind the dam as they are naturally transported downstream by the river. Avista removes the rocks, as they can block or damage the intakes to the turbine, or even damage the turbine itself.
- The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife has requested that Avista return the material to the river, immediately downstream of the dam. The material would naturally be carried downstream without the dam's presence and may help provide spawning areas for fish.
- Avista has conducted this periodic maintenance for more than 20 years and has operated in compliance with all the necessary and appropriate permits.
- The Washington Dept. of Ecology's recent 401 Certification (water quality permit) contained a reference to this periodic activity. That Certification is under appeal, and is not effective until a new FERC license is issued for the Spokane River Project.