

1                                   **Support the Completion of the**  
2                                   **Columbia Basin Irrigation Project**

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4   **WHEREAS** the Columbia Basin Irrigation (CBI) project was started under President  
5 Franklin D. Roosevelt’s term with the design and engineering being done;

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7   **WHEREAS** the Grand Coulee Dam was built and pumps installed to pump water to  
8 supply Banks Lake for future irrigation through canals to the CBI project;

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10   **WHEREAS** the total CBI project was intended to irrigate approximately 1,029,000 acres,  
11 but only 571,000 acres being supplied water to date. The first water being delivered in  
12 the early 1950s;

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14   **WHEREAS** the total CBI project has created many thousands of jobs, tax dollars, and  
15 food for the world;

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17   **WHEREAS** the CBI project also created many lakes used for recreational purposes and  
18 many, many varieties of wildlife;

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20   **WHEREAS** the Bureau of Reclamation in the 2014-2015 is increasing the CBI project  
21 another 70,000 acres for irrigation of which a portion of this water will replace the deep  
22 wells pumping for the Odessa Aquifer, which has continued declining due to heavy  
23 withdrawal from pumping for irrigation, which would leave more water for the towns’  
24 and cities’ water supply;

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26   **WHEREAS** the water for the entire project was allotted from the Columbia River when  
27 the project first started, and now with new farming techniques and irrigation districts in  
28 water conservation, the amount would be less than originally thought;

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30   **WHEREAS** the completion of the CBI project would mirror the existing portion of the  
31 project;

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33   **WHEREAS** the CBI project could create many thousands of jobs, increase the property  
34 tax base and food products for the world, and increase other businesses related to  
35 farming; and

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37   **WHEREAS** it would create additional thousands of acres for wildlife and many newly  
38 created lakes for recreational purposes; and

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40   **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democrats support the  
41 completion of the CBI project and urge the Governor of the State of Washington, our  
42 Democratic State and National Senators and Representatives of Washington State.

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Submitted by the Adams County Democrats to the 2014 Washington State Democratic Convention. (Date Submitted 4/12/2014)

The Subcommittee on Agriculture amended this resolution at their May 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The Subcommittee on Agriculture recommended that this resolution be passed as amended at their May 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The Platform Committee affirmed the recommendation of the Subcommittee on Agriculture at their May 31<sup>st</sup> meeting.

The 2014 Washington State Democratic Convention passed this resolution on June 21, 2014.