



Big Bend Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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April 22, 2004

Mark Walker
Director of Public Affairs
Northwest Power & Conservation Council
851 SW 6th Ave, Suite 1100
Portland, OR 97204-1348

Re: Big Bend Electric Cooperative, Inc. Comment on "Comment Recommendations for the Future Role of the Bonneville Power Administration in Power Supply"

Big Bend Electric Cooperative, Inc. (the "Cooperative") supports the comments made and positions taken by the Northwest Requirements Utilities as set forth in NRU's response to the Council dated April 22, 2004 with one exception. The Cooperative opposes including in BPA's wholesale power rates any mandated amount for conservation or renewables. Specifically, we believe the half-mill charge currently in the Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) rates should not be included in future BPA rates.

Big Bend Electric Cooperative, Inc. is a consumer-owned electric cooperative. Local control held by the member-elected board of trustees is an important principle of the cooperative way of doing business. We are opposed to mandates that take away that local control. We, therefore, respectfully request that plans involving the future of BPA and for BPA's rates exclude any mandated charge for conservation or renewables.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and for your work in helping shape the future of BPA.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James A. Johnson", with a long, sweeping underline.

James A. Johnson
Manager