

RD-0127

Sent: Tuesday, September 24, 2002 10:28 PM
To: comment@bpa.gov
Subject: Please Strengthen Conservation, Renewable Energy, & Salmon Restoration

Dear Mr. Wright:

I attended the last BPA hearing at Seattle's Mountaineer Club. As an elementary public school teacher and a concerned citizen, I am strongly in favor of strengthening your conservation, salmon restoration, and renewable energy programs. I trust that you will work to ensure that Bonneville Power Administration will be a strong leader for improving the quality of life in the region through increasing investment in conservation, renewable energy, and salmon restoration. I appreciate your efforts towards a sustainable future for all.

Please consider the wise advice of Chief Sealth [sic]: "Every part of this earth is sacred to my people. Every pine needle, every sandy shore, every mist in the

dark woods, every clearing and humming insect is holy in the memory and experience of my people. This land is sacred to us. The earth does not belong to man; man belongs to the earth. Whatever befalls the earth befalls the sons of the earth. Man did not weave the web of life; he is merely a strand in it. Whatever he does to the web, he does to himself."

While I am unable to attend the Sept. 25th hearing, I'd like it on the record that I'm in full agreement with the Public Interest Proposal and respectfully request that you fully implement it:

The Public Interest Proposal Overview

The objective of the Public Interest Proposal is to develop all cost-effective conservation and sufficient renewable resources necessary to ensure an adequate, efficient, economic and reliable power system for the region without relying on polluting new fossil fuel plants. To do so, this proposal establishes stewardship obligation levels for conservation savings, renewable resource development, and low-income weatherization based on the total electric load of the region. Each utility is then given its share of the target to meet, with Bonneville ensuring quality control.

Specific Points

Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Resources

1. Increases in energy demand must be met with cost-effective energy efficiency and new, renewable resources such as solar, wind, geothermal and biomass resources.

2. BPA customers (the utilities) must meet conservation goals set by the Northwest Power Planning Council. We estimate this target as approximately 175 average megawatts per year.

3. BPA will provide quality control to ensure that the program is run efficiently and ultimately be the backstop in case a utility does not meet its conservation goal.

4. BPA will directly fund state and county community action agencies to weatherize all remaining unweatherized low-income homes by 2026.

Wild Salmon and Steelhead

1. BPA must meet its legal obligations for salmon recovery.

2. Any new contracts between the utilities and Bonneville must remove the economic and operational incentives to violate salmon restoration requirements.

3. The Northwest energy portfolio should be diversified with an increase in renewable resources in order to decrease the pressure on the Columbia and Snake Rivers to produce electricity.

4. Salmon restoration aspects of the new allocation agreement must be enforceable.

5. Tribes must have an equal voice with the federal government in decisions regarding salmon recovery and management.

Sincerely,
Karen Hertz
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