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**BEFORE THE NORTHWEST POWER
AND CONSERVATION COUNCIL**

In Re:

The Sixth Northwest
Electric Power and
Conservation Plan



PUBLIC HEARING
Wednesday, October 14, 2009

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APPEARANCES :

**For the Northwest Power
and Conservation Council:**

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Council Member

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~and~

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APPEARANCES (Cont'd)

Also Present:

- Erik Simpson, State Representative
- Richard Knori
- JO Elg, Assistant General Manager for Idaho Falls Power
- Jackie Flowers, General Manager for Idaho Falls Power
- Van Ashton, Energy Services Manager for Idaho Falls Power
- Lane Allgood, Executive Director for the Partnership For Science and Technology
- Robert Gorgoglione
- Beatrice Brailsford, Snake River Alliance

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PUBLIC HEARING

Wednesday, October 14, 2009

THE PUBLIC HEARING was held before the Northwest Power and Conservation Council at the Center For Advanced Energy Studies, 995 University Boulevard, Idaho Falls, Idaho, commencing at 4:10 p.m. on Wednesday, October 14, 2009, before Amy Horsley, Certified Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public within and for the State of Idaho, in the above-entitled matter.

1 **PUBLIC HEARING**

2 **Wednesday, October 14, 2009**

3 **4:10 p.m.**

4

5 **MR. YOST:** Okay. The appointed hour has
6 arrived for the official hearing on the Northwest
7 Power and Conservation Council Sixth Power Plan
8 draft, and the hearing is conducted for the
9 opportunity for the public to provide comments on
10 that draft plan. I'm Jim Yost, and I'm an Idaho
11 Power Planning Council member. The other member from
12 Idaho is Bill Booth, and he operates out of north
13 Idaho most of the time, and we have our office in
14 Boise and in Hayden or Coeur d'Alene.

15 I want to welcome all of you tonight.
16 We're going to go through a few slides about this
17 facility. In lieu of us writing a check for the
18 facility, if we do this paid advertisement, we get
19 the building free of charge. It's only appropriate
20 that we are in a high- tech, energy-efficient
21 building to talk about a power plan, and I think it
22 was appropriate. We appreciate the opportunity to
23 come to Idaho Falls and be a little closer to the
24 east side of the state and receive your comments.

25 After the brief five or six slides about

1 the facility, and you can read that, then I'll
2 prepare -- I'll read an opening statement, and John
3 Fazio from our central office in Portland will go
4 through a brief slide show presentation or summary of
5 the power plan, what the power plan contains. It's
6 very brief, five, ten minutes. And then we'll ask
7 for you to provide comments from the sign-in sheet.

8 And I'll need you to come down here where I
9 am to make the comments, if you would, so the court
10 reporter can hear what you're saying. Now, we'll ask
11 you to state your name clearly. If it isn't John
12 Smith or Doug Jones, then you might spell your name
13 so we get your name spelled correctly in the record.
14 And after the public comments are received, we'll be
15 here till 6 o'clock for those who happen to come
16 later, but we'll go through and accept the public
17 comments.

18 So with that, John, let's go through the
19 advertisement for the facility.

20 **(Center for Advanced Energy Studies slide**
21 **show.)**

22 **MR. YOST:** I appreciate the use of the new
23 facility. I think it's a collaborative effort that
24 the State can be proud of that they welcome folks to
25 use the facility if it fits your needs. And it look

1 s like they're working on some of the issues that I
2 wish we had the answers for instead of them just
3 doing the research on it. So we really appreciate
4 the opportunity to be here in this great facility for
5 the hearing today.

6 Welcome to the public hearing held by the
7 Northwest Power and Conservation Council on the
8 Council's proposed Sixth Northwest Power Plan. The
9 Northwest Power Act directs the Council to develop a
10 regional conservation and electric power plan and to
11 review that plan every five years. The Council is
12 now engaged in its latest five-year power plan
13 review. As part of that effort, the Council released
14 a draft revised power plan on September 3rd for
15 public review and comment.

16 The Council will be taking written comments
17 on the power plan until November 6th. The Council
18 will also hold public hearings like this one on the
19 draft plan in all four Northwest states and over the
20 next six weeks.

21 If you would like to comment at this
22 hearing, please sign in on a sign-up sheet for that
23 purpose. You may also leave written comments with us
24 this evening if you desire, and your comments will be
25 recorded, placed in the Council's administrative

1 record for the power plan review, and -- most
2 importantly -- carefully considered by the Council as
3 it makes its decisions on the final power plan later
4 this year.

5 For more information on the proposed Sixth
6 Power Plan, including the text of the draft plan
7 itself, please visit the Council's Web site at
8 www.nwcouncil.org. You may submit comments by using
9 the "how to comment" link on the web page devoted to
10 the draft power plan. Thank you for attending.

11 John, would you lead us through a brief
12 summary of the plan.

13 **MR. FAZIO:** Thank you. My name is John
14 Fazio. I'm a senior systems analyst for the
15 Northwest Power and Conservation Council. And the
16 draft power plan is a rather large document, and it's
17 taken quite a long time to put together. And I'm
18 going to give you about a five-minute summary of that
19 plan. So it doesn't cover all the bases. I'm
20 assuming that all of you read every word. There will
21 be a test at the end.

22 But about two years ago this process
23 started when the Council directed its staff to begin
24 the process of collecting data and working with
25 utilities, with state agencies and with other

1 interested parties in collecting information about
2 energy demand, about resources and about potential
3 conservation measures that are available in the
4 Northwest.

5 We collected all of this data, and through
6 advisory committees, we talked about the data and
7 forecasts. We looked at fuel prices. We looked at
8 the availability of new technology. And through
9 public processes like this hearing, we put together
10 the data. We ran it through some computer models that
11 we have that help us analyze different potential
12 futures. And we then provided this information to
13 the Council, and they used that information to
14 develop the plan.

15 What is the goal of the plan? Well, the
16 goal of the plan is quite simple. We want to keep
17 the lights on, though we want to do it with a low
18 average cost, and we want to try to have a power
19 supply that also will minimize year-to-year price
20 fluctuations. We want to avoid situations like what
21 happened in the Northwest, in the whole West Coast
22 actually, in 2001. And also, we want an operation for
23 the hydroelectric system that supports fish and
24 wildlife operation.

25 So how can we do that? Well, the power

1 plan really provides an inventory of cost-effective
2 resources that utilities in the region can use when
3 they develop their own plans. It provides also a
4 dynamic resource acquisition strategy. And what does
5 that mean? That means that the plan does not specify
6 a particular set of resources or timing of those
7 resources, but rather it lays down the strategy that
8 allows utilities to pick and choose from this
9 inventory of cost-effective resources as conditions
10 change in the future.

11 It is not a resource plan for individual
12 utilities. And the Council specifically identifies
13 that each utility's needs and access to resources are
14 different. And so some utilities may not have access
15 to some of the cost-effective resources in the
16 region, and so they have to do with other types of
17 resources.

18 As an example of the inventory of resources
19 that we put together, this chart shows those
20 resources that we've looked at, ranked by levelized
21 life cycle costs starting with, on the left-hand
22 side, conservation, and all the way over on the
23 right-hand side we see things like IGCC and woody
24 residue and things like that.

25 I'm not going to discuss this chart except

1 to show you that -- to give you kind of a picture of
2 the kinds of information that we can provide to
3 utilities. And we realize that some utilities don't
4 have access to some of these.

5 What I'd like to do is to identify the key
6 findings for several of the key resources that we
7 identify in the plan that the region ought to acquire
8 over the next five years. So beginning with
9 conservation, we find it to be the lowest-cost
10 resource. Regardless of what future scenario we
11 modeled, conservation seemed to always be there.
12 Perhaps slightly different levels, but it always
13 appeared as the lowest-cost resource.

14 Conservation avoids the risk of volatile
15 fuel prices. It avoids the potential carbon
16 penalties. It also contributes to both peak and
17 annual needs. It can create local jobs and economic
18 activity. And, in fact, it can offset most of the
19 region's load growth over the next 20 years. On an
20 expected basis, it can offset 85 percent of the
21 anticipated load growth for the region.

22 Okay, wind. The Council recognizes that a
23 lot of wind is going to be developed because of state
24 legislation that requires a certain percentage of new
25 resources to be renewable, but the Council also

1 recognizes that additional wind may be cost-
2 competitive compared to other generating
3 technologies. And so in their plan, they recognize
4 that some utilities may go beyond developing what's
5 required by the state legislation.

6 Wind also avoids the risks of fuel prices
7 and carbon penalties, and wind can also offset a
8 significant part of the expected load growth in the
9 region. It's possible, in fact, in a lot of the
10 studies that we've looked at, that conservation
11 combined with wind actually take care of all the
12 needs for the region, looking at it from a regional
13 point of view, but not in all futures, but in most of
14 them.

15 The problem with wind is that it has
16 variable output. You can get generation from wind
17 when the wind blows. It doesn't always blow when you
18 want it. And so it introduces a problem for
19 operators in that we have to be able to integrate it
20 properly; we have to be able to back it up. And the
21 hydro system can back up wind for the most part, but
22 it may not be able to back up wind in its entirety.

23 Natural gas. The Council has identified a
24 need for natural gas, perhaps in the short term,
25 either to back up wind or for capacity purposes,

1 capacity being meeting the hourly needs of the region
2 or for local utilities if they lack access to other
3 cost-effective resources or for other reasons that
4 may require them. Gas carries a fuel price risk, but
5 it has lower carbon emissions than a coal plant.

6 Another key finding that is in the plan is
7 regarding carbon risk. The coal plants in the region
8 emit 85 percent of the power system carbon dioxide,
9 but they provide about 20 percent of the region's
10 electricity. If we want significant reductions in
11 carbon emissions, then we're going to have to reduce
12 the dispatch of coal generation. Reducing coal
13 generation might require additional use of natural
14 gas, but again, natural gas doesn't emit as much
15 carbon dioxide as coal does.

16 We have a five-year plan, a five-year
17 action plan, in the plan. We focus on the first five
18 years because in five years we're going to do this
19 all over again. And, you know, the plan is a 20-year
20 plan, but we really focus on the first five years.
21 This is what we can do now, and then we reevaluate in
22 five years and make adjustments if necessary.

23 The five-year regional plan, in a nutshell,
24 is that the region should acquire 1,200 average
25 megawatts of conservation by 2014. As far as

1 renewables go, we assume that the state requirements
2 will be met and more wind will be developed if it
3 turns out to be cost-effective.

4 Gas-fired generation will be developed if
5 needed, especially for those utilities that may have
6 transmission limitations or otherwise can't access
7 other resources that are cost-effective.

8 The plan emphasizes that we need to make
9 improvements to market access and ancillary services,
10 and we need to investigate and improve methods to
11 integrate wind. In particular, we should explore
12 things like smart grid and make the transmission
13 system smarter in dealing with our needs.

14 And, of course, we want to continue
15 research on new technology for generating resources
16 and conservation.

17 This is a very short summary of the plan.
18 There are 13 some chapters and a dozen or more
19 appendices, and this is -- I'm going to leave it here
20 and then give it back to Jim so he can open it up for
21 comment. Thank you.

22 **MR. YOST:** I'll just call the folks that
23 have indicated that they want to present comments on
24 the order that they came in. So Representative Erik
25 Simpson.

1 **ERIK SIMPSON:** Do you want me to come stand
2 up there?

3 **MR. YOST:** (Nodded.)

4 **ERIK SIMPSON:** Okay.

5 **MR. YOST:** It's good practice for you.

6 **ERIK SIMPSON:** Okay. I'm Erik Simpson, E-
7 r-i-k, S-i-m-p-s-o-n, state representative for
8 District 32-B here in Idaho Falls. First, I want to
9 thank you folks for coming out here to Idaho Falls,
10 and I really appreciate it.

11 And I just wanted to remind people that
12 Idaho Falls is really sort of the birthplace of
13 commercial nuclear power, which kind of directs me to
14 my comments on the plan. I'm particularly troubled
15 by the fact that the group didn't evaluate nuclear
16 power, from what I could tell, really at all.

17 As this country phases out carbon-emitting,
18 coal fire coal-fire-generating plants, there's really
19 only one thing that's going to be able to replace
20 that energy, and that's nuclear power plants. Wind
21 conservation, I think, certainly has its place, as do
22 other energy sources, but an energy plan that's
23 devoid of nuclear power, in my mind, is a seriously
24 flawed plan.

25 In my mind, the future of nuclear power in

1 this country is really -- and I'm thinking 20 years
2 out like you all did -- is really not the 1,600
3 megawatt reactors that we're seeing now being built
4 and being reviewed by the NRC for licensing. It's
5 really going to be the small to medium-sized, small,
6 light-water reactors that are going to be part of the
7 Northwest's energy grid.

8 So again, you know, I appreciate the
9 consideration of wind and conservation, but you've
10 got to also consider nuclear power as part of the
11 overall mix. I think that's about it. Thanks.

12 **MR. YOST:** Thank you, Erik. Next is
13 Richard Knori.

14 **RICHARD KNORI:** Knori, K-n-o-r-i. I
15 applaud the work that Council's done. They've dug
16 into a lot of detail. On the transmission
17 subchapter, they actually went through and did a good
18 job of identifying all the constrained paths, which
19 people that deal in transmission know it's very
20 difficult to move the energy east to west, north to
21 south.

22 So part of the project identifies some of
23 the gateway projects and the projects to Hemingway,
24 and we would encourage them to work with the regional
25 transmission providers to look at getting capacity,

1 either owning or securing a path, so people here in
2 southeast Idaho can actually get to our marketplace
3 without something called the South Idaho Exchange. I
4 don't know if you're familiar with that, but that's
5 one loophole all of us have had to deal with in this
6 whole region of southeast Idaho.

7 The other comment, on the back it talked
8 about service to the DSI's and the DSI's reducing
9 either preference power rate or market rate. At
10 least we feel that they should receive what the
11 market rate is now, not a preference rate. We don't
12 feel the DSI's are any better than a service industry
13 here in southeast Idaho or anywhere else. They
14 should receive the same power costs. Thank you.

15 **MR. YOST:** Thank you, Richard. Jo Elg.

16 **JO ELG:** Thank you, Councilman Yost. My
17 name is Jo -- it's J-o -- Elg, E-l-g. I'm the
18 assistant general manager and the power manager of
19 Idaho Falls Power. Idaho Falls Power is a division
20 of the City of Idaho Falls. We appreciate the
21 opportunity to provide comment on the Draft Sixth
22 Power Plan. And in general, the plan appears to be
23 reasonable and thoughtful, and Council's staff is to
24 be commended for your effort on the work product.

25 Idaho Falls Power serves a customer base of

1 approximately 25,800 with an annual consumption of
2 735,000 megawatt hours. So that's roughly 84 average
3 megawatts. We have an all-time system peak of 154
4 megawatts. That's in the winter. However, in recent
5 years we've seen a summer peak that was around 97
6 megawatts grow to about 113 megawatts. So we're
7 seeing an increase in our summer peak as well.
8 However, during the recent fiscal year that just
9 ended September 30, 2009, over the past year we have
10 seen both peak and energy consumption fall just a
11 little bit.

12 Idaho Falls Power owns and operates four
13 hydro facilities on the Snake River. They have a
14 capacity of 50 megawatts. And we contract with the
15 Bonneville Power Administration for the balance of
16 our power supply needs.

17 The plan's basic recommendations to meet
18 load and acquire resource are very similar to current
19 policy at Idaho Falls Power. We concur. Energy
20 efficiency is a first priority resource. And
21 although historically Idaho Falls Power has had an
22 aggressive conservation program, we've challenged
23 ourselves to ramp up our efforts in that arena.
24 However, our wholesale power supply is hydro, and
25 we're challenged with trying to match the shape of

1 the hydro output to the shape of our load. So even
2 though we've had aggressive energy efficiency
3 efforts, that doesn't eliminate our need for
4 resource.

5 We do have some concern regarding the level
6 of conservation targets in light of the current
7 economic state and our historical investment in
8 conservation efforts, but our greater concern is the
9 acceptance that those conservation targets are going
10 to be met. So our question is, what if they're not
11 met? What's the action plan then?

12 As a customer of the Bonneville Power
13 Administration, we appreciate the recognition that
14 Bonneville may need resources beyond conservation and
15 renewables in order to meet capacity and ancillary
16 service requirements that are placed on the federal-
17 based systems. We do appreciate the collaborative
18 nature and the cooperative approach outlined in the
19 general principles providing direction to Bonneville.

20 We agree with the Council that
21 hydroelectric power is the most important generating
22 resource in the Pacific Northwest, and the plan
23 rightly advocates for the efficient and effective use
24 of the carbon-free, low-cost resource. However, it
25 sells the hydropower system short without a full

1 discussion on the value of the lower Snake River
2 dams.

3 Under the resource strategy, we applaud the
4 Council's encouragement to the region to expand
5 alternative resources that are going to be available
6 to the region, in particular, the inclusion of
7 advanced nuclear energy and improved regional
8 transmission capability. Specifically, we appreciate
9 the discussion on transmission and support the
10 inclusion in the plan.

11 I'd like to thank Mr. Yost and the Council
12 for your public outreach on the plan and for
13 traveling to Idaho Falls. Thank you.

14 **MR. YOST:** Thank you, Jo. Let's see, next
15 is Jackie Flowers.

16 **JACKIE FLOWERS:** Jackie Flowers, J-a-c-k-i-
17 e, Flowers, F-l-o-w-e-r-s. I would like to echo Jo's
18 comments. First of all, I am general manager at
19 Idaho Falls Power, and we appreciate the staff and
20 Council traveling to Idaho Falls. It's a good
21 opportunity for us to give some comment in our
22 hometown. So we do appreciate your making the trip
23 here, and we also would commend you for your efforts,
24 as Jo mentioned, on the plan today.

25 You've heard from Jo, in particular, from a

1 power resource standpoint. You're also going to hear
2 from Van Ashton, who is our conservation expert,
3 subject matter expert. So we have a little bit of a
4 trifecta going on here for Idaho Falls Power. Not to
5 be redundant, and unfortunately you'll get Van after
6 you hear from me, so I'm going to touch just briefly
7 on the conservation pieces. He'll get into that more
8 in-depth.

9 Idaho Falls Power will be submitting
10 written comments on the plan. We do not have those
11 available today, but they will cover the range of
12 areas that we're commenting on.

13 You're going to hear about our commitment
14 to energy efficiency. We've been in the efficiency
15 business for 27 years. We have a strong commitment
16 to energy efficiency, and we have ramped up those
17 efforts in recent years. It is a long-term
18 commitment for this community, one that we take very,
19 very -- with the highest importance and with the most
20 dedication. We do plan to incorporate energy
21 efficiency into our portfolio on a go-forward basis,
22 but Idaho Falls Power needs a resource in the future.

23 We're concerned that the plan does not
24 reflect the uncertainty of acquiring the conservation
25 goals that have been outlined. We question the rate

1 that the Council has assumed for ramping in new
2 technologies to meet the aggressive goal, such as
3 those that were highlighted as being tested. The
4 need for power is growing. Conservation and new
5 resources should be contemplated.

6 We are concerned that the plan does not
7 adequately address what should happen should the
8 utilities fall short of meeting the conservation
9 goals. We understand that the near-term focus on the
10 five years; however, the significance of the plan's
11 timing as it relates to signing the 20-year BPA
12 contracts cannot be overlooked.

13 At a time when we're engaged in regional
14 dialogue discussions about allocation of the federal
15 hydropower system and exploring regional resource
16 alternatives, the Council's plan should lay a
17 foundation for energy resource development for the
18 next 20 years. This planning period coincides with
19 that BPA contract period to some degree. It is
20 important that the plan be visionary in identifying
21 potential resources and setting that dynamic resource
22 acquisition strategy you've defined.

23 The plan should stress protecting existing
24 hydropower, in particular, the lower Snake River
25 dams, as Jo has mentioned. And it should also stress

1 pursuing additional emission-free resources,
2 including nuclear energy. This will ensure that
3 we're able to maintain the current level of
4 reliability, both from a generation and transmission
5 standpoint.

6 The plan should also account for the
7 likelihood that new renewable energy will be
8 developed in the region for use outside the region,
9 such as California. It should account for the impact
10 this trend will have on renewable energy pricing and
11 the impact to the Northwest transmission grid. A
12 test of adequacy and reliability as relates to power
13 supply and transmission should accompany that
14 analysis.

15 Again, we thank you for traveling to Idaho
16 Falls and providing the citizens an opportunity to
17 comment on the draft plan, and we also commend the
18 Idaho delegation for their leadership in developing
19 this. So thank you, Mr. Yost, and staff.

20 **MR. YOST:** Thank you, Jackie. Van Ashton.

21 **VAN ASHTON:** Van Ashton, V-a-n, A-s-h-t-o-
22 n. I am the energy services manager for Idaho Falls
23 Power, and, as such, I supervise our energy
24 conservation programs at Idaho Falls. In addition to
25 that, I supervise the energy conservation for 12

1 utilities under the Idaho Energy Authority primarily
2 in southern Idaho.

3 As has been mentioned, we have continually
4 operated conservation programs in Idaho Falls since
5 1982 and have tried to do that on a consistent basis.
6 We have provided our own funding in addition to what
7 has been provided to us by the Bonneville Power
8 Administration in order to offer consistent offerings
9 to our customers.

10 As has been mentioned, in the last couple
11 of years we have taken a more aggressive approach to
12 acquiring conservation with our customers. We have
13 engaged in an aggressive marketing switch campaign to
14 interest customers and also emphasize our commercial
15 lighting program that has been very successful.

16 We will continue to support and
17 aggressively pursue energy conservation in the years
18 ahead. We have taken steps to provide an energy
19 education center at our utility that we will use to
20 even further educate our customers about steps that
21 they can take to conserve energy. And I'll talk just
22 a little bit more about that in the future.

23 In my capacity, I've been engaged in a lot
24 of the committees that have been formed to provide
25 comment to the Power Council, primarily some

1 committees with Public Power Council and so forth.
2 In my role, I also represent 12 other utilities. And
3 though the comments that have been given to the Power
4 Council, the utilities have tried to reach a
5 consensus, not all utilities fall in line with each
6 and every comment that was passed on by that
7 organization.

8 We are, in particular, concerned again with
9 the targets that have been outlined. We will do
10 everything in our power to reach the goals and the
11 targets that have been set out for us, but we cannot
12 guarantee or assure that those targets will be met.
13 And because of that, we don't want the Council to
14 overly rely on some of the targets that have been
15 set, nor have any penalties associated with utilities
16 that are earnestly striving to do all they can in
17 that arena and fall short.

18 There are several things that are going on
19 that can affect reaching these conservation goals
20 that are entirely outside of what the utility can
21 control. One of them is the saturation of programs
22 that we've already been involved in. As we said,
23 we've been doing this for over 25 years now, and in
24 some cases we have reached a limit of what we can
25 acquire in certain sectors, such as the residential

1 sector.

2 In Idaho one of the blessings we have is
3 low rates, but that really does not do us a lot of
4 favors as far as acquiring energy efficiency from our
5 customers because oftentimes the payback just isn't
6 there for a lot of the measures that have been
7 outlined in the plan.

8 The economy right now in some ways helps
9 us, in some ways hurts us. People need to get the
10 savings associated with energy efficiency more than
11 ever, but a lot of times they don't have the
12 resources to go out and acquire the resource that
13 often costs more than what they can otherwise
14 achieve. Therefore, the willingness to pay that
15 utilities can offer to incent customers to
16 participate may not be enough.

17 One of the things that may be required to
18 achieve all potential conservation is a conservation
19 potential assessment done in each utility service
20 territory. However, these are quite costly, and the
21 results of those assessments may differ from what is
22 identified in the Power Council plan, and we want
23 that to be acknowledged also.

24 And some of the measures outlined in the
25 plan can take some time to implement. One of the

1 specific measures that is highlighted is heat-pump
2 water heaters. I personally installed a heat-pump
3 water heater 20 years ago. There are some good
4 benefits, but it's a high-cost item, and it's one
5 where the technology really hasn't taken a lot of
6 major steps in the last 20 years. And it's
7 identified as a major measure, but we really need to
8 take a hard look at that.

9 The other one, a new measure is ductless
10 heat pumps. We're aggressively pursuing that option.
11 We live in an area where a lot of our customers can
12 take advantage of that, but we haven't had a great
13 deal of participation there. So some of these
14 measures, as outlined, take a lot of customer
15 education to be able to ramp up and bring on-line.

16 We applaud the Council for their efforts.
17 Tom Eckman is a personal friend of mine and does
18 fantastic work in putting these things together. We
19 appreciate that. We appreciate you coming to Idaho
20 Falls and hearing our comments. Thank you.

21 **MR. YOST:** Thank you, Van. Next will be
22 Lane Allgood.

23 **LANE ALLGOOD:** My name is Lane Allgood, L-
24 a-n-e, A-l-l-g-o-o-d. I'm the executive director for
25 an organization called the Partnership For Science

1 and Technology. Our organization is a nonprofit,
2 membership-funded organization made up of regional
3 businesses, organizations, families and individuals.
4 Our mission is to advocate for energy and
5 environmental initiatives that we believe are in the
6 public interest.

7 The Partnership For Science and Technology
8 will be submitting formal comments on the draft
9 later, although we do have a couple of preliminary
10 thoughts.

11 The draft plan lays out very aggressive
12 conservation goals. While we totally understand
13 conservation is an important part of the solution
14 moving forward, the plan does not reflect on the
15 uncertainty of acquiring the conservation savings,
16 and it does not address what happens if the savings
17 are not met.

18 Frankly, the conservation goals are too
19 aggressive, and the power plan should include vision
20 for new resources that we will need over time to
21 support increasing loads in the region. The plan
22 should emphasize the region's historic small carbon
23 footprint, a fact that we're very proud of.

24 And the plan should identify a path forward
25 to continue to meet future load growth with emission-

1 free resources, including nuclear generation. There
2 is virtually no reference to the role that nuclear
3 should play in the region as we meet load in a
4 carbon-constrained world.

5 **MR. YOST:** Thank you, Lane. The last one
6 is Robert --

7 **ROBERT GORGOGLIONE:** Gorgoglione.

8 **MR. YOST:** -- Gorgoglione.

9 **ROBERT GORGOGLIONE:** Well, all I ask,
10 because what I'm going to present is out of the
11 ordinary, and there's a lot of things we must
12 understand, basic economic and -- (inaudible) --
13 principles, we must understand in order to really
14 solve our problems concerning our energy.

15 And at the beginning, if you go back in our
16 history and you study the economic development of our
17 country, you might go back from the Civil War on all
18 the way through World War II. And we could see the
19 growth and development of this country, the growth
20 and development of the railroad, the development of
21 mines, the development of oil wells, all kinds of
22 forms of energy, heavy industries and so forth.

23 This was all done in a period of time when
24 we did not have all these regulations and
25 restrictions, licensing, heavy taxes, inflation of

1 the currency, which drives up prices. We became the
2 industrial giant of the world because government
3 stayed out of our way. As time went on, it began to
4 interfere a little here, a little there until the New
5 Deal, and then it picked up speed.

6 In the last 30 years, it's become so
7 oppressive and so huge, the bureaucracy, that it's
8 literally de-industrialized our country. We are no
9 longer the industrial giant or industrial center of
10 the world. China and Russia and some of the
11 countries in southeast Asia are now the industrial
12 centers of the world. And those countries that have
13 the least amount of government interference in the
14 marketplace are the countries that have the greatest
15 prosperity and the greatest industrialization.

16 Now, it's true that China is a communist,
17 socialized state, but what they have done is freed up
18 the market enough to allow themselves to become
19 industrialized and become an industrial giant, where
20 we have gone the other way, and we seem to have more
21 controls and restrictions on our economy than does
22 China.

23 And I can remember being six -- I'm going
24 to be 66 years old. I can remember when I was a kid,
25 my last year of high school in the early '60s, we

1 were still producing 60 percent of the wealth of the
2 world. At the end of World War II, we produced 80
3 percent of the wealth of the world. But beginning in
4 the 1970s with the EPA, we started to make it very
5 difficult and prohibitive for industry to continue to
6 function and prosper in this country. So they either
7 went out of business, or they moved out of the
8 country, mainly to China and to Singapore, some to
9 Mexico.

10 And the common sense would have told me,
11 you know, these -- I can't help but feel -- I'm going
12 to use the word -- that there's a conspiracy, an
13 organized effort in our government, particularly the
14 federal government, to some extent the state
15 governments, to destroy our ability to be free and
16 productive.

17 You know, people have all kinds of ideas.
18 They have -- you know, if you have a free country, a
19 free market without all the restrictions and
20 licensing and so forth, people that have incentive
21 and knowledge and abilities will have the incentive
22 to go out and create and to produce, to do something.

23 I mean, you take John D. Rockefeller,
24 originally, and some of the other early
25 industrialists. They had a free market. They could

1 go out and do something, grab the resources and
2 develop them. Today you can't do that. Instead, the
3 federal government locks up all these lands and all
4 these resources, like here in Idaho. It's mostly
5 owned by the federal government.

6 Under the Constitution, the federal
7 government is only allowed to have land that is
8 necessary for forests, for post offices, for
9 military, for government office buildings and things
10 like that. That's it. But now the federal government
11 has taken control of all our resources by
12 nationalizing all these lands, and particularly in
13 the western states.

14 And it's -- if this isn't reversed, like
15 our freedom of nuclear power -- initially, we were
16 building nuclear power plants, and the future looked
17 bright because nuclear power was the cheapest and the
18 safest, even the most friendly environmentally, but
19 as time went on, the federal government put
20 restrictions on it, and the environmental movement
21 got very powerful. A lot of the environmental groups
22 financed by the federal government, financed by the
23 big foundations, put the brakes on everything by
24 passing all these environmental laws.

25 And now we find ourselves in serious

1 trouble. We have to have five-year plans. It makes
2 me think of Joseph Stalin in Russia with his five-
3 year plans. Government planning is not the answer.
4 The free market is the answer. Free the individual
5 with his initiative and his energy. Allow him, by
6 not having high taxes and all kinds of regulations,
7 to have the incentive to go out and produce and
8 create, and we will have everything we need and more.
9 Instead of conserving energy, we could produce enough
10 energy that there will be a surplus.

11 I can remember riding way back in 1970,
12 driving down the -- from New York City heading down
13 the Garden State Way for New Jersey, and all the way
14 down for miles and miles you could see oil refineries
15 -- what do you call it? -- storage facilities for oil
16 and natural gas for miles and miles and miles. But a
17 few years ago, being a taxicab driver, I had to go
18 through that same area. It's all gone. It doesn't
19 even exist. It's not there anymore.

20 So instead our government has made it so
21 difficult to produce our own energy, to drill our own
22 oil, put our -- you know, you can't drill oil. You
23 can't build refineries. You can't do any of these
24 things. They haven't built a new refinery in 30
25 years. So we have to import all our oil.

1 I'm going to put it this way: If we continue to
2 prevent the American people, with their initiative
3 and incentive in a free market, to gather all the oil
4 energy we need and we're in a situation like we are
5 now where practically everything we need is coming
6 from overseas, you walk into Wal-Mart, everything is
7 coming from China, if we ever end up in a war -- and
8 this is no fantasy stuff -- if we end up in a war
9 with Russia and China and their allies in the Middle
10 East all at the same time -- it can happen -- we'll
11 be cut off. Our sources, everything we need, energy,
12 all the things we need for the necessities of life
13 will be cut off.

14 This is very serious business. We're in a
15 great danger right now. We're very vulnerable. And
16 right now if you go to goldsilver.com, you will see a
17 lot of -- every day you will see a list of new
18 financial reports coming in. This past week, in
19 particular, it shows that the dollar is about to
20 implode, collapse. And if that happens -- and it's
21 going to; they're all saying it's just a matter of
22 time -- we're going to see economic anarchy.

23 But it seems like we're so indoctrinated
24 and so brainwashed that we can't think anymore and
25 realize that the solution is to free the market, free

1 the American people so they can be productive and
2 creative so we don't have to be importing all these
3 things. We could have such low taxes and eliminate
4 regulations across the board so we could produce
5 everything we need at a cheap price.

6 And I'm going to end it with this: In 1948 or
7 1949, Germany had been devastated by World War II.
8 Her industry was totally wiped out. She was
9 prostate. But a lot of these Nazi, socialist
10 regulations and taxes were still intact. So a man
11 named Konrad Adenauer with a guy named -- I can't
12 remember his name now -- Erhad, they decided they
13 were going to eliminate all the government
14 regulations up to the Nazi regime, just wipe them
15 right out, get rid of them across the board. They
16 did that within a week's time, but also cut --
17 slashed the taxes and the spending.

18 Within ten years, Germany was outproducing
19 industrially Great Britain. This was the economic
20 miracle. They called it the economic miracle at that
21 time. I remember reading it in U.S. News and World
22 Report way back in the early '60s.

23 So if we would just -- you know, I'm going
24 to end it with some basic economic principles so you
25 can understand them. This is from Ezra Taft Benson,

1 the former Secretary of Agriculture. This is what he
2 said in a book that's called "The Proper Law of
3 Government."

4 And he says this: "The principle behind the
5 American philosophy of prosperity can be reduced to a
6 rather simple formula. Economic security for all is
7 impossible without life's abundance. Abundance is
8 impossible without industrious and efficient
9 production. Such production is impossible without
10 energetic, willing and eager labor. "This is
11 impossible without incentive. Of all forms of
12 incentive, your freedom to attain a reward for one's
13 labors is the most sustaining for most people,
14 sometimes called the profit motive. It is simply the
15 right to plan and to earn and to enjoy the fruits of
16 your labor. This profit motive diminishes as
17 government controls and regulations and taxes
18 increase to deny the fruits of success to those who
19 produce. Therefore, any attempt to a governmental
20 intervention to redistribute the material rewards of
21 labor," and I'll add, you know, increasing
22 regulations and controls, "only results in eventual
23 destruction of the productive basic society."

24 Like I said, all our industry has moved
25 overseas. We have no industrial pace anymore to

1 speak of, "without which real abundance and security
2 for more than the ruling of" -- (inaudible) -- "is
3 quite impossible."

4 I just want to end by saying that, you
5 know, we have a constitution, if we follow it, the
6 United States Constitution, if we follow it, that
7 limits the power of government so the individual can
8 be free. Amendment 10 says the power is not delegated
9 to the federal government or reserved to the states.
10 Article 1, Section 8, is about 17 clauses. It
11 actually delegates what powers Congress has and what
12 areas they can legislate, and there's nothing in
13 there that allows the federal government to be
14 regulating and controlling energy to foreign aid,
15 subsidizing farmers. It goes on and on and on.

16 There is no authority for the federal
17 government to do any of these things. And so if we
18 would understand the Constitution, force our elected
19 officials to abide by that law, which they took an
20 oath to abide by, then we can free our country of the
21 bureaucracy, the inflation of the currency, the
22 taxes, the controls, so we can once again become the
23 industrial center of the world and an example to the
24 world of how you can be free and productive at the
25 same time, because that's the answer. Then we can

1 have all the energy we need and more. Thank you.

2 And by the way, I have a lot of research I
3 did over some years of what socialism is and what the
4 Constitution is and various principles and so forth.
5 And if you want to see it, maybe you want a copy,
6 just come over and see me, and you'll see what I'm
7 talking about. It's all right here. And if I send
8 you a computer version, you can open up the link and
9 do a tremendous amount of research.

10 **MR. YOST:** Thank you, Robert. That ends
11 the list of those who wanted to say something, but
12 I'm telling you that you're allowed to say something,
13 and you can change your mind and come up and say
14 what's on your mind. Yes.

15 **BEATRICE BRAILSFORD:** Thank you. My name
16 is Beatrice Brailsford, and I'm with the Snake River
17 Alliance, and Erik Simpson came here this afternoon
18 to hear specifically what we had to say. I would
19 like to -- and I will say that our staff person, Ken
20 Miller, is the person who does our clean energy work.
21 I do our not-so-clean energy work.

22 I would like to commend much of what shows
23 up in the sixth plan. We're very pleased
24 particularly with the conservation and efficiency
25 goals this plan sets. As you know, the fifth power

1 plan did set also some very ambitious goals, which
2 were exceeded and were exceeded ahead of schedule.

3 So I think there is no reason to doubt that
4 this region as a whole is very committed to the goal
5 of energy efficiency and that we can attain these
6 goals so that the projection that we can meet new
7 load, 85 percent of it, with energy efficiency is a
8 very welcome projection and I think gives us a good
9 path to go down.

10 And I'll note that somewhere between the
11 fifth plan and the sixth plan the State of Idaho
12 developed a new energy plan of our own. It is not
13 out of sync with the work that you folks are doing so
14 that I think, you know, the legislature has some more
15 work to do, but that, you know, it is a demonstration
16 of the importance of the kind of regional planning
17 that you're undertaking.

18 I will say that this region has to look
19 more intensely at carbon constraints. It is
20 undeniable that we will probably at some point in the
21 near future have carbon constraints of some point --
22 of some sort. And Idaho, you know, we're lagging.
23 The three other states in the region have set some
24 carbon goals. Idaho hasn't. I think maybe you folks
25 can help encourage this region to move forward in

1 that direction.

2 I will say that even though the State
3 hasn't set carbon goals, I don't know how many people
4 outside Idaho heard about it, but the shareholders of
5 Idaho Power did successfully force that utility to
6 look more carefully at how it can generate power
7 without -- you know, without carbon right now. I
8 know we like to think so much that this is a very
9 low-carbon area, but 40 percent of Idaho's power --
10 Idaho Power's power comes from coal. And anything
11 that the plan here today or decision-makers can do to
12 encourage a course away from coal-fired plants, I
13 think, is laudable.

14 The Snake River Alliance, too, will be
15 submitting written comments in the future. Thank
16 you.

17 **MR. YOST:** Thank you, Beatrice. Anyone
18 else? We're going to take -- we're going to recess
19 now and just adjourn temporarily, see if someone else
20 may show up in a few minutes. They may have had to
21 work till 5:00. And so we're just going to recess
22 for a few minutes. And so just relax or -- thank you
23 for coming, but you're welcome to stick around.
24 We're going to stay here and see if a few more folks
25 show up that want to present testimony. So thank

1 you.

2 **(Recess taken.)**

3 **MR. YOST:** The meeting is back in session,
4 and we're going to adjourn as we're approaching the
5 deadline for the meeting. So we now stand adjourned
6 at this hearing.

7 **(Hearing adjourned at 5:45 p.m.)**

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1 CERTIFICATE

2
3 I, Amy Horsley, do hereby certify that pursuant
4 to the Rules of Civil Procedure, the witness named
5 herein appeared before me at the time and place set
6 forth in the caption herein; that at the said time
7 and place, I reported in stenotype all testimony
8 adduced and other oral proceedings had in the
9 foregoing matter; and that the foregoing transcript
10 pages constitute a full, true and correct record of
11 such testimony adduced and oral proceeding had and
12 of the whole thereof.

13
14 IN WITNESS HEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this
15 28th day of October, 2008.

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20 /Signed January 18, 2014
21 Amy Horsley Commission Expiration
22
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