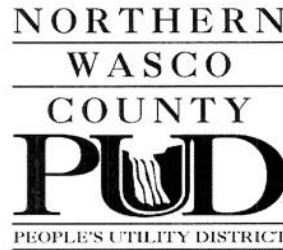


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January 23, 2008

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

RE: Comments of Council's
Sixth Pacific Northwest Power and Conservation Plan

Dear Mr. Walker,

The elected board of directors of Northern Wasco County PUD located in The Dalles, Oregon has discussed this important matter and wishes to submit the following comments for your consideration. These comments were unanimously approved.

We appreciate the Council asking for public input as part of your preparation in developing the region's 6th Power and Energy Plan. Given its historic charter, rich experience and responsible independence, the Council is in a unique role to analyze and present relevant information to the public surrounding the broad issue of energy and related policies' impact on our future. In your solicitation communiqué for comments you stated that it is the Council's intent to provide the region with a blueprint to a *secure and cost-effective energy future*. [Emphasis added] The public memo went on to state that the challenge of balancing the need for energy with the environment is more crucial than ever, and will require rigorous and in-depth analysis of the issues. The key issues you have already identified for inclusion in the Plan are: climate change and related policies; capacity to meet loads on an annual, daily, hourly, and sub-hourly basis; expanding the menu of efficiency and generating resource choices; transmission constraints and their impact on electricity markets and resource development; power plan interactions with the fish and wildlife program; and appropriate avoided cost measures for resource decisions.

These key issues are certainly relevant for inclusion in the Plan. We have great concern for the ultimate cost to our customers regarding the states renewable portfolio standards; carbon mitigation measures; new firm (and firming) generation; and the construction of adequate transmission facilities. We would encourage the Council to include an analysis to determine the current portion of our regional GNP that has been dedicated to or consumed (disposable income) for the purchase of energy. If one believes that electric energy is an essential service and that *an adequate supply of energy at affordable prices* is a prerequisite to a robust and healthy economy and quality of life, then is there a point

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at which energy costs adversely impact our economy and quality of life? Will our economy and standard of living continue to grow regardless of energy costs and/or availability and adequacy of supply? In order for our overall standard of living to improve it is our understanding that an 'economy', whether we are talking about a state, region or national economy must grow with the wealth from such expansion dispersed to/shared with the citizens causing the expansion. Can or will our economy grow if energy costs become too high (disproportionate to total income) and/or if the supply of energy is insufficient or constrained? We feel strongly that the inclusion of an energy cost impact analysis on the various elements of your 6th Power Plan would be valuable information to the region's policy makers and its citizens. We all desire to better protect our environment. The challenge we face, is not in defining the goal (environmental stewardship), but rather the adoption of realistic transitional public energy policies that will foster economic growth while we develop the technologies required to meet our citizen's expectations of environmental stewardship. To accomplish this, we will need to fully deploy our technological capabilities. We feel it is imperative that we inject economic consciousness in adopting energy policies. We believe the Planning and Conservation Council is the perfect place and in the perfect position to direct us on such a course and energy policy frontier.

We thank you for this opportunity to comment and we hope you will consider including our suggested analyses and risk assessments into the region's Sixth Power Plan.

Sincerely,

/s/ Dwight Langer

Dwight Langer
General Manager

cc: Board of Directors
General Counsel