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**THE 2021 POWER PLAN
HOSTED BY OREGON**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
PUBLIC MEETING BY REMOTE VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**HELD ON
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2021
1:30 P.M.**

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THE 2021 POWER PLAN
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HELD ON
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2021
1:30 P.M.

CHAIR DEVLIN: Good afternoon, everyone.

I will call this public hearing to order. My name is Richard Devlin and I'll be co-chairing this hearing with Chuck Sams. We are both councilmembers from the state of Oregon.

We'd like to welcome you to today's public hearing on the Council's Draft 2021 Northwest Power Plan. Today's hearing is being held via GoToMeeting and by telephone conference line. Anyone wishing to provide testimony should sign up on the council's website for the Oregon hearing. And you may sign up to provide testimony at any time during this hearing.

As the first order of business, I will read a statement about the hearing for the record, then review today's public hearing procedures, then I will have members of the council introduce

1 themselves briefly. And, finally, I will have the
2 council's director of Power Planning give a short
3 overview of the Draft 2021 Northwest Power Plan.

4 Now, for the record. Under what is known
5 as the Northwest Power Act, the Northwest Power and
6 Conservation Council is required to develop a
7 Regional Conservation and Electric Power Plan and
8 review that plan every five years. The council is
9 now engaged in its latest Power Plan review and
10 revision.

11 As part of this process, we recently
12 released the Draft Power Plan for public review and
13 comment. The council is conducting this public
14 hearing to receive oral comments on its Draft Power
15 Plan.

16 This public hearing is being held
17 virtually due to the ongoing pandemic. This hearing
18 and the testimony provided tonight is being
19 recorded. The transcript of this hearing will be
20 circulated to all council members and placed in the
21 administrative record for the Power Plan.

22 The council has held public hearings like
23 this one for the past couple of weeks and we'll hold
24 another hearing later this week.

25 In addition, the council is also accepting

1 written comments on the draft Power Plan through
2 November 19th, 2021. Importantly, all oral and
3 written comments submitted on the draft Power Plan
4 will be considered by the council as it makes its
5 decision on the final Power Plan.

6 For more information on the Draft 2021
7 Northwest Power Plan including the Draft Plan itself
8 as well as the supporting materials, please visit
9 the council's website at www.nwcouncil.org.

10 As a reminder, you may submit written
11 comments by using the provide comment link on the
12 webpage devoted to the Draft Power Plan or by
13 submitted comments to comments@nwcouncil.org.

14 Colleagues and members of the public that
15 are part of this hearing, the -- the council values
16 civil discourse and I think it helps in our
17 deliberations. And, as such, the council has a code
18 of conduct. It can be found on our website. And we
19 expect all participants to review and abide by this
20 code of conduct throughout today's hearings.

21 This hearing will run for two hours until
22 3:30 p.m. Pacific Time, 4:30 p.m. Mountain Time.

23 Again, as a reminder, anyone wishing to
24 provide public testimony, please sign up on the
25 council's website for the Oregon hearing. Once you

1 sign up, your name will appear on our list. You may
2 sign up at any time during the hearing to provide
3 testimony.

4 Individuals will be able to track the
5 order of the speakers on the GoToMeeting screen.
6 Before I conclude the hearing, I will confirm
7 whether there are any participants that have dialed
8 in by phone only that want to provide testimony.
9 Depending upon the -- the number of persons signed
10 up to testify, we may need to establish time limits
11 on testimony, but hope that will not be necessary.

12 In a moment I will ask staff to provide a
13 brief overview of how we arrived at this point in
14 our process. But before staff provides this
15 presentation, I would like to invite remarks of all
16 councilmembers present this evening. First I will
17 go to Councilmember Chuck Sams from Oregon.

18 **MR. SAMS:** Thank you, everyone. We look
19 forward to hearing your comments. And for those who
20 are submitting in writing, we also look forward to
21 reading them. Thank you for joining us today and
22 thank you, Mr. Chairman.

23 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Thank you. Now I will go
24 to Idaho and Council Member Jim Yost. Jim, do you
25 have anything to say? If not, I will go onto

1 Council Member Jeff Allen.

2 **MR. ALLEN:** Thank you, Chair Devlin.

3 Appreciate the opportunity to participate. I guess
4 one silver lining to all this mess has been able to
5 attend all the hearings. And I'll speak on behalf
6 of Member Yost and myself, we're looking forward to
7 the testimony. Thanks.

8 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Thank you, Member Allen.

9 I will now go on to Member Grob from
10 Montana.

11 **MR. MADRON:** Member Grob, you are muted.

12 **MR. GROB:** Hello, all. I'm glad you're
13 all here and interested in this plan and wanting to
14 make comment. And it's good to see you all here.
15 Thank you very much. Thank you Chair Devlin.

16 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Thank you. Member Milburn
17 from Montana.

18 **MR. MILBURN:** Thank you very much. I'll
19 turn this video off here, but I just want to thank
20 everyone for participating today, showing interest,
21 and look forward to your testimony. Thank you, Mr.
22 Chair.

23 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Okay. And now Member Oshie
24 from Washington and the chair of the Power
25 Committee.

1 **MR. OSHIE:** Thank you, Chair Devlin.

2 I just want to just really emulate what
3 others have said. This is a -- an important part of
4 the council's development of the Power Plan. And we
5 really are -- we very much appreciate the time that
6 is spent, both, for joining our plan and making
7 comments on it. And with that, I just want to thank
8 those that are participating today very much for
9 your -- for your work, so.

10 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Okay. Thank you. Thank
11 you, Member Oshie.

12 Chad, has any other member of the council
13 joined the conversation?

14 **MR. MADRON:** No, I do not believe so.

15 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Okay. So I'll now go on to
16 Ben Kujala, the director of Power Planning for the
17 council, to provide a brief overview of the Draft
18 2021 Northwest Power Plan.

19 Ben, please proceed.

20 **MR. KUJALA:** Thank you, Chair Devlin.

21 Actually, Chad, do you want to go over
22 just a technical sort of participation details
23 before we get into the presentation?

24 **MR. MADRON:** Sure, thanks.

25 Just really quickly to everyone who's

1 attending, just a reminder to leave your cameras off
2 unless you're giving testimony. If you are signed
3 up to give testimony and you see that the page was
4 linked -- who's signed up to give testimony today
5 and I'm showing it on the screen. This will be
6 showing during the meeting during the testimony
7 phase, you can turn your camera on during your
8 testimony if you wish. You're not required to.

9 So those -- you can find all the links to
10 various things including the list of presenters
11 today on the Oregon hearing page.

12 For those who have called in by phone
13 especially, please be aware if you've muted your
14 phone, we will turn to you occasionally. I see a
15 few folks connected only by phone to make sure we
16 haven't missed anyone who wanted to sign up or is
17 signed up. But we have had some noise over the last
18 couple of hearings, so please be aware if your phone
19 is unmuted.

20 And with that, I'll go ahead and turn to
21 the PowerPoint. Just a moment, I'll bring that
22 right up.

23 **MR. KUJALA:** Thank you, Chad.

24 **MR. MADRON:** All right.

25 **MR. KUJALA:** And it looks like I have

1 control. So we want to just give a quick overview
2 of the Draft 2021 Power Plan. And to do that I
3 wanted to go back and give just a little bit of
4 background as to why we have a Regional Power Plan.

5 So, really power planning mistakes in the
6 1970s led to unneeded investments and power plants
7 that ended up not being built. And really Northwest
8 consumers ended up paying millions of dollars for
9 those plants. The failure of those back sort of era
10 of power planning prompted Congress to write the
11 Northwest Power Act which was approved in 1980.

12 The Power Act is the state's voice in
13 decisions pertaining to the federal system, in
14 particular, about how Bonneville hires resources.
15 And the council is tasked to ensure an adequate,
16 efficient, economical, and reliable power supply.

17 The Act authorized four states to adopt an
18 interstate compact. And it directed the council to
19 connect regional energy planning focusing on the
20 least cost resource to meet future demand for power
21 and focus especially on conservation or energy
22 efficiency. The Power Act directs the council to
23 review this power plan at least every five years.

24 So, the 2021 Power Plan is looking at a
25 time where there's a lot of change within our region

1 and within the energy system at large. We've seen
2 states, municipalities, and utilities adopting clean
3 energy and carbonization goals. And really many of
4 the power plants that are fueled by coal are either
5 no longer economical or efficient and either have
6 retired or planning to retire over the next decade.

7 We see a lot of electricity generation
8 shifting away from fossil fuels to a more renewable
9 mix of generation. Solar, wind power, in
10 particular, are becoming less expensive. And that
11 low cost is really driving down power prices at
12 particular times of the day especially during the
13 middle of the day. And we see a lot of other types
14 of generation backing off during those periods.

15 Relying increasingly on variable
16 generation, of course, has risk that comes along
17 with it. But we do expect the power supply will
18 remain adequate and reliable if the recommendations
19 in the 2021 Plan are adopted.

20 Just a little bit of background on the
21 Northwest Power System. I'm sure many people on
22 this call already know it, but please bear with me
23 for those who might be a little less familiar with
24 our system. Most of our energy comes from
25 hydroelectric generation. We do certainly still

1 have natural gas a substantial part of the
2 generation that we use within the Northwest. And
3 wind is a pretty substantial chunk as well as you
4 can see. But the predominate source of our energy
5 comes from hydroelectric.

6 We also have done a lot of energy
7 efficiency over the -- the last 40 years since the
8 power of the sun. So right now by our calculation,
9 the region has saved over 7,200 average megawatts
10 from energy efficiency making it really the second
11 largest resource behind hydro if you look at it as a
12 -- a source of energy. We don't have it within the
13 generation, but it's kind of on the other side by
14 reducing demand. So energy efficiency has been a
15 huge resource for the Northwest and one that we've
16 been very successful bringing forward.

17 We also project the demand for electricity
18 over the next 20 years. And you can see that in and
19 around 2001 there was an energy crisis which caused
20 a lot of demand to disappear from the Northwest when
21 we have large industrial plants, in particular,
22 aluminum smelters that were closed.

23 Our load has grown since then. And we
24 anticipate during this plan on -- at least we
25 expect, barring very low economic outcomes, that we

1 would get back to the level that we were prior to
2 2001 in regional load and potentially even go above
3 that level.

4 The Power Plan puts forth a resource
5 strategy. And I think it's a very balanced resource
6 strategy. We saw a lot of different analysis and a
7 lot of different scenarios where you might have
8 different decisions. And the council looked over
9 all of the hundreds, if not thousands of different
10 model runs and policies that were brought in front
11 of the Power Committee or the council as a whole and
12 in addition to many advisory committees and a lot
13 people of the public.

14 Through that, we looked at a strategy to
15 put forth between 750 and 1,000 average megawatts of
16 energy efficiency by 2027, at least 3,500 megawatts
17 of renewable resource and to encourage utilities to
18 go get any low cost and frequently deployable demand
19 response that is available.

20 Our forecast shows a sharp decline in the
21 emissions coming from the electric sector. However,
22 if you would look at other sectors in the economy,
23 we actually affect that. Emissions, while they will
24 fall within the electric sector of between lower
25 than 1990 levels down to, basically, 17 million

1 metric times this year to an equivalent on an
2 expected basis from where we were in 1990 which was
3 around 46. The economy, as a whole, we see a growth
4 in some of the emissions and it might go down from
5 some of the nearer term years. But, overall, we do
6 see that emissions will be above 1990 levels from
7 maybe because of transportation as well as some
8 other uses outside the electric sector.

9 So we have a bunch of supporting material.
10 You can get to our Power Plan document and the
11 report that is available on our website. And we
12 have a bunch of supporting material as well on our
13 website that goes through in depth all in this
14 source of analysis and the --- the support for the
15 conclusions of the resource strategy and we at
16 public hearing.

17 You can get to our website through that.
18 And, of course, we are in our public comment period.
19 So this hearing is one of the ways that we are
20 receiving public comment. And we appreciate people
21 logging on and giving comment here. We also have
22 the ability to get comments on line through our
23 website and our web form. And we also can take
24 comments by email if you just want to send an email
25 to comments@nwcouncil.org.

1 So that's the general review of our Power
2 Plan. And we are looking forward to hearing from
3 you. And will that I will turn it back over to you,
4 Chair Devlin.

5 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Thank you, Ben.

6 Members of the council, there are six of
7 us present. You are free to have your cameras on or
8 off. But I would appreciate a few on, so it doesn't
9 look to the public like I'm the only one present.

10 We will now begin hearing from those who
11 have signed up to testify. And the first name on
12 the screen is Craig Patterson to be forwarded by
13 Jennifer Joly.

14 Please begin your testimony by clearly
15 stating your name and organization if you're
16 representing an organization. When you state your
17 name, please just spell your last name. There is no
18 need to give us your address. And please limit your
19 testimony to five minutes.

20 Mr. Patterson, are you ready to begin?

21 **MR. PATTERSON:** Yes. Thank you very much.

22 My name is Craig Patterson, P-a-t-t-e-r-s-
23 o-n. And I'm a grandfather, so I guess I'm here
24 representing the grandfather's perspective.

25 First I want to apologize for my comments

1 in the past where my frustration overcame my ability
2 to just speak what I needed to say. And I wanted to
3 apologize. I will not do that again. My intent is
4 to communicate openly and transparently with you.

5 My perspective is a little different than
6 many. I really started my involvements in
7 conservation 54 years ago when I bought a geodesic
8 dome and studied R. Buckminster Fuller who talked
9 about less is more. And I've followed that
10 throughout my life.

11 Some of the comments that I would like to
12 make regarding the draft plan and I have, once
13 again, give kudos, the -- the supportive documents,
14 in particular, are very extensive and I appreciate
15 that very much. However, when I look at BPA's data
16 from their fact sheets, 2020 in particular and --
17 and others because I've been involved in this for a
18 long time, I see discrepancies between the numbers
19 that the Planning Council is using and that which
20 BPA is using.

21 For example, the 7,000 megawatts that have
22 been saved since '78 according to the Power Plan,
23 BPA's numbers are 2,357 megawatts, a roughly a third
24 of what Power Plan numbers are. And that is
25 consistent throughout. When you look at the

1 different numbers for residential, for example, the
2 plan says between 2010 and 2018, 939 megawatts were
3 saved. The Power Planning Council says it was 542
4 in 38 years, not 8 years. So there's some
5 discrepancies there that I -- I think need to be
6 explored a little bit more.

7 Also, when we recognize in conservation
8 that we have been focusing on the low-hanging fruit
9 like lighting and other things and that the
10 weatherization gap with people who have maybe low
11 income, but are high users because their housing
12 stock is very substandard needs to be addressed.
13 But how do we address it with the current system?

14 I think that there are some things that
15 need to be looked at further including when you look
16 at BPA's fact sheets, a whopping 2 percent of BPA's
17 public power sales in Oregon are regulated. 98
18 percent are going to the COUs, the customer-owned
19 utilities.

20 I've been with a cooperative for 50 years.
21 And what's instructive is for the first 40 years of
22 its existence, there were no rate increases at all.
23 Since there have been 23 or 24 rate increases.

24 And when you look at -- when you compare
25 utilities relative to different usage and, like I

1 said, I conserve to the umpth degree, I use roughly
2 around 200 kilowatts a month. When you look at that
3 and compare it to different utilities and look at
4 the percentage that I'm paying in basic charge, I'm
5 paying 60, 70 percent in basic charge to Layne
6 Electric or Blachly-Lane or West Oregon, whereas, I
7 would be paying 27 or 28 percent to a regulated
8 utilities.

9 The other thing about conservation I think
10 that that has to be addressed is that 98 percent of
11 our conservation programs are deemed or projected
12 savings. They're not verified after the fact. And
13 I think part of the confusion is between energy
14 efficiency and conservation. Conservation means
15 using less. Energy efficiency use -- means using
16 less of a particular -- for a particular source, but
17 not necessarily overall using less. And I think
18 that that is a compounding problem that we need to
19 see.

20 Plus if we did have rate structure be the
21 determinates of conservation, it would be easy
22 because everybody gets a bill every month. And when
23 you realize that some utilities -- West Oregon have
24 told me they have one user that used 22,000 KWH in a
25 month and they have a declining block rate. So that

1 totally supports consumption and not conservation.

2 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Mr. Patterson, the five
3 minutes is up, but I'll give you a minute to close.

4 **MR. PATTERSON:** Thank you very much.

5 There's major transitions ahead with coal
6 curtailments, with, you know, the -- the -- the main
7 thing I want to say organized markets, I think, are
8 the key here. If we organize the markets around
9 conservation and -- and charge for excessive --
10 excessive consumption and put that extra revenue to
11 conservation, it could be a win-win for everybody.
12 Thank you very much.

13 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Thank you, Mr. Patterson.

14 Okay. We will now go onto Jennifer Joly.
15 And then after her will be Eugene I believe it's
16 Rosolie.

17 Ms. Joly, would you introduce yourself?

18 **MS. JOLY:** Yes, can you hear me?

19 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Yes, quite clearly.

20 **MS. JOLY:** Okay, great. Good afternoon
21 Chair Devlin and Councilman Sams and members of the
22 council. I'm Jennifer Joly spelled J-o-l-y. I'm
23 the director of the Oregon Municipal Electric
24 Utilities Association. OMEU is made up of 11 non-
25 profit city-owned electric utilities. And we're

1 governed by our city councils and local governing
2 boards.

3 OMEU members purchase nearly all of our
4 energy from the Bonneville Power administration
5 which is carbon-free hydro from the Columbia River.

6 Thank you to you and your staff for the
7 massive education and outreach efforts on the Draft
8 2021 Power Plan. The plan depends on the
9 reliability and flexibility of the hydropower system
10 to balance the intermittent solar and wind resources
11 that you're anticipating. With that in mind, it's
12 important that the council clearly recognize the
13 necessity of maintaining all of our productive
14 hydrocarbon-free hydropower resources especially in
15 light of 100 percent clean energy policies,
16 aggressive electrification targets, and transmission
17 siting hurdles.

18 We need to ensure that the lower Snake
19 River dams continue to produce power to avoid an
20 electric reliability emergency declaration like
21 we've seen in California. With all the stresses on
22 the grid like extreme heat and wildfire, California
23 is beginning to recognize that wind and solar won't
24 be able to cover the power shortfalls. They're
25 actually ordering new gas units to avoid blackouts.

1 We think the council should continue to
2 examine the Plan's resource adequacy assumptions
3 which would certainly be exacerbated by removing
4 carbon-free resources at the same time we're trying
5 to get to 100 percent clean.

6 OMEU appreciates the sound approach the
7 Plan takes on energy efficiency. We think the
8 proposed target range makes sense and recognizes
9 that the region has largely adopted all of the low-
10 hanging fruit measures. As a result, conservation
11 is becoming more expensive.

12 Thank you. We look forward to continued
13 engagement on the plaintiff.

14 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Thank you, Ms. Joly.

15 We'll now go on to Eugene Rosolie. And
16 then after Eugene we'll go on to Bryce Yonker.

17 Eugene, will you please state your name
18 for the record and spell your last name and the
19 organization you represent and then begin your
20 testimony.

21 **MR. ROSOLIE:** Thank you, Mr. Chair.

22 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** You're very soft, you might
23 try to turn up your volume.

24 **MR. ROSOLIE:** Okay. I'll do my best.

25 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** That's great right there.

1 That's great.

2 Okay. Eugene Rosolie, R-o-s-o-l-i-e and I
3 am representing Northwest Environment Advocates as a
4 board member of Northwest Environment Advocates.

5 Just a little bit of background. NWEA has
6 been around for well over 50 years now, got formed
7 in 1969 to oppose the operation and construction of
8 the Trojan Nuclear Power Plant.

9 In terms of myself, a little bit of my
10 background. I, of course, have been an activist,
11 but also I worked at PNGC Power for 10 years and
12 helped the 15 coop members of PNGC with their
13 conservation programs. I also was conservation
14 manager at Cowlitz PUD for several years. And then
15 also worked at NEEA for seven years as stakeholder
16 relations. And I spent 13 years as a voting member
17 of the RTF.

18 So, I'm just going to give a brief
19 overview today. I'm not necessarily -- will reserve
20 our extensive comments for written comments.

21 I think I would -- first of all, I think
22 as the previous speaker said, I think we need to pat
23 ourselves on the back, first of all, for the amount
24 of energy efficiency conversation that we have done
25 over the years. And I think the plan recognizes

1 those accomplishments.

2 And also I'd like to recognize council's
3 staff for the amount of work that they put in to
4 putting together the plan. I know it's no easy task
5 having been on several of the advisory committees
6 for past plans. So kudos to -- to staff whom I've
7 worked with on other issues as well.

8 So, I -- I think that the council targets
9 for energy efficiency are probably in the right area
10 and that range, I think, is a good one because we
11 know in the past council has usually set a hard
12 target and it's always been contentious. And I
13 think having the range takes away some of that
14 intention and leads to, perhaps, better outcomes
15 overall.

16 And, also, we want to emphasize that it's
17 good to see the council also emphasize NEEA's role
18 in the region because I think as we move forward and
19 as particularly different technologies change, it's
20 going to be important that there is an organization
21 such as NEEA to make sure that we keep innovating
22 and improving our energy efficiency.

23 In terms of the targets for BPA, I think
24 it's only right that BPA only be responsible for the
25 load that it serves and not all of the power. And I

1 don't see any reason why BPA needs to be responsible
2 for Chelan PUD, for instance, or the other mid-Cs.
3 So it's very supportive of the council's position on
4 that.

5 And then a couple other issues. I talk
6 about in council does in terms of equity and making
7 sure those people who are at least able to afford
8 energy efficiency are served. And I think there's,
9 again, recognizing that there's been a lot of work
10 done and continues to be done in the region to
11 address those issues. And some of them having
12 worked with low income agencies, et cetera, it's --
13 there's a lot of complications in getting those
14 services out to low income.

15 And, again, it is, I think, recognizing
16 that BPA does have a low-income work group that
17 coordinates between the utilities and low income and
18 state agencies and recognizing that. And I think,
19 again, is somewhat important.

20 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Mr. Rosolie --

21 **MR. ROSOLIE:** Yes.

22 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Mr. Rosolie, if you close
23 in the next minute.

24 **MR. ROSOLIE:** Oh, okay. So, finally, I
25 would just mention, I think, that the idea of

1 microgrids and distributed generations needs more
2 intention from the council if we're talking about
3 building resiliency for the grid.

4 And I'll leave my comments there and thank
5 you very much.

6 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Thank you very much, Mr.
7 Rosolie.

8 We will now go onto Bryce Yonker and
9 following Mr. Yonker will be Aaron and I apologize
10 if I'm mispronouncing this Choate.

11 Mr. Yonker, please state your name for the
12 record, spell your last name. And if you're
13 representing an organization, please identify that
14 organization.

15 **MR. YONKER:** Hi, my name is Bryce Yonker,
16 Y-o-n-k-e-r. I'm the executive director of an
17 organization called Grid Forward.

18 Thank you, Chair Devlin, Councilmember
19 Sams, and council staff and all councilmembers for
20 this opportunity to provide public comment.

21 We, Grid Forward, is an organization that
22 started in 2010 working to accelerate modernization
23 and energy innovation across the wider regional
24 energy marketplaces. I have been executive director
25 for now six years.

1 I appreciate the deep work by the council
2 to look at a host of information and provide this
3 very comprehensive plan. And I -- and there's a
4 couple of things that we would like to call
5 attention to in our comments. I have eight areas.
6 I'll probably be able to cover four in my remarks.

7 Before getting into my remarks, I
8 appreciate the climate-specific analysis that was
9 done for this plan. We are now seeing the impacts
10 of climate unfold and the implications over the 20-
11 year horizon will be all the more applicable. We
12 know that this is just a start and hope it's the
13 first step on applying this intelligence into the
14 plan.

15 We appreciate the inclusion of demand-side
16 resources and efficiency as key aspects and building
17 blocks to meet supply. I'll have some remarks as to
18 those topic areas.

19 All right. Regarding our remarks and I'll
20 go through at least four, probably just those four
21 since we're quick today.

22 Section 6 talks about how the Power Plan
23 should form explicitly evaluate a broader range of
24 resource. The Power Act suggests that the council
25 should evaluate these resources rather than punt to

1 Bonneville and other regional stake holders. And we
2 do not think there's sufficient analysis in this
3 plan on those other aspects.

4 Specifically, the plan references in a
5 limited capacity battery storage, some analysis of
6 pumped hydro, though most of it capped at a four-
7 hour duration. So, for example, longer time horizon
8 storage considerations would be productive as well
9 as storage plus renewables such as solar.

10 There's very brief mention of hydrogen
11 fuel cell. I see that there will be people talking
12 about that, so I'll leave that for others.

13 Expanding consideration of leveraging
14 distributed resources should be given more analysis.
15 Resources like electric vehicles, distributed solar,
16 hot water heaters, thermostats deserve a more
17 complex and complete set of analysis for regional
18 consideration.

19 Second area of our feedback is that we
20 believe that meeting the needs of regional energy
21 demand analyzing mostly generation resources in a
22 silo need to be broken down. We think it's good to
23 see further consideration of regional market
24 structure in this plan. However, the decreased need
25 of energy efficiency in the somewhat limited

1 capacity of demand side management, we think, sends
2 the wrong signal to the region. And the lack of
3 analysis on advanced grid capabilities fails to
4 consider the needs of the system in fact -- in
5 factors that are advancing and evolving rapidly.

6 Related to that last point, we think that
7 advancing the capabilities of the grid through
8 modernization investments are critical to meeting
9 near and longer term solutions for the region and
10 should be considered in the plan. We understand the
11 scope, the Power Plan and council and the Act. But
12 as we've outlined above and are happy to provide
13 further information in written comments capabilities
14 like consumer empowerment, DBR integration, advanced
15 communication, grid analytics, real-time monitoring,
16 advanced forecasting, electric vehicle optimization,
17 and many more are accelerating rapidly and an
18 aggregate will have significant implications on a
19 regional energy marketplace.

20 Fourth, we appreciate the inclusion of
21 resiliency in the plan. However, two paragraphs on
22 such a significant topic we believe are not
23 sufficient. Just look at the last 12 months. We've
24 had record-breaking heat events. We've had record-
25 breaking outages from winter storm. We have a

1 looming threat from a significant earthquake with
2 maybe a tsunami. Wild fires have ravaged the
3 region. Fortunate for us, cyber-attacks didn't
4 impact this region, but they impacted the county and
5 this is just in the last handful of months.

6 The region needs to significantly consider
7 the implications of high impact, what are becoming
8 increasingly probable events. And we would
9 encourage the council to put these analysis into the
10 plan.

11 We're happy to submit additional thoughts.
12 We have additional feedback in our written remarks.
13 And thank you for this opportunity to share.

14 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Thank you very much, Mr.
15 Yonker. And please submit those written comments.

16 We will now go onto Aaron Choate and if --
17 and following -- following Aaron then we will go to
18 Michelle Detwiler.

19 Aaron, could you please state your name,
20 spell your last name. And if you're representing an
21 organization, identify that organization. Mr.
22 Choate, are you there?

23 **MR. MADRON:** Member Devlin, I -- I muted
24 all the phones that have just called in, but I did
25 not see his name in the signup list and no one on

1 the phone is only identifying themselves so.

2 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Okay. We'll keep checking
3 and I'll go on now to Michelle Detwiler followed by
4 Gregory Bowers.

5 Ms. Detwiler, will you state your name,
6 spell your last name and the organization that you
7 represent and -- and give your testimony.

8 **MS. DETWILER:** Good afternoon, Chair
9 Devlin, Councilmember Sams, and members of the
10 council. Thank you for the opportunity to comment
11 today on the Draft 2021 Northwest Power Plan.

12 My name is Michelle Detwiler, D-e-t-w-i-l-
13 e-r and I'm the executive director of the Renewable
14 Hydrogen Alliance.

15 RHA is a non-profit Pacific Northwest
16 Focus Trade Association based in Portland, Oregon
17 with over 75 members. RHA promotes the use of
18 removable electricity to produce hydrogen and other
19 carbon-neutral fuels. Our members range across the
20 hydrogen sector and include electrolyzer and vehicle
21 manufacturers, electric and gas utilities, fueling
22 station developers and many others dedicated to
23 renewable hydrogen is a critical component of the
24 region's low carbon future.

25 We will be filing more detailed comments

1 in writing, but today we are just providing a high-
2 level overview of our comments and concern.

3 In brief, RHA agrees and supports the
4 following aspects of the 2021 Power Plan staff
5 conclusion for the first time of hydrogen-related
6 technology and its potential as a clean energy
7 resource. Addressing electrolytic hydrogen in a
8 context of use and the transportation fuel, an
9 analysis of electricity demand for hydrogen
10 production.

11 Recognition that hydrogen fuel cell
12 electric passenger vehicles may be better suited
13 than battery electric vehicles in areas of the
14 region where consumers require reliable long range
15 in cold weather vehicle performance.

16 However, RHA also has the following
17 concerns. First, there are a few of the
18 contradictory statements about the availability of
19 renewable resources to produce enough hydrogen to
20 meet forecasted needs of the transportation sector.
21 Initially the plan states that there will be ample
22 renewable electricity resources to meet that need
23 and states this production will require so many
24 resources that it may pose risks to the adequacy of
25 the power supply and then refers to expected

1 significant curtailments of those renewable
2 resources.

3 Furthermore, the plan fails to recognize
4 the role of electrolytic hydrogen in mitigating --
5 in mitigating such curtailment in providing
6 operational efficiency for avoiding constrains on
7 the grid.

8 Second, only the specific impact from
9 hydrogen electrolysis on the region's load growth
10 was called out with no mention of the impacts of a
11 low growth from charging battery electric vehicles.

12 Third, the plan highlights the low cost of
13 renewable resources along with robust climate
14 policies and renewable portfolios standards across
15 the western states that are driving acquisitions to
16 significant level of renewable resources.

17 But there is no discussion of a potential
18 value of hydrogen as a renewable electricity storage
19 meaning. In fact, there is no discussion of any
20 type of storage. Despite the fact that renewables
21 plus storage systems are already in development in
22 the region. In fact, the USDOE recognizes removable
23 hydrogen storage is a multi-faceted management tool
24 enhancing flexibility and reliability of the
25 electrical grid. We believe in added value is it

1 could increase the effective capacity of wind,
2 solar, and hydro resources.

3 Thank you again for the opportunity to
4 comment. RHA supports the council's efforts to
5 provide a plan that acknowledges the significant
6 paradigm shift in the region's power planning,
7 resource needs and policies being driven by the
8 effects of the warming climate.

9 We would like to remind the council and
10 staff that using hydrogen is not new technology.
11 What is new is that it can now be produced cleanly
12 and used to decarbonize multiple energy and fuel
13 intensive sectors. And we would like to see that
14 potential value emphasized more in the 2021 plan.
15 RHA is available to service with resource and assist
16 staff in that effort. Thank you.

17 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Thank you very much, Ms.
18 Detwiler.

19 We'll now go onto Gregory Bowers to be
20 followed by Kurt Miller.

21 Mr. Bowers, if you could please state your
22 name for the record. If you're here on behalf of an
23 organization, identify that organization. Spell
24 your last name, and please give your testimony.

25 **MR. BOWERS:** Good afternoon. This is

1 Gregory Bowers, B-o-w-e-r-s.

2 My first comment is regarding the plan is
3 that it admits concerning the critical and most
4 crucial issue of the emission from coal plants of
5 the harmful toxin, fine particular matter
6 abbreviated PM 2.5.

7 I find that every pertinent peer-reviewed
8 analysis for review of the effects of PM 2.5 find
9 that it widely -- such as that which is widely
10 disbursed by coal plants causes deaths and
11 morbidity. A safe level of exposure to PM 2.5 is
12 not known.

13 The estimated impacts of past PM 2.5
14 emissions in the Northwest is -- has been calculated
15 and to estimate about over 1,000 Northwest residents
16 have been -- died as a result of PM 2.5, either
17 children or adults. And this is an impact that
18 should be a crucial part of the plan.

19 I believe the council may believe it can
20 ignore PM 2.5 since it is a toxin regulated under
21 the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, but I do
22 not find that to be valid. Coal-fired power plants
23 must operate to keep people alive during hot spells
24 or alive during cold spells. Similarly, the cars,
25 trucks, trains, ships, planes which also emit PM 2.5

1 are mandatory to feed the people and they must keep
2 operating.

3 Therefore, PM 2.5 National Ambient Air
4 Quality Standards do not set PM 2.5 at a safe level.
5 They set it at a level where essential operations
6 can continue. However, in the plan, I don't find
7 that the council is considering what it can do, what
8 the Northwest Region can do, what the federal
9 Columbia River Power System can do to replace PM 2.5
10 with renewable resources such as hydropower.

11 Second, I'd like to note that in a typical
12 year such as 2020, for weeks on end, marginal market
13 prices for excess federal energy in most hours was
14 negative, that is we're paying people to take energy
15 from the federal system. On a few days, BPA cut
16 back the Columbia Generating Station and one of its
17 hydropower plants in a vain effort to increase
18 prices. But I did not notice any impact from those
19 federal cuts in productions.

20 One of the greatest excess solar energy
21 for sale have little or no variable cost such as
22 from solar panels. It tends to drive BPA sales to
23 levels below our production costs. You know,
24 hydropower has a production cost.

25 Because some days are cloudy, utilities

1 rely on solar resources must install capacity more
2 than they need, much more than they need, you know,
3 multiple two or three times more than they need
4 because on cloudy days that will supply their needs.

5 However, on the 95 percent of the days
6 that are sunny, there's excess hydrogenation
7 primarily from California. And that is growing in
8 leaps and bounds. And more and more often BPA's
9 revenue from surplus energy will cease to exist.

10 The -- in some years since we need to keep
11 generation running to reduce total gases, the
12 federal Columbia Power System will need to turn to
13 slotting entry gates to even reduce more negative
14 FCR power pricing.

15 Lastly, Northwest Power Pool Power and
16 Conversation Council, I go by some old names
17 sometimes, I believe it's too intertwined with the
18 BPA and too limited to business issues to viably
19 respond to the coming regional needs.

20 For example, in 2020, BPA quality control
21 missed, then when it sent over FCRP resources, the
22 capacities, a huge amount was overstated by BPA more
23 than a coal plan typically. And council staff
24 quality -- assurance quality control also did not
25 notice the overstatement. Assured that council

1 staff was aware of this error and now is in a
2 position to do so, such an error would lead to
3 insufficient regional electric power resources and
4 increase prices to consumers because we would not
5 have the resources that were assumed.

6 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Mr. Bowers, it's been five
7 minutes. Can you close within the next minute?

8 **MR. BOWERS:** Will do. I will not be in a
9 position to comment to the council on that again.

10 Another example is BPA is counting its
11 California energy and balance market, but BPA have
12 not done an analysis of what the sales will be over
13 that market.

14 And another example is BPA is misapplying
15 statistics in the way it overestimates likely
16 federal Columbia River Power System revenue.

17 Regionally, utilities need to keep in mind
18 the council does not assure regional power adequacy
19 a stable power industry or power production to the
20 extent possible does not cause needless deaths and
21 harm to people in the region. Thank you.

22 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Thank you very much, Mr.
23 Bowers.

24 We will now go onto Kurt Miller and then
25 to I believe it's -- I may mispronouncing this

1 Sashwat Roy.

2 Mr. Miller, will you state your name.

3 Although I don't know a different way to spell

4 Miller, will you spell your last name and identify

5 who you're speaking on behalf.

6 **MR. MADRON:** Kurt, you show as unmuted,

7 but we can't hear you. You need to just check your

8 audio device selection.

9 **MR. MILLER:** Testing one, two, testing

10 one, two.

11 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** We can hear quite clear

12 now.

13 **MR. MILLER:** Thank you for 00:50:34. That

14 was nice of you not to just let me ramble on for

15 five minutes. Thank you.

16 So, Chair Devlin and Councilmembers, my

17 name is Kurt Miller, last name spelling is --

18 spelling is M-i-l-l-e-r. I'm the executive director

19 at Northwest River Partners. We represent

20 communities across the entire Pacific Northwest that

21 are served by not-for-profit utilities including

22 over 3 million electric customers. We advocate for

23 the role of hydropower for a better specific

24 Northwest.

25 I appreciate this opportunity to address

1 the council. Please understand that my comments
2 come as someone who has over 30 years' experience in
3 the electric utility world having formally operated
4 BPS's operations model, led the nation's first
5 successful energy brokerage firm, and formally led
6 the power supply analytics for Portland General
7 Electric as well as directing its smart grid,
8 transportation application, and demand response
9 programs.

10 I've had the opportunity to meet with
11 several of the councilmembers and work closely with
12 some of the council staffers. And I want to begin
13 by recognizing the excellence of the council's team.
14 Focusing on the council staffers, they are
15 exceptionally bright and dedicated and their work in
16 identifying a major potential shift in western power
17 grids, supply dynamics should be commended.

18 Looking at how Northwest power supply has
19 announced a change between just the year 2022, the
20 installation of roughly 9,000 megawatts of wind
21 completely changed the way the system operates and
22 this brought increasing awareness to concepts like
23 flexible capacity and load following.

24 So the awareness that council has brought
25 regarding the plan filled out of solar power in

1 California and the desert southwest is helpful and
2 important.

3 At the same time, my organization is
4 concerned about the council's assumptions around
5 resource advocacy which may be too bold. Given the
6 questions we're seeing raised across the Northwest
7 and even the entire nation regarding Land Use Laws.
8 Many communities are pushing back on large solar and
9 wind farms even while embracing renewable energy as
10 a concept.

11 Also, given California's struggle in
12 meeting its own load, there are reasons why we
13 should be conservative in estimates for solar
14 buildout and regional transmission constraints
15 before counting on external resources to meet
16 Northwest demand.

17 The 2000 -- 2001 Western energy crisis is
18 an important history lesson which shows we cannot
19 afford to get resource adequacy wrong. Climate
20 change is demonstrated by this year's record
21 shattering heat going event shows that human lives
22 are at risk and would be at greater risk if the grid
23 were to fail.

24 We want to especially note the council's
25 Draft Power Plan depends on reliability and

1 flexibility of the Northwest hydropower system to
2 balance the intermittent renewables to project to be
3 added to the western grid in the coming decade. In
4 light of this, the council must make a clear and
5 powerful statement on necessity of maintaining all
6 or productive existing hydropower resources
7 including the lower Snake River dams.

8 This call out is especially important in
9 life of recent calls to breach the lower Snake River
10 dams in litigation on behalf of some state agencies
11 that would greatly diminish energy capabilities and
12 capacity of the lower Snake River dams and the lower
13 Columbia River dams. If plaintiffs from the current
14 federal case get their way, the council's Power Plan
15 risk becoming obsolete shortly after its released.

16 We want to again commend the council on
17 its efforts, but also encourage it to note the
18 weight of its assumptions and the -- and the way the
19 region looks at resource adequacy going forward.
20 Thank you so much for your time of day.

21 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Thank you, Mr. Miller.

22 We will now go onto Sashwat Roy and then
23 onto Dan Kirschner.

24 Can the next speaker please state their
25 name, spell their last name, and identify the

1 organization they're representing.

2 **MR. ROY:** Good afternoon, Chair Devlin,
3 councilmembers, and staff. I'm Sashwat Roy spelled
4 R-o-y. I'm a resident of Portland, Oregon. And
5 today I'm pleased to be testifying on behalf of
6 Renewable Northwest, a renewable energy advocacy
7 organization with diverse membership of renewable
8 energy and energy storage project developers, as
9 well as environment energy use.

10 I would also like to note here that the
11 Oregon Solar Energy Industries Association, also
12 supports these following comments.

13 First of all, I would like to thank the
14 council and staff who spent many hours working on
15 and developing the 2021 Power Plan especially in
16 the light of COVID-19 pandemic which disrupted all
17 our lives.

18 My testimony today follows three critical
19 aspects of the Power Plan. First, I would like to
20 support the inclusion of climate change adjusted --
21 and river flow data to ensure that long-term
22 capacity expansion modeling and resource choices
23 take into account the significant impacts of climate
24 change to weather and load in our power system.

25 As stated in the Power Plan, the region

1 load share is changing. Your changing weather
2 patterns with usage increasing moving towards the
3 summer weeks. And it is important to understand
4 that with this changing demand pattern our resource
5 mix should also change. With resources such as
6 solar, battery storage and hydro resources gaining
7 increasing importance as they provide maximum
8 benefits during such hot summer days.

9 Second, we are encouraged to see multitude
10 of renewable buildout in the region supporting the
11 decarbonization goals set by various states in the
12 region.

13 On the other hand, we are concerned to see
14 a lack of short and long storage in the resource
15 build out coming out of the regional portfolio
16 model, RPM, in the region. More specifically, the
17 RPM does not have the capability to model the
18 flexibility value of storage resources which is
19 causing the model to choose flexing the
20 hydroresources with a maximum before building out
21 batteries which have the ability to absorb excess
22 energy during low demand hours and delivery during
23 peak hours whenever they -- whenever they may be in
24 any particular region.

25 As we decarbonize our electric systems,

1 storage resources would gain increasing importance
2 because of their multiple value streams they can
3 provide. And it -- it is essential that the RPM
4 model is updated and enhanced similar to the genesis
5 model to ensure that storage is valued effectively.

6 Another area for potential improvement in
7 the Power Plan is to reduce the life between
8 certification of generation resource cost estimates,
9 the modeling and the eventual draft or final Power
10 Plan release. This Power Plan uses capital costs
11 submitted from 2019 numbers which are outdated due
12 to technology improvements as well as advances in
13 the renewable and storage industry in the past
14 couple of years.

15 Finally, I would like to talk about the
16 resource advocacy assessment present in the Power
17 Plan. The Pacific Northwest Advocacy Assessment end
18 up using the regional genesis model shows that the
19 region does not face any capacity deficits in the
20 timeframe which is a significant change from the
21 previous 2017 Power Plan as stated in the reports
22 from 2019 which suggested that in light of coal
23 retirements, we will face significant deficits in
24 the winter season.

25 We would like to reiterate that while the

1 Power Plan analysis shows that leverage in the
2 flexibility of hydro, our electricity system remains
3 energy capacity long. Utilities are taking a
4 different route to meet their capacity needs. They
5 are doing this by procuring forms of renewable
6 storage resources as well as investing in standalone
7 battery and pump storage, demand response, and
8 energy efficiency to meet their capacity needs.

9 Despite the divergence in path, the result
10 remains the same. The region is procuring enough
11 resources to be capacity sufficient in the future.
12 As we can see from the specific plan put in by
13 General Electric in Puget Sound's recent RFB's .

14 Regional communities and load-subbing
15 entities are also corroborating to participate in
16 the Resource Advocacy Program to ensure that we can
17 tap into the regional load and resource diversity in
18 a more effective manner. This partnership among the
19 utilities, creates a significant amount of synergy
20 and benefits for the customers in our footprint.

21 With that, I conclude my testimony. And
22 we will be submitting written comments, before the
23 comment deadline. And I want to, again, thank you
24 for allowing me to speak participate in today's
25 hearing. Thank you.

1 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Thank you, Mr. Roy.

2 Before we go on to Dan Kirschner and the
3 speaker after Mr. Kirschner, Diane Henkels, I would
4 ask staff after those two parties testify to give me
5 an update if there's anybody else signed up at that
6 time.

7 So, we'll go to Dan Kirschner first. And,
8 Mr. Kirschner, if you would identify yourself, spell
9 your last name and identify the organization you're
10 here to represent.

11 **MR. KIRSCHNER:** Thanks, Chairman Devlin,
12 Member Sam (sic) and other members of the Northwest
13 Power Conservation Council.

14 My name is Dan Kirschner, K-i-r-s-c-h-n-e-
15 r. I'm the executive director of the Northwest Gas
16 Association.

17 The Gas Association represents the six
18 natural gas utilities and the three interstate
19 natural gas pipelines that serve 3.2 million
20 residents -- households or about 10 million
21 residents with the energy they need to keep warm.
22 And about 350,000 commercial businesses,
23 institutions, including 3,500 industrial operations
24 across our footprint which is Idaho, Oregon,
25 Washington and British Columbia.

1 We've enjoyed -- I've enjoyed, personally,
2 a good constructive working relationship with
3 council staff and councilmembers directly. Really
4 appreciate that. And I want to give just a quick
5 tip of the hat if I could to -- to staff and
6 councilmembers for navigating this complex planning
7 process through a transitional time as well as
8 really difficult time with COVID. So, thank you for
9 all your hard work in this regard.

10 I'm going to focus most of my -- actually,
11 most of my comments, actually all of my comments on
12 things that relate to my particular industry. We
13 will be providing written comments as well. I'll
14 just note that we -- we have some of the similar
15 concerns you've heard shared about resource
16 adequacy, analyses, especially as it relates to how
17 does the transmission occur across the mountains
18 from the rural areas where the renewable resources
19 are likely to be sited to the load centers west of
20 the mountains concerns there.

21 But I do want to focus really on the
22 natural gas section. This is the first Power Plan
23 in which the council has undertaken to do a natural
24 gas load forecast as part of its process. I -- I --
25 I look forward in the future if it chooses to

1 continue doing this to working more closely with the
2 council on that forecast to ensure that we're
3 aligned in our assumptions about how those loads
4 work, that we at least understand them, so that we
5 can validate each other's work in this regard.

6 I think most of the councilmembers and
7 staff are aware we produce an annual Northwest gas
8 market outlook that aggregates our member company
9 IRPs and long-range planning documents to provide a
10 forecast of demand growth over the region.

11 We -- we look forward to the -- to sharing
12 that work and as I said working more closely with
13 the council in future years as it continues its work
14 in this space.

15 I do want to make one or two corrections
16 if I could. First, maybe it's not a correction,
17 maybe it's just a difference of footprint. But
18 first I want to say in the -- in the Power Plan
19 under the gas forecast, it refers to homes with gas
20 hookups as the largest gas consumer in the region.
21 Of course, my -- in my footprint which is, as I
22 said, includes Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and
23 British Columbia, that's actually not true, it's
24 industrial uses that are the largest end user of
25 natural gas across the region -- across that region.

1 I suppose if you were to add Western Montana and
2 exclude British Columbia, it's possible that -- that
3 that could be the case. But -- but my footprint, as
4 I said, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and British
5 Columbia encompasses the vast bulk of population and
6 industrial activity in the region. And I think
7 that's an important consideration.

8 Our members own and operate 130,000 miles
9 pipeline across our footprint. If you add Montana
10 into that, it's closer to 145,000 miles of pipeline
11 system. This is a pipeline system that can be
12 repurposed and used in different ways including at
13 storage, an energy storage resource. So we -- we
14 have, again, want to be working very closely with
15 the council going forward as it contemplates the
16 interaction of the electric and gas system.

17 Finally, one other -- one correction I
18 will make in the renewable natural gas section, it
19 talks about regionally produced renewable natural
20 gas is limited in scope. I suggest that with a 3
21 million mile pipe interconnected pipeline network
22 across North America, renewable natural gas and
23 hydrogen can be sourced from virtually anywhere in
24 North America. And, so, that's a very myopic
25 perspective and we'd like to see that corrected.

1 We can access renewable natural gas and
2 renewable hydrogen from other areas of the country,
3 so we are not limited to the regional constraints
4 what only we can produce here.

5 Finally, I just want to note that in -- in
6 the future research section, we are -- the Northwest
7 Gas Association is called out and looks forward to
8 working with council on further assessing upstream
9 methane admissions, working with council on other
10 interested stakeholders and ensuring that we put
11 together a good robust objective and accurate
12 assessment as -- as accurate as possible.

13 With that, I'll conclude my remarks. And
14 thank you again for the opportunity.

15 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Thank you very much, Mr.
16 Kirschner.

17 We'll now go onto Diane Henkels. And
18 before I call on the two that are signed up to
19 testify after Ms. Henkels, we'll just discuss the
20 status in a few minutes with staff.

21 Ms. Henkels, will you please state your
22 name for the record and spell your last name and
23 identify the organization you're here to represent.

24 **MS. HENKELS:** I am Diane Henkels, H-e-n-k-
25 e-l-s. And I am counsel to small business utility

1 advocates otherwise known as SPUA. SPUA represents
2 the interest of small businesses and utility
3 regulatory matters with most focus in Pacific
4 Northwest and Oregon on electric and natural gas
5 matters including rates and terms of service.

6 We appreciate very much the technical
7 expertise that's put into this Power Plan. And --
8 and we agree with previous comments and I believe
9 the comments of the Northwest Energy Coalition may
10 offer with regard to increasing the energy
11 conservation that's proposed in this plan.

12 We have just a couple short comments here.
13 One is that the -- we see that the Section 6K of the
14 Act states that the administrator shows the benefits
15 under the section are distributed equitably
16 throughout the region. And we encourage the council
17 to recall -- remember that small businesses are a
18 very important part of the -- of the region. And I
19 know they are in Oregon. And we wonder if, perhaps,
20 the council can explore how to be a bit more
21 granular as to the breakout of the commercial sector
22 which includes very large commercial actors as well
23 as local governments and small businesses. And in
24 that include possibilities for potentially more
25 energy conservation and demand response.

1 In addition to being a bit more explicit
2 in the commercial impacts load which certainly hit
3 home in the last few years given COVID-19, I did
4 note that the 2018 commercial building energy
5 consumption service EEx, that is that some of the
6 conclusions made seem to have been based on a 2018
7 data. And we're a bit concern that the 2018 comes
8 before the last few years that have -- have seen
9 significant changes in our local economies.

10 So, those simple comments I'll close and
11 I'll look forward to the final plan and maybe
12 offering also comments in writing. Thank you.

13 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Thank you, Ms. Henkels.

14 Callers, before I go onto the two people,
15 additional people that I've identified or asked to
16 testify, Chad, do we have anyone on the telephone
17 that is not listed?

18 **MR. MADRON:** Member Devlin, we have about
19 five people on the phone who are not listed. If you
20 are on the phone only, if you called in today and
21 you have not signed up to give testimony, please
22 speak up now, so we can add your name to the list.
23 If you're just listening or you've already signed up
24 to give testimony, there's no need to speak up. But
25 if we're -- we don't have you on the list right now,

1 we only have two people left, Shannon and Fred, if
2 that's not you and you'd like to speak, just let us
3 know.

4 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Okay, Chad, I will go to
5 the next speaker and then I'll check back with you
6 again to see if anyone --

7 **MR. MADRON:** Sure.

8 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** -- has signed up.

9 **MR. MADRON:** Well, they're not speaking up
10 and no one else has signed up via the online form,
11 so -- but you should definitely check at the end for
12 sure.

13 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Okay. We'll now go to
14 Shannon Souza. Ms. Souza, are you there? There you
15 are.

16 **MS. SOUZA:** I am.

17 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Yes. If you'll please
18 identify yourself for the record, state your name,
19 spell your last name and the organization you
20 represent. And you have a little bit of a -- of an
21 echo, so we'll try to see if we can address that
22 during this so.

23 **MS. SOUZA:** Okay. Thank you. My name is
24 Shannon Souza, S-o-u-z-a. I welcome this
25 opportunity to provide comments on behalf of -- on

1 behalf of Oregon Coast Energy Alliance Network
2 (OCEAN) for whom I serve as executive director as
3 well as Pacific Ocean Energy Trust Pilot. For them
4 I am their policy director.

5 How am I doing on echo? Shall I continue?

6 **MS. MADRON:** Actually, we can understand
7 you. But it is pretty echoey. But we can -- we can
8 make out what you're saying okay.

9 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Yes, please proceed.

10 **MS. SOUZA:** Okay. Thank you. I'm talking
11 to you today from (inaudible)-- Oregon it's a small
12 community about 10 miles upriver from (inaudible).
13 And that's where I am for the last 25 years raised
14 my family and run my business clearly at the end of
15 the transmission lines.

16 OCEAN is a non-profit southern run based
17 cross cultural community organization with a mission
18 to explore opportunities and challenges of saving
19 offshore wind and other advanced creative energy
20 technologies there are in these communities.

21 We reside at the Southwestern end of the
22 BPA line and are completely reliant on imported
23 energy to meet our immediate and to secure our
24 needs.

25 Our transmission corridor is without the

1 capacity to store and appropriate disbursement
2 routes, which often results in poor power quality
3 and frequent service interruptions to our isolated
4 and costal communities.

5 POET is an Oregon-based 501(c)(3)
6 committed to the responsible (audio distortion)
7 marine removal energy in the Pacific region. Power
8 Industrial Advisory Group, who proposed of offshore
9 wind oriented developers and technology providers.
10 And it is they would provide input. They are
11 providing (audio distortion)-- to present today.

12 We appreciate the comprehensive efforts of
13 staff in developing this balanced resource strategy.
14 However, we'd like to highlight (audio distortion)
15 -- absences in certain off-shore wind, as a proxy
16 for emerging technology in this land.

17 Securing off-shore wind has been
18 successfully deployed globally. Off the shores of
19 Scotland has demonstrated its ability to not only
20 withstand hurricane forces, but to continue to
21 supply secure clean electrons to the varied island
22 communities that are enduring those hurricane
23 forces. Next week, the Bureau OCEAN Energy Alliance
24 Offshore Task Force will plan its' ninth meeting as
25 prepares to issue an RFI to the global development

1 community, for areas of interest from recent
2 (inaudible) -- shores. This RFI will be issued in
3 early 2022.

4 Earlier this year, Oregon's House-bill
5 3375 established the cleaning rule for the inclusion
6 of up to 3 gigawatts of offshore renewable wind by
7 2030 into our existing transmission system which
8 worked by our national (inaudible), suggests we are
9 ready to accommodate.

10 The Oregon Clean Energy Alliance analysis,
11 who meets in June of this year, finds that in all
12 scenarios 20 gigawatts of Oregon offshore wind would
13 be developed by 2015 to support the western grid.
14 In short, we urge council and staff to consider that
15 the acceleration of offshore wind inclusion in the
16 planning efforts.

17 We also the envision of climate based and
18 adjusted baseline as a context to this plan. We
19 urge that (audio distortion)-- be met with the
20 realities of those (audio distortion) -- loss of
21 load equals loss of life and livelihood. The model
22 is based on (inaudible) - for the loss and
23 reliability for the entire region. This reliability
24 goal is certainly not (audio distortion) - community
25 level. Please consider the inclusion of the great

1 resilience at the community level in subsequent
2 planning endeavors.

3 So-called low frequency high consequence
4 events, become increasingly frequent. We also ask
5 that consideration be given to incorporating higher
6 levels of integrated planning for avoidance of loss
7 of load. One opportunity for this integration is
8 through the reflection of vocational and synergistic
9 values and specific resource. In light of its
10 contributions to great resilience. (Inaudible) --
11 and ice storms that have more recently asserted the
12 footprint of learning to live without energy, have
13 underscored the urgency and is necessary in
14 transforming valuation transmit.

15 Along those same lines of logic, we
16 include the equation of energy storage in subsequent
17 premiere resource stats, both, traditional and in
18 the form of green hydrogen with fuel cells.

19 We would like to commend the staff for the
20 exemplary accessibility and inclusion of multiple
21 stakeholders and their influence throughout the
22 development of this plan. From my experience of the
23 past two years, staff has been responsive and
24 available to meetings and and open discussions
25 through our process. They also recognize that

1 having reached those required, to undertake this
2 plan and to hopefully update our processes and
3 tools, so that subsequent planning can reflect the
4 best available to technology as well to societal
5 imperatives, in total and in equity.

6 To this end, I encourage council to
7 request of staff, a proposal for expanding staffing
8 resources and updating monitoring (inaudible) --
9 needs. But they're not (inaudible) -- please
10 consider a path (cross talk) --

11 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Excuse me, Ms. Souza --

12 **MS. SOUZA:** I'm sorry.

13 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Ah, Ms. Souza, if you could
14 close in about the next minute.

15 **MS. SOUZA:** Yes, sir. Within that
16 modeling space, please consider the capacity of
17 modern software and third-party embedded data cells,
18 in providing for the (inaudible) -- volumes of
19 generation and storage, community level and national
20 security asset, energy security, values. And even
21 integration of in a geographic and rural (inaudible)
22 inclusions. Such as local economic development
23 through resource development, as well as through the
24 articulation and costs of paying to (inaudible) --
25 where communities are unable to attract or obtain

1 the industry that requires consistent override of
2 energy surprise.

3 Chair Devlin and members of council, thank
4 you for your time today, and both of my
5 organizations stand ready, willing and able to
6 assist in any way that we can.

7 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Thank you very much.

8 Chad, do we have anyone else besides Mr.
9 Heutte signed up to testify?

10 **MR. MADRON:** No, not at this time.

11 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Okay. Fred Heutte, are you
12 -- I see you there. Please identify yourself, spell
13 your last name and identify the organization you're
14 here to -- to speak on behalf. And if you end up
15 being the last speaker today and that seems almost
16 appropriate given how long you've been following
17 these issues so.

18 **MR. HEUTTE:** Thank you, Chair Devlin and
19 Member Sams and all members of the council, staff,
20 and everyone who's here. My name is Fred Heutte,
21 the last name is spelled H-e-u-t-t-e. I live in
22 Portland Oregon and I'm speaking behalf of the
23 Northwest Energy Coalition.

24 At the previous Montana and Washington
25 hearings, my colleagues provided some details about

1 areas of strength and areas of concern for the
2 Northwest Energy Coalition in the Draft 2021
3 Northwest Power Plan. I'd like to summarize those
4 points and propose some broader thoughts about the
5 council's work going forward.

6 The Draft Plan addresses a moment in which
7 dramatic changes are underway, energy policy markets
8 and technology innovation. We applaud the council's
9 adoption of a climate adjusted baseline for both
10 loads and resources. This pioneering effort will
11 help safely chart our course through a future with
12 increasing stresses on the Northwest our system.

13 We also appreciate the appearance of new
14 renewable resources at scale now on center stage in
15 the Power Plan for the first time. However, our
16 view is that the Draft Plan does not provide a fully
17 balanced role for other resources especially energy
18 efficiency, flexible demand, and storage. All of
19 these will be needed to provide a diverse and strong
20 power system and make better use of our hydrosystem
21 while helping diminish its impacts.

22 First of all, we are concerned about
23 maintaining expanding the delivery capability for
24 energy efficiency, our second largest regional
25 resource because in addition to providing direct

1 customer benefits, it will make all other resource
2 actions easier.

3 The diminished role of energy efficiency
4 in the Draft's Plan, both overall and its -- in its
5 recommendation to the Bonneville power
6 administration should instead be strengthened. We
7 also need to accelerate the development of other
8 customer side resources including flexible demand
9 and storage. These are essential compliments to the
10 rapid buildup of renewable resources. But like
11 energy efficiency, they will take time to bring to
12 maturity.

13 Our major overall concern about the Draft
14 Plan is that it does not clearly chart the pathways
15 that will help the Northwest achieve a clean energy
16 grid at the earliest possible date while improving
17 reliability and keeping electricity bills
18 affordable.

19 Given the timing of recent -- recently
20 adopted state policy and we hope substantial
21 progress at the federal level, perhaps it is fair to
22 consider the decarbonization scenario in the draft
23 plan necessarily as a work in progress. But with
24 further refinement, it should define the preferred
25 resource strategy for our region.

1 The Northwest Power Act five-year plan
2 cycle remains the council's co-responsibility.
3 However, going forward, we foresee a broadening of
4 the council's activities. The 2021 Plan can be a
5 starting point for new collaborative regional
6 efforts to identify comprehensive balance and secure
7 decarbonization pathway forward.

8 This will fully engage the council's
9 assets. It's irreplaceable repository of data and
10 technical assessment. And the range of experience
11 and insights of council members, staff, and
12 stakeholders. In addition, it will be important to
13 further modernize the council's modeling resources
14 to better reflect the dynamic nature of the
15 resources used in the region.

16 Linking a pathway to a more reliable
17 clean, affordable, and equitable power system will
18 help provide a climate resilient platform for the
19 Northwest economy, our daily life and in line with
20 the statutory obligations of the Northwest Power Act
21 adequately protect, mitigate, and enhance fish and
22 wildlife affected by the management and operation of
23 the federal hydropower system.

24 We look forward to working with the
25 council on this extraordinary, but also exciting new

1 challenge. Thank you.

2 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Thank you, Mr. Heutte.

3 Okay. Chad, has anybody signed up either
4 on line or published off if they're on line or on
5 the telephone they wish to testify?

6 **MR. MADRON:** No, unless someone on the
7 telephone right now wishes to speak up, I have no
8 one -- no one else signed up.

9 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Okay. In that case, as we
10 know, we have to keep this hearing available for the
11 entire period that it's posted. So I will recess
12 until 3:10.

13 **MR. MADRON:** Okay.

14 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Recessing until 3:10.

15 **MR. MADRON:** Okay. The recording will
16 continue. And we'll still be able to see and hear
17 you if you leave your camera and microphone on.

18 **(Recess taken)**

19 **CHAIR DEVLIN:** Thank you all very much.

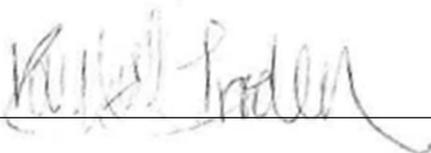
20 **MR. MADRON:** Thank you
21
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CERTIFICATE

I, Kayla Broden do hereby certify that I reported all proceedings adduced in the foregoing matter and that the foregoing transcript pages constitutes a full, true and accurate record of said proceedings to the best of my ability.

I further certify that I am neither related to counsel or any party to the proceedings nor have any interest in the outcome of the proceedings.

IN WITNESS HEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 12th day of November, 2021.



Kayla Broden

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