

RD-0144

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 25, 2002 4:40 PM

**To:** comment@bpa.gov

**Subject:** renewable energy for the next 20 years

I will be unable to attend the public meeting this evening in Seattle, but wanted to offer my comments. BPA has tremendous power to steer our destructive consumerist society towards a world where air, water and soil are clean, yet people have the energy they need. I would like the BPA to take the most rigorous of stances in regard to adopting renewable energy sources, fostering conversation, and doing what it can to stop growth. I realize this last may appear to be out of the BPA's realm of influence, but only by halting and reversing growth in population and its energy use will it be possible to provide the level of energy to which even frugal Americans have become accustomed.

The world will change drastically over the next decades as petroleum and natural gas resources are depleted, and the best tack would have been to begin the transition to renewable energy thirty years ago. However, with technical advances--and environmental problems that cannot be ignored--now is the perfect time to move beyond demonstration projects to full implementation of renewable energy. The Stateline wind farm is an excellent beginning and should be expanded; further wind projects should be developed as rapidly as possible. Tidal and wave energy generation should be explored and installed with all dilligence, as well as solar applications where feasible. First and foremost, however, is to gain 'free' energy through aggressive conversation and the institution of draconian punishments for those who squander energy.

In addition to these overarching priorities, the new report from the RAND thinktank is one more dazzling light to the blind that the four Snake River dams wreak great destruction to salmon while providing negligible electricity. The removal of these four dams are necessary to prevent the excintion of salmon along the Snake, and would no doubt be cheaper than another decade of futile fish barging. I urge the BPA to abandon inertia and remove the dams while there are still fish to save.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Derek Dexheimer  
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