

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

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June 29, 2006

Mr. Stephen J. Wright  
 Administrator  
 Bonneville Power Administration  
 P.O. Box 3621  
 Portland, Oregon 97208

ASSIGN: DKR-7  
 cc: FO3, DKN/Wash, L-7, P-6, HGoodwin-PS-6,  
 CAEs

Dear Steve:

As you conduct the Regional Dialogue process, and develop new long-term power contracts we write to ask for clarification on several issues related to the slice power product. We are strongly committed to low rates for Northwest ratepayers and ensuring continued regional control of the benefits of the Federal Columbia River Power System. We believe that long term power contracts - including the slice product - can contribute to these goals.

Even though provisions of the slice contract remain in litigation, it is clear that the product overall has provided many benefits for the region - including lowering Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) Treasury repayment risk and reducing BPA's need to make power purchases to reshape the federal system output to serve customer loads. We also note the slice product's unique ability to enable slice customers to develop and integrate new, non-federal generation resources - a key concern as regional load continues to grow.

For these reasons, we believe that BPA should continue offering the slice product in the next contract period. While we understand there may be the need to make modifications to the slice product in the next contract period, we hope that BPA will continue the product in a form that does not diminish its positive qualities, and does not diminish the ability of the FCRPS to be operated for the benefit of all customers.

We have several questions on this issue to which we would appreciate your response.

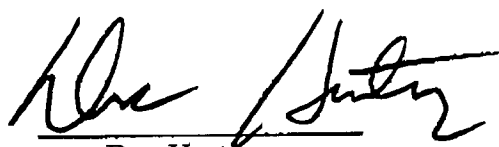
1. We understand that BPA intends to limit the availability of the slice product in the next contract period. Why is such a limit necessary and how will the agency address the needs of new slice customers?
2. Does BPA anticipate that slice customers will still be able to provide their own ancillary services such as operating reserves and energy imbalance, and if there are changes can you please describe the rationale for those changes and the specific plan for compensation of customers?

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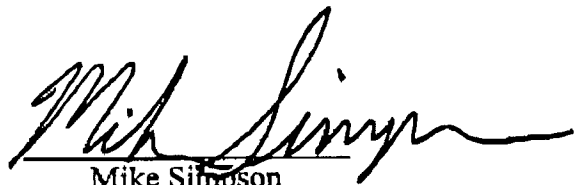
3. Will the slice product continue to offer customers access to a percentage share of capacity, storage and other capabilities of the Federal system in a manner similar to that enjoyed by BPA?

We thank you for your assistance in this matter and appreciate your efforts to work with all customers in the region to develop new long-term contracts.

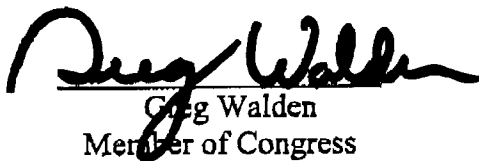
Sincerely,



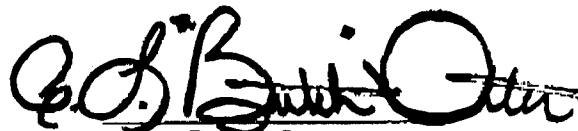
Doc Hastings  
Member of Congress



Mike Simpson  
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Greg Walden  
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Butch Otter  
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