

DRAFT FORM OF LETTER FOR DIRECT CONNECT CUSTOMERS

Steve Eckles, Electric Department Manager
City of Rupert-Electric Department
PO Box 426
Rupert, Idaho 83350

Steve Wright, Administrator
Bonneville Power Administration
PO Box 14428
Portland, Oregon 97293-4428

Re: City of Rupert Comments on Regional Dialogue

Dear Mr. Wright:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on BPA's Long Term Regional Dialogue Policy Proposal. I am writing today to underscore some very important issues to my utility, City of Rupert. As you know City of Rupert serves approximately (3,000) three thousand consumers in Idaho. As a full requirements customer of Bonneville we are vitally interested in the proposed allocation methodology.

We are writing to underscore the importance that BPA continue to honor its long term commitments to its GTA and South Idaho Exchange customers that their service be comparable to the service provided by BPA to customers like City of Rupert that are directly connected to BPA's transmission system. City of Rupert is participating with other entities in drafting comprehensive comments which are being filed separately. However, the issue of transfer service for non-Federal power is sufficiently compelling to that it is necessary for me to write separately in order to emphasize its importance.

Unfortunately, the Regional Dialogue Proposal, as currently written, will not allow existing GTA and SIE customers in Idaho to access to regional power markets other than BPA. This is contrary to the policy guideline in the Regional Dialogue which provides that "BPA should not use transfer service as a leverage to induce customers to buy Tier 2 power from BPA". We urge you to reconsider the wisdom of such a prohibition.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment. We are also a member of and endorse the comments filed by ICU, IDEA.

Sincerely;

Steve Eckles-Electric Dept. Manager
City of Rupert