

## **Department of Energy**

Richland Operations Office P.O. Box 550 Richland, Washington 99352

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Bonneville Power Administration Public Affairs Office - DKC-7 P.O. Box 14428 Portland, Oregon 97293-4428

To Whom It May Concern:

## LONG-TERM REGIONAL DIALOGUE POLICY PROPOSAL

The purpose of this letter is to provide comments on the Long-Term Regional Dialogue Policy Proposal. The public comment period was extended from September 29, 2006, to October 31, 2006.

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) is proposing to use a customer's actual electric load in fiscal year (FY) 2010 to determine the amount of electric power from the Federal Based System the customer may receive at the lowest-cost Tier 1 rate. This value is identified as the customer's "High Water Mark." If a customer's load increases beyond the amount of the High Water Mark, the customer may choose to either develop or buy its own resources, or ask BPA to meet its load with Federal power at the Tier 2 (i.e., market) rate.

The U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office and Office of River Protection (DOE), is concerned that the process to determine a customer's High Water Mark will not address the Hanford Site's mission priorities, and associated known electric load requirements that will occur at the site after FY 2010. Currently, DOE is constructing the Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant complex. This facility and other treatment technologies will cause the electric load at the Hanford Site to increase by at least 70 aMW after the FY 2010 timeframe. DOE has a legal obligation to perform this nuclear waste clean up from the former defense materials production, and, most importantly, it is essential for protecting the Columbia River and its communities and the economic future of the region (further information about DOE's mission can be found at this web site: <a href="http://www.hanford.gov/">http://www.hanford.gov/</a>). DOE believes that this known electric load of at least 70 aMW should be included in the High Water Mark determination process in the final Long-Term Regional Dialogue Policy, and in addition to DOE's actual FY 2010 electric load should be served power at the Tier 1 rate.

If you should have any questions, please contact Randall Krekel, Office of the Assistant Manager for the River Corridor, on (509) 376-4264.

Sincerely,

Keith A. Klein

Manager

cc: E. J. Brost, BPA

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