



The Deputy Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

October 12, 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR STEPHEN J. WRIGHT
ADMINISTRATOR, BONNEVILLE POWER
ADMINISTRATION

FROM: CLAY SELL *Clay Sell*
SUBJECT: Grid West and Transmission Issues Group Proposals

As we discussed, I am interested in the ongoing discussions concerning the Grid West and Transmission Issues Group (TIG) proposals. The Administration is now, as it has been for the last four years, interested in building viable regional wholesale electricity markets and in pursuing the full potential of open access transmission. Secretary Bodman and I also are committed to pursuing policies and strategies that foster the development of mechanisms to help ensure the continued enhancement and reliability of the Nation's electricity infrastructure.

I appreciate all of the work over the last several years that so many people in the Pacific Northwest have invested in pursuing these goals. I recognize this the work has been challenging, and the accomplishment of these goals has been difficult. I also am very much aware of the passionate debate currently occurring in the Northwest regarding the merits of the Grid West and TIG proposals.

As we continue with the next critical period of this work, I want to express to you, and ask that you express to other interested parties, my strong support for the efforts to move toward one-utility operation of the electric transmission system in the Pacific Northwest. I fully support the efforts to spend 30 days to complete a final convergence proposal that hopefully can produce a better solution integrating key aspects of both the Grid West and TIG options and to address weaknesses in both.

This is not the time for any party or interest to refuse to negotiate, but rather a key opportunity to move forward with a convergence proposal that is in the overall best interests of customers in the Northwest and of the Nation as a whole. I urge you, the region's utilities, and other stakeholders to work diligently to make this effort a success.

