

Northwest Electric Market



Overview

Geography

States covered: All or most of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Utah, Nevada, Montana, Wyoming and part of California.

Reliability region: Northwest Power Pool Area (NWPP) sub-region of the Western Electric Coordinating Council (WECC).

Balancing authorities: See page 5.

Hubs: California-Oregon Border (COB), Mid-Columbia (Mid-C)

RTO/ISO

None

Generation/Supply

Marginal fuel type: Hydro and natural gas

Generating capacity (winter 2005): 57,120 MW

Capacity reserve (winter 2005): 16,822 MW

Reserve margin (winter 2005): 42%

When taken together, hydro, fossil fuels, nuclear energy, and renewable resources, were adequate to provide electricity in excess of in-region needs.

Demand

All time peak demand (2005): 40,298 MW

Peak demand growth: 1.5% (2004–2005)

Prices

Index Annual Average of Daily Bilateral Day Ahead On-Peak Prices:

Platts California-Oregon Border (COB) Hub:

2004: \$49.02/MWh 2005: \$66.95/MWh 2006: \$55.58/MWh 2007: \$62.14/MWh

Platts Mid-Columbia (Mid-C) Hub:

2004: \$44.50/MWh 2005: \$62.95/MWh 2006: \$50.18/MWh 2007: \$56.57/MWh

Physical and financial electricity products are traded through brokers using the Mid-Columbia (Mid-C) and California-Oregon Border (COB) hubs as pricing points.

Interconnections/Seams

The region relies on hydroelectric production for approximately two thirds of its electricity needs. In most years, Northwest sells surplus power into California and the Southwest.

Balancing Authorities in the Northwest Electric Market

Balancing Authority

Alberta Electric System Operator
Avista Corp.
Bonneville Power Administration
British Columbia Transmission Corporation
Idaho Power Company
NorthWestern Energy
PacifiCorp-East
PacifiCorp-West
Portland General Electric Company
PUD No. 1 of Chelan County
PUD No. 1 of Douglas County
PUD No. 2 of Grant County
Puget Sound Energy
Seattle Department of Lighting
Sierra Pacific Power Company
Tacoma Power
Western Area Power Administration - Upper Great Plains West

NERC Acronym

AESO
AVA
BPAT
BCHA
IPCO
NWMT
PACE
PACW
PGE
CHPD
DOPD
GCPD
PSEI
SCL
SPPC
TPWR
WAUW