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## **Chairman Hastings' Statement on Administration's Latest Move to Implement Mandates in Chu Memorandum**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – House Natural Resources Committee Chairman Doc Hastings (WA-04) today released the following statement in response to the Federal Register Notice publication of the Energy Department's Draft Recommendations resulting from Secretary Steven Chu's March 16, 2012 Memorandum:

*"The Energy Department's Draft Recommendations stemming from Secretary Chu's March 16 Memorandum once again fail to answer key questions repeatedly asked on a bipartisan basis. Basic issues such as the cost, who pays for such costs, who benefits, and uncertain legal authorities very much remain unanswered. At a time when 40 million families and small businesses could experience higher electricity rates as a result of Secretary Chu's Memorandum, the American people deserve these answers and more transparency.*

*"Although today's recommendations will impact the Western Area Power Administration and its customers, the fact remains that electricity ratepayers of all four of the Power Marketing Administrations -- including the Bonneville Power Administration -- are subject to the Secretary's Washington, DC-based Memorandum dictates. This is very troubling if this is the template for such mandated changes on the PMAs.*

*"As Chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee, I have held two full committee oversight hearings, formally [asked](#) for more information in which there has been no response, and I will continue to examine these proposals closely and deliberately through the lens of ratepayer protection."*

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