## BPA Rates Hearing Room February 10-12, 2016

Wednesday, February 10	
1:30 - 1:45 pm	Welcome and Opening
1:45 - 3:30 pm	BPA Executive Panel - Perspectives on Competitiveness, Value, and Costs Across Time BPA has a legacy of delivering stable value to the Pacific Northwest. Maintaining quality products at competitive long-term prices in an era of aging infrastructure, increasing compliance obligations and low natural gas prices presents unique challenges to an organization already focused on minimizing near-term rate pressures.  This session explores BPA's regional benefits and supporting cost structures to increase understanding of the relationship between low near-term rates and necessary investments that position BPA for long-term value delivery. BPA's senior leadership will share their perspectives on this relationship and offer insight into how the organization will strike balance over time. Participants should leave the session with an understanding of the tension between short-term and long-term value to the region.
3:30 - 3:45 pm	Break
3:45 - 5:00 pm	Evolving Cost Management Practices at BPA  BPA maintains a strong focus on its cost management commitment as a cost-based utility. Over time, BPA's cost management practices have evolved, which has led to increased scrutiny of the costs and trade-offs considered before projects are approved. BPA will provide an overview of its cost management approach during this discussion. From initial budgetary guidance through program level planning and the Integrated Program Review, we will build a shared understanding of the principles and processes BPA deploys to establish its expense budgets. We will also explore the value-based decision process by which capital investments are proposed, reviewed and approved. This session will share how BPA's methodology for developing capital and expense spending levels has evolved over time and lay the groundwork for the upcoming Integrated Program Review and Capital Investment Review processes by providing insight into BPA's approach.



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Thursday, February 11	
8:00 - 10:45 am	Managing for Financial Health BPA has a history of strong credit ratings supported in large part by the low cost, carbon free fleet of generating assets and large electricity distribution footprint in the Pacific Northwest. A valuable asset base and strong market presence are among the many factors that support a financially healthy and resilient organization. This session explores the meaning and benefits of financial health to BPA, and the measurement, policies, and practices financially healthy organizations employ.  BPA will provide a brief overview on BPA's current state of financial health and the benefits of a financially healthy BPA, followed by an expert panel of utility representatives and industry experts to broaden the discussion.  Participants will gain a broader perspective of BPA's current state of financial health, near and longer term benefits of a financially healthy BPA and an understanding of the metrics, policies or practices BPA will consider for monitoring and ensuring BPA builds upon its already solid foundation.
10:45 - 11 am	Break
11 am - 12:30 pm	Program Exploration: Federal Hydro  For more than 75 years, the region has enjoyed remarkable economic, social and environmental benefits flowing from the nation's largest hydropower system. This carbon-free resource has done the heavy lifting to power the Pacific Northwest with few major investments, while also providing flood control, irrigation, navigation, recreation and other benefits. After decades of vigorous and dependable service, the region has the opportunity to reinvest in this unique public resource, such that, generations to come will benefit as we all have.  This session will address how BPA and its federal partners are addressing the challenge of keeping the Federal Columbia River Power System operational. For nearly two decades the federal partners have successfully managed the investment program and made meaningful upgrades, however, system needs have outpaced our abilities. We will discuss the significant challenges and the most cost effective strategies to completing these needed upgrades while continuing to provide regional benefits.



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Thursday, February 11	
12:30 - 1:45 pm	Lunch
1:45 - 3:15 pm	Program Exploration: Fish and Wildlife The purpose of this session is to discuss BPA's environmental stewardship and its role in fish and wildlife protection in the Columbia River Basin.  BPA will gather feedback from participants on how the program can most effectively position itself to meet our fish and wildlife obligations while providing an economical and reliable power supply.
3:15 - 3:30 pm	Break
3:30 - 5 pm	Program Exploration: Energy Efficiency BPA has committed to take an expansive look at its involvement in energy efficiency and how savings could be achieved with maximum efficiency. Some of BPA's customers have asked BPA to empower them to take on more of the responsibility for funding energy savings locally and with less centralized BPA involvement. This session will look at the current state of BPA's EE programs and explore options for change that build on the current foundation of EE success, hearing perspectives from BPA and others in the region.  In this session, BPA will share information about upcoming forums where the region will help BPA explore and decide what energy efficiency programs should look like beyond the current rate period. With the input provided, BPA will be able to move forward with best program to meet the region's need.



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### Friday, February 12

### **Program Exploration: Transmission**

Transmission Services takes an integrated approach to transmission system planning that includes revenue, operations and maintenance and capital for both sustaining and expanding the system. It involves satisfying regulatory requirements, assuring reliability of the system and planning for expansion to respond to the growing needs of our customer base. We focus on maintaining and enhancing the vitality of the BPA transmission system, with attention to efficient planning, execution and proper cost management.

9:00 - 10:45 am

This approach supports a power-paradigm that is now evolving. Most notably, policy, technology innovation and market drivers, among others, are effecting the landscape upon which BPA deploys capital and executes its plans. This dynamic environment raises questions about Transmission's investments, the nature of which result in long lifetime assets with significant debt service responsibilities. Among the changes we can currently see, BPA will be challenged to adapt to renewable portfolio standards across the west, evolving markets that effect the dispatch of resources that are more cost effective and anticipate national and regional policy directives, green-house gas reductions, shifting retail utility needs and expectations and greater direct consumer involvement in their electricity production and consumption.

This interactive session will engage attendees to consider how BPA could exploit its strengths and manage its risk as it serves the broad array of regional transmission needs, while continuing to maintain and enhance the vitality of the BPA transmission system, with attention to efficient execution and proper cost management so that it can provide value to the west for decades to come.

10:45 - 11 am

Break

11 am- 12 pm

Wrap up and Next Steps

Phone Bridge for Feb. 10-12:

1-713-353-7024 PASSCODE: 6337708#

#### LiveMeeting:

Feb. 10 <a href="https://www.livemeeting.com/cc/bpa/join">https://www.livemeeting.com/cc/bpa/join</a>

Meeting ID: BN8QCQ Entry Code: Wtn4g#Bwt

Feb. 11 <a href="https://www.livemeeting.com/cc/bpa/join">https://www.livemeeting.com/cc/bpa/join</a>

Meeting ID: KFNG6H Entry Code: S~\$)(86Hg Feb. 12 https://www.livemeeting.com/cc/bpa/join

Meeting ID: ZFKZD7 Entry Code: JRP-\Bq4t

