



Northwest CHP Advocates

Clean Cogen Works

September 9, 2005

Stephen J. Wright
Administrator and Chief Executive Officer
Bonneville Power Administration
Attn: Communications – DM-7
PO Box 14428
Portland, OR 97293-4428

Submitted to: www.bpa.gov/comments

Participating Members

Alan Meyer
Weyerhaeuser
Company

Nate Carpenter
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David Hawk
J.R. Simplot
Company

Kim Burt
West Linn
Paper Company

John Martin
Pacific Energy
Systems, Inc.

John Willenbacher
King County

John Ryan
Washington
State University
Energy Program

RE: Open Comment Period – Grid West Decision Point 2

Dear Mr. Wright:

On behalf of the NW CHP Advocates, we thank you for the opportunity to comment on the GridWest and Transmission Improvement Group (TIG) proposals. We recommend that a “convergence transmission organization (CTO)” continue to be developed that has integrity with accountability since it appears that neither GridWest nor TIG enjoys broad enough support to be successful. With this in mind, we recommend that the best features of each proposal be combined with transparency to establish the critically important oversight and implementation responsibilities of a CTO.

We believe the cost of failure is unacceptable. Building on the legacy of our great regional hydro-generation transmission system will be a challenge that will have impacts on our grandchildren. We strongly recommend that you create a CTO that will serve future generations with outstanding integrity.

We applaud BPA for your unrelenting efforts to help forge a convergence solution. We recommend that you stay that course. Please call on us if we can help.

Sincerely,

John J. Ryan
NW CHP Advocates
925 Plum Street
Olympia, Washington 98504
360 956-2123

Attachment

NW CHP Advocates Comments
GridWest, Transmission Improvement Group (TIG), or Convergence Transmission
Organization (CTO)

On behalf of the NW CHP Advocates, we thank you for the opportunity to comment on the GridWest and TIG proposals. We recommend that a “convergence transmission organization (CTO)” continue to be developed that has integrity with accountability since it appears that neither GridWest nor TIG enjoys broad enough support to be successful. With this in mind, we recommend that the best features of each proposal be combined with transparency to establish the critically important oversight and implementation responsibilities of a CTO.

One of the most important decisions will be the selection of board members that have bold vision and integrity, and with the courage to make the tough decisions that result in optimum, cost-effective solutions with maximum benefits for all stakeholders in the NW Region. We also recommend incorporating key lessons-learned to avoid the apparent governance and cost-overrun challenges that have become apparent in several existing regional transmission organizations.

Selection of a board with impeccable professional credentials and unquestioned integrity is critical. Members will be called on to make bold and courageous decisions with accountability. The Chair should have outstanding leadership abilities and the ability to craft tough solutions with transparency. In addition to transmission expertise, the board should include members with professional experience and successful track records in power generation, customer end-use, access to capital markets and technology solutions.

Equally important is to hire a results-oriented professional staff that can implement solutions in the minimum amount of time with maximum impact. The ability to use a systems approach to develop creative solutions that can be implemented cost-effectively will measure the success of this venture.

At this point in history, we believe the cost of failure is unacceptable. Building on the legacy of our great regional hydro-generation transmission system will be a challenge that will have impacts on our grandchildren. We strongly recommend that you create a CTO that will serve future generations with outstanding integrity.

We applaud BPA for your unrelenting efforts to help forge a convergence solution. We recommend that you stay that course. Please call on us if we can help.