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February 24, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Terry Morlan

SUBJECT: Opportunity for Public Comment on Draft Forecasts of Economic Growth and Electricity Demand

In March the Council released two draft appendices for the Sixth Power Plan for public review and comment. The appendices described forecasts of economic growth and electricity demand. The written comment period ends on March 6th, but there is an opportunity for comment in person to the Council during the Boise Council meeting.

We have not received any comments to date. However, we are aware that PNUCC is comparing the draft load forecasts with the results of their Northwest Regional Forecast (NRF). The NRF consists of summed demand forecasts of individual utilities in the region. Staff has been working with PNUCC to compare and understand differences between the two forecasts, both in terms of energy and peak demand. These discussions have been helpful in developing our draft forecasts and we have identified some changes that we should make to our demand forecast.

We expect to receive comments from PNUCC on our forecasts. They plan to discuss their comments with their board on March 6. Depending on time and Council member interest, we could give a brief summary of any written comments we have received as part of the public comment agenda item.