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September 24, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: Power Committee

FROM: Charles Grist

SUBJECT: Update on 2010-2014 RTF Work Plan and Budget

The Regional Technical Forum (RTF) has crafted a proposed 2010-2014 work plan and budget. It is being circulated in the region for comment, to inform the NEET review of the RTF, and to help potential funders do budget planning. We are bringing this to your attention because it is a large increase in scope and budget and will require thoughtful consideration by the region on how to move forward.

The proposed RTF budget is roughly a three-fold increase over past funding levels. Total funding needs identified are about \$1.5 million per year over the five-year period. If such a work plan is pursued, the RTF will need to solicit contributions from a wider array of funders than in the past. In addition, the NEET Task Force is in the process of reviewing the role of the RTF and will make recommendations, perhaps by the end of the year. The proposed work plan and budget can inform NEET deliberations on the scope of work identified and its estimated cost. Finally, the current round of RTF funding commitments runs out at the end of 2009. Some RTF funding commitments for 2010 need to be secured before the NEET recommendations emerge so that the RTF can continue its work in 2010.

The RTF work plan and budget expansion is due to several factors. The demand for RTF work products has increased. The proposed work plan was crafted by the RTF based on needs identified by RTF members, utilities, Bonneville, NEEA, Energy Trust and Council staff. This is being driven by anticipated increases in conservation activity, the emergence of new measures, the value of coordinated research and the increased need for improved and expanded measurement and evaluation. But the proposed scope and budget have also been limited by the ability of the RTF, in its current configuration, to accomplish the work and a perception of the regional appetite for funding the work.

Another reason for the increase is that the proposed budget combines both core RTF activities which have run about \$350,000 per year historically and separate subscription projects which typically cost an additional \$200,000 to \$500,000 per year. In past years, additional funding for special "subscription" projects has been solicited separately from willing funders. This approach

has been unnecessarily time consuming and administratively burdensome. So all the future projects identified by the RTF have been combined into the work plan for consideration by the region.

Finally, the proposed budget includes significant costs for collection and housing of end-use level data. Planners have expressed the need to update 1990-vintage end use data for conservation planning as well as load and peak capacity forecasting. There are significant economies of scale in sharing such a research project at the regional level. Such an effort does not have to be hosted at the RTF. But presently the research is not being done elsewhere in the region so it has been included, for consideration by the region, in the proposed RTF work plan and budget.

Attachment: Proposed Draft RTF 2010-2014 Work Plan and Budget

Regional Technical Forum: Update on 2010-2014 Work Plan and Budget

Power Committee
October 7, 2009



Original charge from Congress & the Comprehensive Review:

- Develop standardized protocols for verification and evaluation of energy savings & performance of renewable resources
- Track regional progress toward the achievement of the region's conservation & renewable goals
- Provide feedback for improving programs
- Conduct periodic reviews of the region's progress toward goals



Typical Activities

- Develop, maintain & revise savings & regional cost-effectiveness estimates for efficiency measures & practices
- Develop & maintain protocols to estimate savings & regional cost-effectiveness
- Review measurement, verification & evaluation (M&V) plans & results to assess their consistency with accepted practices
- Develop, review & revise program technical specifications
- Identify high priority evaluations and research & demonstration activities

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RTF Structure & Function

- Chartered Council Advisory Committee
- Members appointed by Council Staff
 - Technical rather than Stakeholder
 - Voluntary
- Sets agenda based on Regional Input
- Funding Voluntary
- Recommendations to BPA, Utilities, ETO

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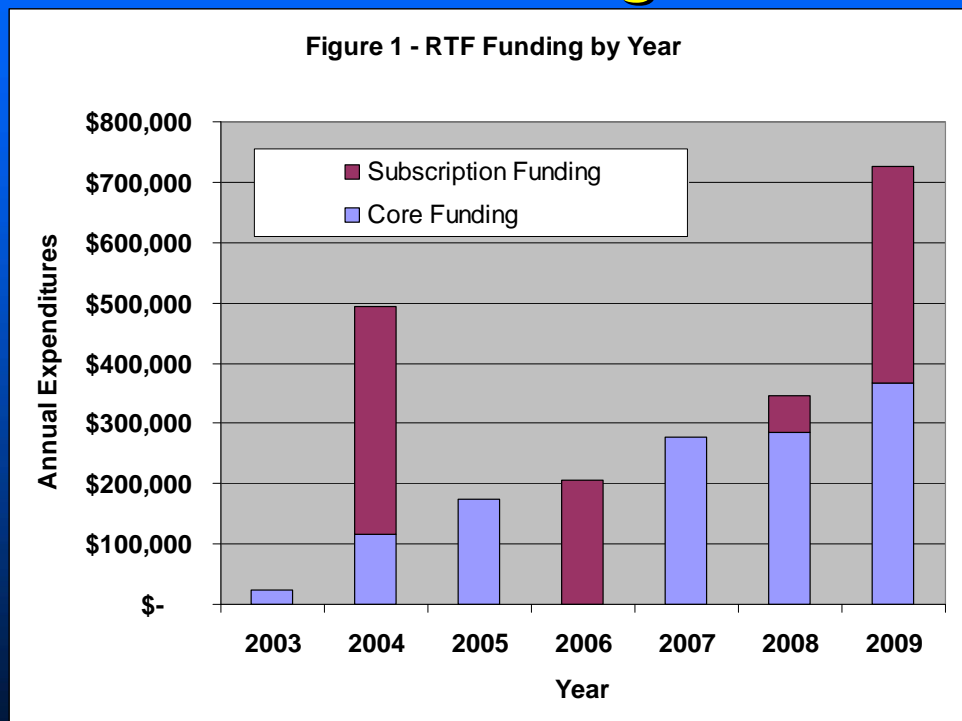
Head's Up

- 2007-2009 Funding Agreements Expire
 - Previous agreements result of 5th Plan
 - New agreements needed before year end
- Draft 2010-2014 Work Plan Developed
- Draft 2010-2014 Budget & Business Plan
- Circulating for Comment Region-Wide
- Seeking Initial Response from Funders
- NEET Review of RTF Ongoing
 - May finish by Jan or Feb 2010
 - Briefing NEET Execs at October Meeting
- RTF member solicitation announced

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Historic Funding Levels



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Table 3: COMBINED CORE & SUBSCRIPTION FUNDING 2003-2009

Combined Core & Subscription Funding	Cumulative 2003-2009	Historic Share of RTF Funding
Avista	\$ 87,020	4%
Bonneville	\$ 784,278	35%
Idaho Power	\$ 153,000	7%
Energy Trust of Oregon	\$ 262,020	12%
Puget Sound Energy	\$ 383,507	17%
Seattle City Light	\$ 66,020	3%
Snohomish PUD	\$ 59,020	3%
EWEB	\$ 23,000	1%
PacifiCorp (WA ID)	\$ 56,000	2%
Tacoma	\$ 6,020	0.3%
Clark PUD	\$ 5,000	0.2%
Northeast Utilities (NEEP)	\$ 94,955	4%
Ten NE Utilities for RTUG Project	\$ 24,100	1%
Northwest Gas Association (NWGA)	\$ 46,487	2%
NW Power and Conservation Council	\$ 67,500	3%
Oregon Dept of Energy	\$ 35,000	2%
NEEA	\$ 100,000	4%
Total Core & Subscription Funding	\$2,252,927	100%

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Conservation Council

Proposed 2010 Work Plan & Budget Summary

TABLE 2 - SUMMARY OF PROPOSED 2010 RTF BUDGET BY ACTIVITY

Category	Estimated Budget	Share of Total
Technology Reviews, Streamlined Protocols & Scoping Studies	\$622,500	46%
Comparative Reviews, Data Updates	\$415,000	31%
RTF & PTR Websites	\$125,000	9%
Support Activities	\$195,000	14%
Total	\$1,357,500	100%

- Combined Core & Subscription Projects
- Limited by RTF Capacity Under Current Structure
- Proposed Funding Shares Same as Proposed NEEA Allocations
 - BPA, IOUs, ETO, and 8 Large POU

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Northwest Power and Conservation Council