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December 3, 2013

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Power Committee

**FROM:** Charlie Black

**SUBJECT:** Draft Schedule for Seventh Northwest Power Plan

Council staff is continuing to develop a draft schedule and process for the upcoming Seventh Northwest Power Plan. This effort has included informal check-ins with a variety of regional groups; further such discussions will be taking place.

The meeting on December 10 provides a timely opportunity for the Power Committee to review and discuss the current draft process description and overall schedule for the power plan. The attached "Seventh Power Plan Process", "Seventh Plan Timeline" and "Seventh Plan Major Deliverables" documents are provided for your review and will be discussed at the Power Committee meeting.

## Process Overview

Development of the Seventh Power Plan begins in earnest this fall. Most of the advisory committees have held kick off meetings in the last few months, and work to develop various forecasts, related research, analytical tools, and project planning is underway.

Engaging the public and stakeholders in the development of the plan is a Council priority. In addition to the advisory committee work, staff has presented energy primers and process overviews at Council meetings to prepare members and the public on key issues. We have also held symposiums on plan-related topics such as carbon emissions and California's energy markets, with more planned in the months ahead.

A draft schedule is being developed and work during 2014 will include: develop an environmental methodology, extensive public engagement to interested parties, framing issues for analysis, and continued work on forecasts, assumptions and inputs. In early 2015, system modeling will ramp up. We expect to release the draft plan for public comment in late summer 2015. We expect the final version to be adopted by the Council at the end of 2015 or the beginning of 2016.

Three major items are affecting the plan's schedule:

- Redeveloping the regional portfolio model - including selecting a vendor and working with them to complete the project by the beginning of 2015
- Development of updated environmental methodology
- Additional time to complete the fish and wildlife program

The Council is committed to actively engaging all interested parties in the Seventh Power Plan process, and we welcome your comments and questions.

Key Contacts:

- Charlie Black - Power Planning Director
- Mark Walker - Public Affairs Director
- Chad Madron - Project Specialist

<http://www.nwcouncil.org/contact/>

## Analysis Areas of Focus and Tools Used

- **Narratives/Issues Discussion**
- **Assumptions, Forecasts, and Other Inputs with Advisory Committee Review**
- **Market/Industry Analysis (AURORA/Other)**
  - Utility Business Model
  - Energy Efficiency Implementation
  - Differences Among Utilities
- **Adequacy - (Genesys)**
  - Capacity
  - Energy
- **System Integration and Balancing (Metric/Model)**
- **Strategic Risk Analysis (Redeveloped RPM)**
- **Test Policy Propositions (Scenarios)**

## Advisory Committees

The Council's advisory committees provide forums for discussion and important information used in developing the power plans. Members include a wide range of stakeholders from utilities, consumer groups, environmental groups, tribes, government agencies, and energy organizations. They are an opportunity for regional interests to work with Council staff and discuss aspects of the plan as it is developed. All advisory committee meetings are open to the public.

Go to the Council's energy site and use the left navigation pane to explore each committee's webpage:  
<http://www.nwcouncil.org/energy/>

### **Demand Forecast Advisory Committee**

Reviews the methods, demand forecasting tools, input assumptions and forecast results, used in developing the Council's demand forecasts

### **Natural Gas Advisory Committee**

Reviews the Council's fuel price forecasting assumptions and models for natural gas, oil, and coal

### **Generating Resources Advisory Committee**

Evaluates the cost, characteristics, and environmental impacts of generating resources and technologies

### **Conservation Resources Advisory Committee**

Reviews policies and programs to assess how much energy efficiency is available and cost-effective

### **System Analysis Advisory Committee**

Reviews the Council's computer models and provides advice on their development

### **Resource Strategies Advisory Committee**

Reviews the methods, key assumptions, and other major analytical inputs used in developing the resource plan

### **Resource Adequacy Advisory Committee**

Defines and assesses power supply adequacy and related issues





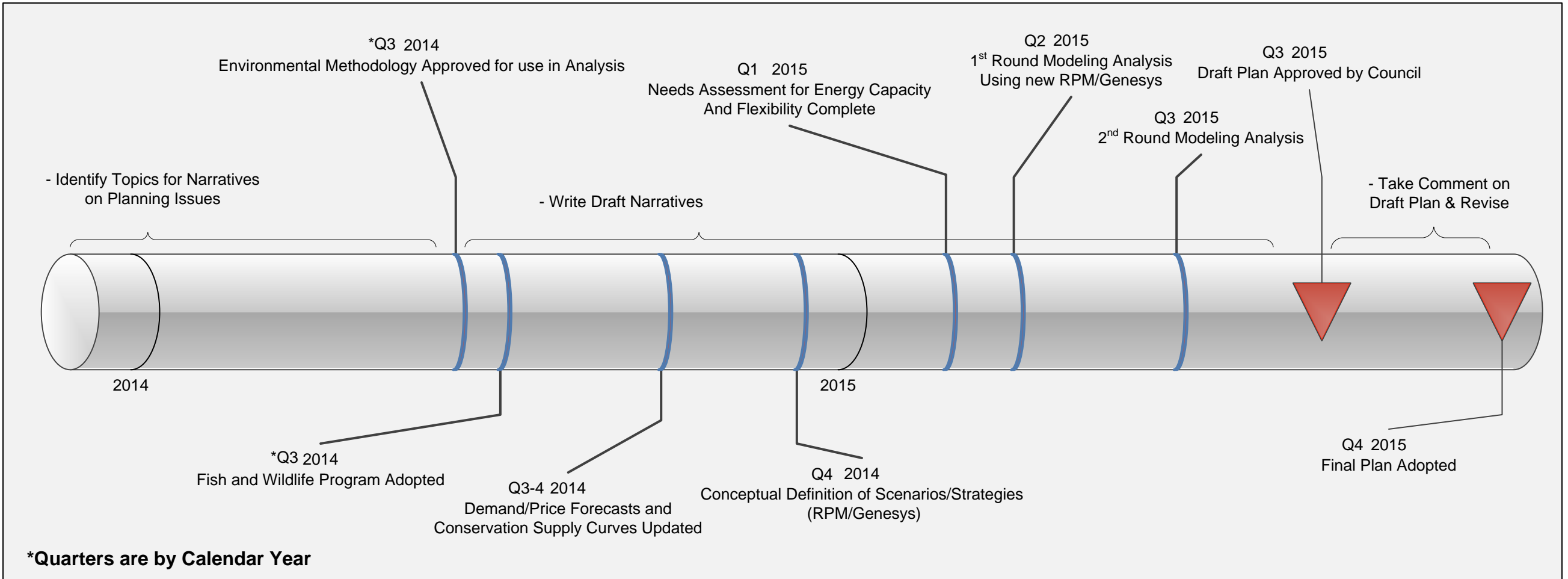
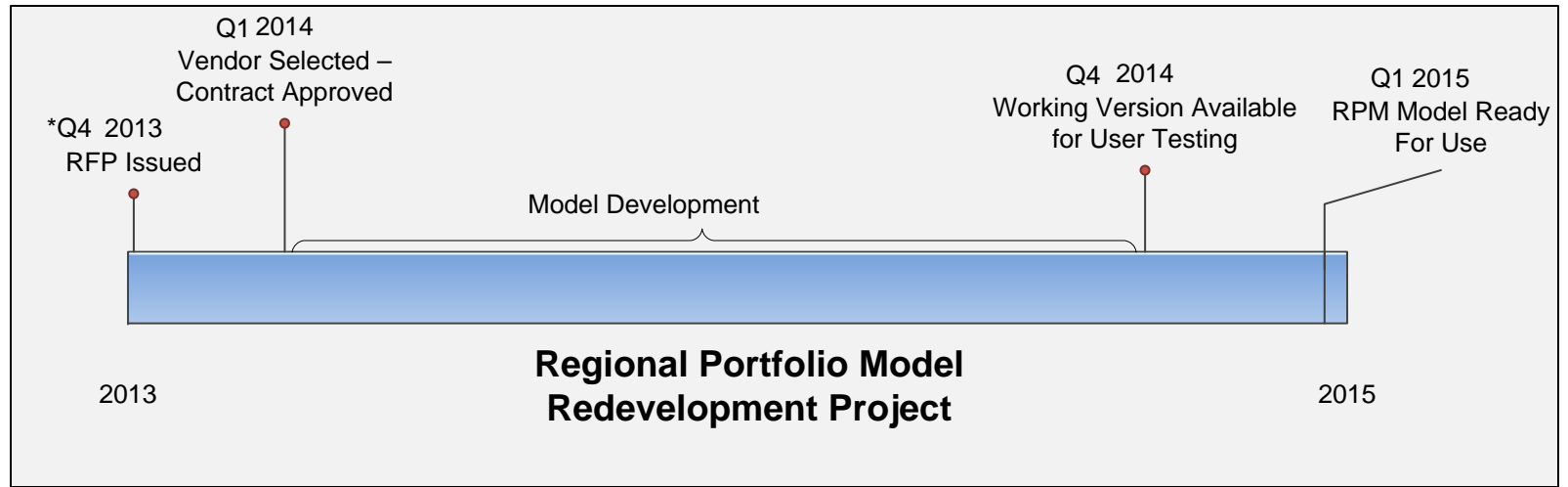
# Seventh Plan Timeline

All dates are **DRAFT**

High level overview of key deliverables

### Engagement Throughout Plan Process:

- Power Committee and Council Meetings
- Advisory committee meetings
- Symposiums
- Other Discussions with Regional Interests
- Council Website as Communication Vehicle



## Seventh Plan Major Deliverables

last updated 12/05/2013

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Deliverable	Quarter Due ( <b>Draft!</b> )
Council Decisions on assumptions, forecasts and other inputs	Ongoing
Narratives on Power Planning Topics and Issues (RSAC) - Identify Topics and Issues we will address - Narrative process will help drive the analysis	Ongoing through 2014/early 2015
Prepare Genesys Model for Energy and Capacity Analysis -Define study cases, prepare input data and assumptions	Q2 2014
Development of Flexibility Analysis Method	Q2 2014
Hydro System Representation - Including Fish and Wildlife Program	Q2 2014
Environmental Method Approved for Use in Analysis	Q3 2014
Fish and Wildlife Program Adopted	Q3 2014
Draft Results of Gensys Model Analysis	Q3 2014
Update of Gas Price Forecast	Q3 2014
Draft Results of Flexibility and Balancing Analysis	Q4 2014
Demand Forecast Updated	Q4 2014
Load Forecast Updated	Q4 2014
Conservation Supply Curves Updated	Q4 2014
Conceptual Definition of Scenarios and Strategies to be Analyzed (RPM/Genesys)	Q4 2014
Generating Resource Characterization	Q4 2014
RPM Redevelopment Phase 1 Complete (able to use for plan)	Q1 2015
Demand Response Supply Curves	Q1 2015
Wholesale Power Price Forecast (for Seventh Plan version)	Q1 2015
Needs Assessment for Energy Capacity and Flexibility	Q1 2015
Organize Modeling Inputs (Council Sign Offs, Final versions for use in models) (RSAC)	Q2 2015
First Round Modeling Analysis (RPM)	Q2 2015
Refine and Update Scenarios and Strategies for Second Round of Modeling Analysis (RSAC)	Q2 2015
Second Round Modeling Analysis	Q3 2015
Council Approves Resource Strategy	Q3 2015
Draft Action Plan	Q3 2015
Draft Plan Approved by Council, issued for comment process	Q3 2015
Regional Meetings on Draft Plan (all four states)	Q3/Q4 2015
Final Plan Approved by Council	Q4 2015

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