

Joan M. Dukes  
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Bruce A. Measure  
Montana

James A. Yost  
Idaho

W. Bill Booth  
Idaho



Rhonda Whiting  
Vice-Chair  
Montana

Bill Bradbury  
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Tom Karier  
Washington

Phil Rockefeller  
Washington

March 29, 2012

## DECISION MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Council members

**FROM:** Ken Dragoon  
Manager, System Analysis and Generation

**SUBJECT:** Approval of charter for Generating Resources Advisory Committee

**PROPOSED ACTION:** Authorize the creation of, and approve a two-year charter for a Generating Resources Advisory Committee (GRAC).

### SIGNIFICANCE

The GRAC charter expires May 12, 2012. The GRAC helped to develop the generation technology availability and cost assumptions in the Council's Sixth Power Plan. There is a continuing role for the GRAC in the regular assessment of generating technologies and costs compared to the Power Plan. The Sixth Power Plan action items call for renewed emphasis on the cost and availability of new hydro power developments that the GRAC will undertake. The Council needs the technical advice of experts in a wide range of technologies to undertake this effort.

### BUDGETARY/ECONOMIC IMPACTS

Support for the GRAC will cost approximately \$10,000 per year in travel support to public committee members. In addition, about 8 weeks of staff time will be required to coordinate meetings and prepare minutes.

### BACKGROUND

In the past, a Generating Resources Advisory Committee (GRAC) has been established 18 to 24 months in advance of the expected adoption of a regional power plan to review the generating resource data and assumptions going into the development of the plan. The committee is typically comprised of representatives of Bonneville, public and investor-owned utilities, relevant state agencies, power plant developers and public interest groups. The committee helps identify sources of information and reviews planning data and assumptions for accuracy and reasonableness.

The Sixth Power Plan GRAC was authorized in April 2008 for a two-year period. Rather than allowing the charter to lapse until work commences on the next power plan, the GRAC has been

maintained as a standing committee whose charter is now up for renewal. The renewal will allow time to advise the Council during the mid-term assessment and begin laying the groundwork for the Seventh Power Plan.

### **ANALYSIS**

Attached is a copy of the proposed charter for the Generating Resources Advisory Committee. The charter was prepared in accordance with the Council's policy on advisory committees and the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

We could accomplish similar results without actually creating an advisory committee. That would require meetings and consultations between Council staff and many different groups and would lack the benefit of getting the region's experts together in one place to discuss the issues.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Generating Resources Advisory Committee Charter

## Current GRAC members

Rob Anderson, BPA  
Mike Bradshaw, Chelan PUD  
David Clement, Seattle City Light  
Ken Dragoon, Council  
Chris Johnson, Benton County PUD  
Clint Kalich, Avista  
Jeff King, Council  
Keith Knitter, Grant County PUD  
Brian Kuehne, Portland General Electric  
Greg Nothstein, CTED  
Phil Obenchain, PacifiCorp  
Phillip Popoff, Puget Sound Energy  
Brenda Sirois, EWEB  
Rick Sterling, Idaho PUC  
Mark Stokes, Idaho Power Company  
Angela Tanghetti, California Energy Commission  
Dave Vidaver, California Energy Commission  
Kevin Watkins, PNGC Power  
Peter West, Energy Trust of Oregon

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## **NORTHWEST POWER AND CONSERVATION COUNCIL**

### **CHARTER OF THE GENERATING RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

1. **Official Designation:** This advisory committee will be known as the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's Generating Resources Advisory Committee.
2. **Background:** The Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act, P.L. 96-501, 16 U.S.C. §839 et seq. (Act), in Section 4(e)(3)(D), requires the Pacific Northwest Electric Power and Conservation Planning Council (Council) to develop "a regional conservation and electric power plan." The plan is to include a twenty year forecast of electricity demand and a resource plan for the development of conservation and generation to meet the demand at the lowest cost consistent with adequate and reliable electricity service. The Generating Resources Advisory Committee will assist the Council in its development and implementation of the Northwest Conservation and Electric Power Plan (power plan) by advising on data, assumptions and analyses regarding generating resources.

This advisory committee is established as part of a network of advisory committees satisfying the Council's obligation under the Act to establish a Scientific and Statistical Advisory Committee. Section 4(c)(11). Under Section 4(a)(4) of the Act, the terms of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. Appendix I, sections 1-14, apply "to the extent appropriate" to the Council's advisory committees.

3. **Objectives and Scope of Activity:** The Generating Resources Advisory Committee will advise the Council regarding generating resource and technology alternatives having significance to the development and implementation of the power plan. Activities of the Committee will include:
  - (A) Assisting in the identification of generating resources and technology alternatives having significance to the power plan and its implementation.
  - (B) Assisting in the identification of sources of technical, cost, environmental and other important information concerning significant generating resources and technology alternatives.
  - (C) Reviewing the information and assumptions concerning generating resources and technology alternatives.
  - (D) Reviewing and interpreting the analyses concerning generating resources and technology alternatives undertaken for development of the power plan.

4. Official to Whom the Advisory Committee Reports: The Generating Resources Advisory Committee will report to the Council's Executive Director.
5. Authority of the Advisory Committee: The Generating Resources Advisory Committee will serve in an advisory capacity only. Neither the Committee nor its members are authorized to make statements or commitments on behalf of the Council. Non-staff members of the Committee are not Council employees.
6. Estimated Annual Operating Costs in Dollars and Person-Years: Fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) per year and two staff month during development of the power plan; twelve hundred dollars (\$1,200) to twenty-four hundred dollars (\$2,400) per year and one to two staff weeks during implementation of the power plan.
7. Advisory Committee Members: The chair of the advisory committee, in consultation with the Director of the Power Planning Division, will solicit technical experts to participate on the advisory committee from a wide range of regional stakeholders. The Council's Executive Director shall approve the participants and, in doing so, shall ensure that membership of the advisory committee is fairly balanced in terms of the points of view represented and the functions to be performed by the advisory committee. Committee members shall be selected based primarily on their technical expertise and experience. All Committee members serve at the pleasure of the Council.
8. Advisory Committee Management Officer: The Advisory Committee Management Officer (Management Officer) for the Generating Resources Advisory Committee will be the Director of the Council's Power Planning Division.
9. Chair:
  - (A) The Chair of the Generating Resources Advisory Committee will be Ken Dragoon.
  - (B) The Chair may be called upon to report to the Executive Director of the Council on appropriate matters, including the Advisory Committee's progress on the tasks described in Part 3 of this Charter.
  - (C) The duties of the Chair will include presiding over Generating Resources Advisory Committee meetings, setting agendas for such meetings, ensuring that detailed minutes of such meetings are prepared and submitted to the Executive Director of the Council in a timely manner, and maintaining communication between the Committee and the Council's staff.
  - (D) The Chair will certify detailed minutes of meetings of the Generating Resources Advisory Committee. The minutes should include a complete and accurate description of matters discussed, conclusions reached, actions taken, persons invited to meet with the Committee, and persons in attendance. The minutes also will include copies of reports received, issued or approved by the Committee. Minutes of meetings will be prepared and released within ten days of the meeting, unless the Management Officer is granted. The Chair will distribute copies of the minutes to members of the Committee and other interested persons.

- (E) Subcommittees or small workgroups of the Generating Resources Advisory Committee may be established by the Chair of the Committee to undertake particular aspects of the Committee's work. Methods for organizing the work and procedures of the Committee must follow the scope of responsibilities assigned to the Committee by the Council. Council staff will make arrangements for Committee meetings and provide general support services.
10. Vice-Chair: A Vice-Chair of the Generating Resources Advisory Committee may be appointed from Council staff by the Council's Executive Director. The Vice-Chair will perform the duties of the Chair of the Committee in the absence of the Chair, and such other duties as the Chair of the Committee may assign.
  11. Rules: The advisory committee rules approved and adopted by the Council on March 17, 1982, as amended from time to time, will apply to the Generating Resources Advisory Committee to the extent such matters are not covered in this Charter.
  12. Estimated Frequency of Committee Meetings: The Chair of the Generating Resources Advisory Committee, after consultation with the Management Officer, or his designee, will call meetings as necessary. The estimated frequency of meetings during development of a power plan is quarterly. The estimated frequency of meetings during implementation of a power plan is semi-annual to annual. All meetings will be open to the public, unless closed pursuant to 5 U.S.C. §552b(c). Timely notice of meetings, including agendas, will be made. Interested persons may attend Committee meetings and appear before or file statements with the Committee pursuant to the Council's advisory committee rules and subject to such other rules as the Council may prescribe.
  13. Reimbursement of Expenses: The Council will reimburse public members of the Generating Resources Advisory Committee for travel, including per diem in lieu of subsistence in accordance with the Council's travel regulations for contractors and advisory committee members, for the purpose of attending Committee meetings as authorized by 5 U.S.C. §5703. The Executive Director shall determine who public members are.
  14. Duration: The Generating Resources Advisory Committee will terminate two years from the date this Charter is adopted unless renewed in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

This Charter for the Generating Resources Advisory Committee was approved and adopted at a duly noticed meeting of the Northwest Power and Conservation Council, April 11, 2012 at Stevenson, Washington.

NORTHWEST POWER AND CONSERVATION COUNCIL

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Joan Dukes, Chair

Date Filed: \_\_\_\_\_

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