

**Jeffery C. Allen**  
Chair  
Idaho

**Ed Schriever**  
Idaho

**Doug Grob**  
Montana

**Mike Milburn**  
Montana



## **Northwest Power and Conservation Council**

**KC Golden**  
Vice Chair  
Washington

**Thomas L (Les) Purce**  
Washington

**Ginny Burdick**  
Oregon

**Louie Pitt, Jr.**  
Oregon

### **Council Meeting Summary July 9 & 10, 2024 at Portland, OR and via Webinar**

This is a summary of the Council's July 2024 public meeting and the actions the Council decided upon. The meeting agenda and presentation materials for each agenda item during the meeting are posted at <https://www.nwcouncil.org/calendar/council-meeting-2024-07-09/>. The meeting recording and a copy of this summary will also be posted on that page.

#### **July 9, 2024**

Council Chair Jeffery Allen brought the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. (PST). Council Members Ginny Burdick, KC Golden, Mike Milburn, Louie Pitt Jr., Thomas L (Les) Purse, and Ed Schriever were in attendance in Portland, OR. Member Doug Grob attended virtually.

#### **Power Division Update and Planning**

Jennifer Light, the Council's Director of Power Planning, provided a brief overview of the power division work items and spoke to the power items on the meeting agenda. The items included the final adequacy assessment and seeking approval from Council members on the executive summary, as well as continuing work on the preparation for the 9<sup>th</sup> Power Plan. Light also shared that there will be a final market study presented next month, that there will be a meeting of the climate and weather advisory committee, and some changes to the power division staffing.

Presentation materials are at <https://vimeo.com/982050020#t=0m34s>.

## **Council Meeting Agenda Items**

### **1. Conservation Methodology Primer**

Council Power Staff Kevin Smit and Christian Douglass presented on the methodology for the development of the energy efficiency supply curve. As part of the Council's work to analyze energy efficiency, the supply curve provides bundles of the amount of energy efficiency available at different price points, with information on seasonal attributes. Smit and Douglass shared what is new for the upcoming ninth plan including expanding Council work to 17 zones/balancing authorities.

Presentation materials are at [https://www.nwcouncil.org/fs/18814/2024\\_0709\\_1.pdf](https://www.nwcouncil.org/fs/18814/2024_0709_1.pdf).

### **2. NEEA Residential Building Stock Assessment Results Overview**

Kevin Smit, Council's Manager of Power Planning and Resources introduced Mike Psaris, Senior Program Manager at Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (NEEA). Psaris presented a brief overview and high-level results of the recently completed NEEA 2022 Residential Building Stock Assessment (RBSA). The RBSA is an important input into the Council's energy efficiency and load forecasting work as it provides a valuable data set of residential usage by housing type. Psaris walked through the results from the study.

Presentation materials are at [https://www.nwcouncil.org/fs/18815/2024\\_0709\\_2.pdf](https://www.nwcouncil.org/fs/18815/2024_0709_2.pdf).

### **3. Final Adequacy Assessment**

Council Power Staff Dor Hirsh Bar Gai and John Ollis presented the final resource adequacy assessment results for the 2029 operating year using the Council's multi-metric adequacy approach. Hirsh Bar Gai shared a brief background on adequacy assessments and assessment setup scenarios including reference, higher data center load (in region), and the low end of the EE target. The analysis shows that in the reference scenario, the region remains adequate if the region continues to implement the power plan strategy; if we only achieve the low end of the Council's energy efficiency target the region will not have an adequate system; and if we face high data center loads the region also will not maintain adequacy.

Jennifer Light, the Council's Director of Power Planning, presented the executive summary draft and Council members provided approval of the summary.

Presentation materials are at [https://www.nwcouncil.org/fs/18816/2024\\_0709\\_3.pdf](https://www.nwcouncil.org/fs/18816/2024_0709_3.pdf).

Chair Allen adjourned the meeting at 4:28 p.m. (PST).

**July 10, 2024**

### **Fish and Wildlife Update and Planning**

Patty O'Toole, the Council's Fish and Wildlife Division Director, provided a brief overview of the fish and wildlife items on the agenda. O'Toole informed the Council that the Regional Coordination Forum (RCF) meeting will be held on July 11, 2024, and shared topics of discussion for today's Council meeting including context for the umbrella habitat projects.

Presentation materials are at <https://vimeo.com/982252782#t=0m18s>.

### **Council Meeting Agenda Items**

#### **4. Looking ahead to amendment of the Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program**

Council Staff Patty O'Toole, John Shurts, and Kris Homel presented an overview of early planning tasks and considerations related to amending the Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program. Topics discussed were the Fish and Wildlife Program amendment process as described within the Northwest Power Act, the intersection of the Fish and Wildlife Program with power planning, a summary of the details of the 2014/2020 Fish and Wildlife Program that will be what is amended, a description of program performance information the staff hopes to present in the run-up to the amendment process, and some comments about the broader regional context that influences the content of a program amendment process. The staff reviewed with the Council a proposed timeframe for calling for recommendations for the amendment in January 2025. The staff will bring forward a series of amendment related discussions each month for the remainder of 2024 to help the Council and others prepare for the amendment process. The Council members expressed their comfort with this general timeline.

Presentation materials are at [https://www.nwcouncil.org/fs/18817/2024\\_0709\\_4.pdf](https://www.nwcouncil.org/fs/18817/2024_0709_4.pdf).

#### **5. Update on Project #2009-012-00, Willamette Bi-Op Habitat Restoration**

Maureen Hess, Council's Fish and Wildlife Program Scientist, provided a brief update on the purpose of the Willamette Bi-Op Habitat Restoration umbrella project. Hess then introduced Eric Williams, Grant Program Manager and Denise Hoffert, Partnerships Coordinator, with the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board. The Council has requested periodic updates of the various umbrella projects, and this project is one of the seven umbrella projects in the Program. Williams provided a brief background and context for the work. Hoffert provided an update and overview of the accomplishments of this project to implement critical mainstem Willamette River habitat protection and restoration activities associated with the Willamette Flood Control Program Biological Opinion. Three anchor habitat areas, where partners have implemented work on the ground, were highlighted including the Chahalpam Project, the Luckiamute Project, and the Finn Rock Beach Project.

Presentation materials are at [https://www.nwcouncil.org/fs/18818/2024\\_0709\\_5.pdf](https://www.nwcouncil.org/fs/18818/2024_0709_5.pdf).

#### **6. Update on Project #2007-397-00, John Day Watershed Restoration**

Maureen Hess also introduced Stefan Kelly, Watershed Restoration Coordinator with the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon to present on the John Day Watershed Restoration project, which solicits and implements watershed restoration activities within the John Day Subbasin. The Council has requested periodic updates on the various umbrella projects, and this project is one of the seven umbrella projects in the Program. Kelly began the presentation by discussing the specifics of the watershed and the project goals, the areas of prioritization, and the progress thus far towards these goals. Kelly highlighted all eleven projects in development within the John Day River Basin and how they are progressing and being monitored.

Presentation materials are at [https://www.nwcouncil.org/fs/18819/2024\\_0709\\_6.pdf](https://www.nwcouncil.org/fs/18819/2024_0709_6.pdf).

#### **7. Remarks by John Hairston**

Bill Edmonds, the Council's Executive Director, introduced John Hairston, Administrator and CEO at Bonneville Power Administration. Hairston shared his plans to ensure Bonneville remains financially strong. He highlighted the many processes and issues under consideration at present, including new power sales contract negotiations and a possible need for new resources, day-ahead market exploration, and transmission development. The Administrator also shared the news that the U.S. and Canada were close to an agreement in principle on the Columbia River Treaty.

Presentation materials are at  
[https://www.nwcouncil.org/fs/18820/2024\\_0709\\_7%20\(1\).pdf](https://www.nwcouncil.org/fs/18820/2024_0709_7%20(1).pdf).

## **8. Council Business**

### **Approval of June 2024 Council Meeting Summary**

Member Golden moved that the Council approve for the signature of the Vice-Chair the official summary of the June 2024 Council Meeting held in Helena, Montana, and via webinar, as presented by staff.

Member Burdick seconded.

No discussion.

Voice vote – all in favor, none opposed.

Motion was approved.

The approved summary of the June 2024 Council meeting and other materials from that meeting are at [https://www.nwcouncil.org/fs/18821/2024\\_0709\\_8a.pdf](https://www.nwcouncil.org/fs/18821/2024_0709_8a.pdf).

Member Golden moved that the Council adopt the Fiscal Year 2026 and Fiscal Year 2025 revised budgets and authorize reprogramming of available Fiscal Year 2024 funds for unanticipated Fiscal Year 2024 costs, as presented by staff.

Member Burdick seconded.

No discussion.

Voice vote – all in favor, none opposed.

Motion was approved.

Presentation materials are at [https://www.nwcouncil.org/fs/18822/2024\\_0709\\_8b.pdf](https://www.nwcouncil.org/fs/18822/2024_0709_8b.pdf).

### **Public Comments**

No public comment.

Chair Allen adjourned the meeting at 1:54 p.m. (PST).