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April 1, 2025

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Jennifer Light, Director of Power Planning

SUBJECT: Power Plan Update

BACKGROUND:

Presenter: Jennifer Light

Summary: The Power Division is preparing the Council's Ninth Regional Power Plan. Because this is a long process with many interconnected components, staff plan a standing item at Council meetings to provide members an update on the status of work to date and highlight next steps.

Of particular note for the April update, staff will walk through the division's plans to maintain the power plan development timeline working towards final delivery of the plan by the end of 2026.

Relevance: Under the Northwest Power Act, the Council is required to review its power plan no less frequently than once every five years. The Council initiated its review of the power plan in February 2025, with a goal of developing a final power plan by November 2026.

Workplan: B. Development of Ninth Power Plan



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Reminder of Where We Are

Month	Council meeting agenda item
February (Portland, OR)	Power Plan Kickoff (2 hr) ✓
	Proposed Natural Gas and Other Fuels Price Forecast (1 hr) ✓
	Proposed Reference Plants for the Ninth Plan – Part 1 of 2 (1 hr) ✓
March (Portland, OR)	Proposed Reference Plants for Ninth Plan – Part 2 of 2 (1.5 hr) ✓
	Proposed Conservation Supply Curve – Part 1 of 3 (1 hr) ✓
	Proposed Ninth Plan Demand Forecast – Part 1 of 2 (1 hr) ✓
	Primer on Needs Assessment (45 min) ✓
	Primer on WECC-Wide Buildout Study (45 min) ✓

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The 9th Northwest Regional Power Plan

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Power Plan Elements Discussed

Cross Cutting Assumptions:

Forecast Period

Financial Parameters

Peak and Line Loss Assumptions

Climate and Weather Data

Natural gas and coal price forecasts

Treatment of Costs:

Existing policies and goals

Consistent treatment of costs

Environmental methodology

Approach to social cost of carbon

Scoping Considerations:

Representation of existing system

New Resource & Transmission Risk Scenario Scope

Hydro Flexibility Scenario Scope

Power System Model Inputs:

Load forecast trajectories

New generating resource options

New conservation potential

New demand response potential

New behind the meter potential

Color Key:

Locked in

Nearing completion

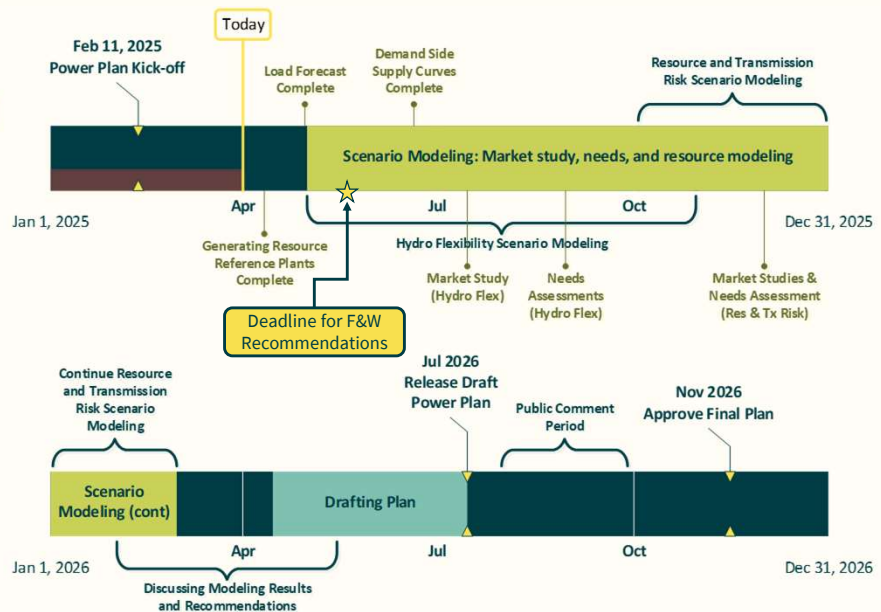
More Council discussion to come

Not yet discussed at Council

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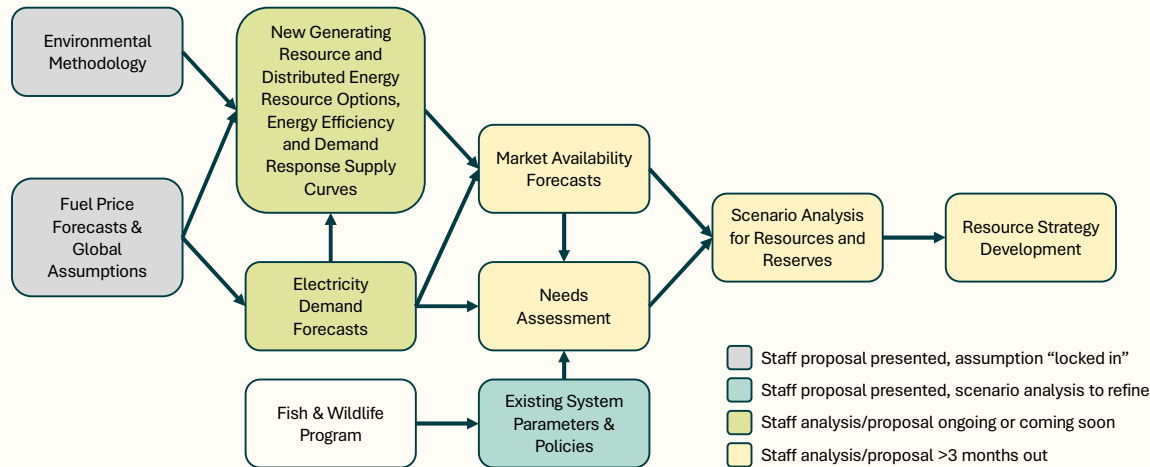
Power Plan Timeline

- At this point, timeline is still on track for a July 2026 draft plan and a final by the end of 2026
- New deadline for recommendations still allows us time for scoping and modeling the Hydro Flexibility Scenario



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Where We Are in the Process



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What's Coming Up?

Month	Council meeting agenda item
April (Portland, OR)	Approach to Social Cost of Carbon (15 min) Added Developing Demand Forecast Pathways (30 min) Added Proposed Rooftop Solar Potential (30 min) Outside the Northwest Load and Resources Assumptions (1 hr) Proposed Adequacy Criteria for Ninth Plan (45 min) Primer on OptGen/SDDP Model (45 min)
April Webinar	Proposed Ninth Plan Demand Forecast (2 hr)
May (Pasco, WA)	Proposed Conservation Supply Curve – Part 2 of 3 (1-1.5 hr) Proposed Demand Response Supply Curve (1 hr)
June (Missoula, MT)	Proposed Conservation Supply Curve – Part 3 of 3 (1 hr) Proposed Scope of Hydro Flexibility Scenario (45 min)

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Questions?