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## Northwest Power and Conservation Council

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Oregon

December 9, 2025

### DECISION MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Council members

**FROM:** Laura Thomas  
Regional Technical Forum Manager

**SUBJECT:** Appointment of RTF Chair for Remainder of 2025-2027 Membership Term

**PROPOSED ACTION:** Staff is seeking decision from the Council on the appointment of Kevin Smit to RTF Chair for 2026-2027.

**SIGNIFICANCE:** Per the RTF charter, the Council appoints the RTF members including the Chair and Vice Chair for three-year terms. The current members are appointed through 2027. Staff is seeking appointment of Kevin Smit to serve as RTF Chair for the remainder of the 2025-2027 RTF membership term.

### BUDGETARY/ECONOMIC IMPACTS

There are no budgetary impacts associated with this decision. The RTF is primarily funded by regional utilities and Bonneville, with the Council providing staff time, website maintenance, and office and meeting space resources.

### BACKGROUND

In October 2024, the Council appointed 30 RTF voting members, including Jennifer Light as the Chair for the 2025-2027 term. Jennifer is now stepping down from this position to focus on power planning responsibilities. Staff is seeking for the Council to appoint Kevin Smit as the RTF Chair for the remainder of the current term.

The RTF is an advisory committee to the Council and it plays a key role in the region as a non-constituent based committee of technical experts who develop standardized estimation

methods and protocols for verifying and evaluating conservation savings. Since its formation in 1999, the independence of this body has provided valuable and lasting expertise to the region's conservation work. As part of appointing the RTF voting members, the Council per the RTF charter also selects the RTF Chair and Vice Chair. While not required by the charter and bylaws, the Council has traditionally appointed staff to the Chair and Vice-Chair positions. With Jennifer stepping down, appointing Kevin Smit, Manager of Power Planning Resources for the Council, will help ensure continued Council staff representation and expertise in this role. Kevin has deep expertise with the RTF activities and is well positioned to serve this role going forward. Christian Douglass, Senior Energy Analyst for the Council will continue as RTF Vice-Chair.

#### **ALTERNATIVES**

Council could choose to identify another individual to appoint as Chair for the RTF. Staff does not recommend this given the expertise and experience Kevin Smit would bring to the RTF.