MINUTES
FIRST MEETING OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST ELECTRIC
POWER PLANNING AND CONSERVATION COUNCIL

April 28, 1981
Portland School Board Auditorium
Portland, Oregon

Members attending: D. Chris Carlson

Keith L. Colbo Charles T. Collins Daniel J. Evans Leroy H. Hemmingway Gerald H. Mueller Robert W. Saxvik Herbert M. Schwab

Interim Staff Attending:

Ed Sheets, Interim Executive Director Dick Watson, Washington State Energy Office

The first meeting of the Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Council was called to order by Acting Chairman Herbert M. Schwab at 10:00 a.m. Acting Chairman Schwab introduced the members of the Council. He then explained the role of the Transition Team. The team has attempted to identify tasks of the Council and organization options of the Council It is not a policy making body and has not taken any action that will bind the Council. Since this meeting is an organizational meeting, there will be no public comment period.

Before any substantive decisions are made, there will be many meetings at which public participation will be invited and adequate notice will be given.

Governor Victor Atiyeh of Oregon spoke to the Council and said Oregon is proud to be the host of this first historic meeting of the Council. The creation of the Council formalized the spirit of cooperation among the four states in implementing the Regional Act. We can now move forward with effective electrical conservation programs on a regional basis, with renewable energy development that makes sense.

Governor Spellman of Washington spoke then to the Council and said the problem of utilizing energy source we have and expanding it, conserving it and using it to the best advantage is a great opportunity for the Council. It will be the Council's task to assess what we have, to forecast what we need, to plan alternative sources and not reject out-of-hand any possible solution. Governor Ted Schwinden of Montana indicated that the Council has the opportunity to write a blueprint for this region's energy future. Energy is the key element in the opportunity for development of all four states. He extended the full commitment of the state of Montana for cooperation.

Council member Bob Saxvik then read a letter from Governor Evans of Idaho which stated that through the efforts of the Council, the Northwest will realize the many benefits promised by the Northwest Power Bill. He committed the assistance of his office to work with the Council.

Earl Gjelde, Acting Administrator of Bonneville, then spoke to the Council, echoing the governors' words of optimism for regional cooperation and promising BPA support in the Council's efforts. He referred to the Council as the region's principal electric power policy maker and to BPA as the principal policy implementor. He pledged that BPA will do whatever it can to assure that the promise of the Regional Act is fulfilled.

Chris Carlson asked: "Does Bonneville contemplate waiting for the Council to complete its actions and promulgate the plan, even a draft plan, before the Administrator makes his decision on contracting for power from WPPSS 4 and 5?

Earl Gjelde: "Yes".

Mr. Gjelde told the Council that they would not be caught off guard by any BPA actions, that they would have access to any BPA plans for fish and wildlife, resource acquisition or concervation during the Council's planning stage and afterward.

Mr. Evans expressed concern over BPA's deadline of May 1 for consultations about the power sales contracts, and the short time frame before the average system cost methodology has to be developed. He didn't think the Council would be able to be fully involved in the development of the average system cost methodology with such tight timelines in place.

Mr. Gjelde indicated that all the contracts are reviewable by the Council at any time and that the power sales contracts do not state what the loads will be or how they will be met. It will be up to the Council to determine what the load is and how it should be met. The power sales contracts in no way preclude the action of the Council.

Establishment of the Council

David Stevens, Energy Advisor to Governor Spellman, then explained the options that the Council has for its initial formulation and organization.

Mr. Hemmingway said that the April 28 date makes the most sense. The date is important in that the Council cannot have any expenses paid before that date and two years from the date of establishment the Plan is due. The public would expect the Council to have a plan in effect two years after the first meeting.

It was moved and unanimously approved that April 28 be the date for the formal enactment of the Council.

The Governors of the four states signed a letter notifying the President of the U. S. Senate and the Speaker of the U. S. House of Representatives of the official establishment of the Council. The Council members signed a letter notifying the Secretary of Energy and members of the energy committees in the House and Senate and Bonneville Power Administration of the Council's establishment.

Transition Team Report

Ed Sheets, transition team member from Washington, briefed the Council on the actions of the transition team. He distributed a copy of the transition team report which contained recommendations for the Council's organization, budget, bylaws, agreement with BPA and initial work plan.

Bylaws

Bob Lenaghan of Idaho then distributed the draft Bylaws.

Lloyd Marbet of Forelaws on Board objected to the fact that the Council had not made public the draft Bylaws and asked that the Council postpone discussion of the adoption of the Bylaws until the public has had a chance to review them and make comment.

Mr. Hemmingway indicated that the Bylaws that are drafted are specifically missing the portion that would indicate how the Council will conduct its hearings process and make its decisions on substantive matters. There is nothing of tremendous significance in these Bylaws today that would cause objection by anybody. Acting Chairman Schwab indicated that the Bylaws are purely organizational and have nothing to do with the procedure of the Council. Mr. Evans indicated a need to go forward with the organization of the Council, saying the Bylaws could be amended as needed. It was agreed to read each Bylaw before it was considered so everyone in the room would know what it contained.

It was moved and unanimously adopted that after the word "Council" in the first line of Article I of the bylaws, insert ",hereinafter referred to as the Northwest Power Planning Council or Council."

It was moved and unanimously approved that in Article IV language be inserted that says "The office of Chairman shall rotate annually among the states of Idaho, Oregon, Montana, and Washington, and the Chairman shall not be selected from

representatives of the same state more than once in a four year period, except by a vote of six members of the Council."

It was moved and unanimously passed that in Artivle VIII language be adopted as follows: "The Council shall meet bimonthly at a location rotated among the states of Idaho, Oregon, Montana and Washington unless special circumstances dictate to the contrary, which circumstances shall be noted in the notice of the meeting."

It was suggested by Mr. Hemmingway that provisions be amended to reflect the federal open meeting law and public notice. This suggestion was adopted by the Council.

In Article XI, it was moved and seconded to delete the second sentence of the original material.

In Article XVIII, it was moved to adopt the language "The Council may establish such committees as a majority of its members deem appropriate."

It was then moved and unanimously approved that all Bylaws be adopted as amended.

Election of Officers

Dan Evans was elected as the Council's first chairman.

Bob Saxvik was elected as the Council's first vice-chairman.

Agreement between Council and BPA

David Stevens presented a draft agreement between the Council and BPA, which sets forth the responsibilities of both parties in implementing the Act and outlines the funding procedures for the Council.

It was moved and unanimously approved that the transition team continue to go forward with the negotiations with Bonneville, taking into account the comments of the Council and that upon recommendation of the transition team, Chairman Evans will sign the agreement with Bonneville on behalf of the Council.

It was moved and unanimously approved that the Chairman be authorized to sign the letter requesting funds from BPA upon his execution of the document of agreement with BPA.

After some discussion about who is responsible for auditing the Council, it was agreed that BPA will request a formal opinion from the Comptroller General.

Accounting Services Agreement

Chuck Crump of the State of Oregon Executive Department assisted the Council in finding an accounting service. Mr. Crump recommended the Council hire the firm of Moss Adams based upon their presentation of what they could supply, their cost estimates and various other criteria.

It was moved and unanimously approved that the Chairman be authorized to sign the engagement letter with Moss Adams, CPA, and that the Council finds with respect to the federal law of the making of contracts that that law may not be appropriate due to the need to get an accounting system in service as soon as possible.

Council Organization and Budget

Ed Sheets said the Council was given a charge by the Governors upon formation to put together different ways the Council might organize, the work load requirements and budgetary requirements. The transition team recommended a small central staff with state oversight.

It was moved and unanimously approved that the Council have a central staff with state oversight and leave the details of both central and state budgets to a future meeting until the Council has had a chance to go over the details and receive input.

Discussion of the Initial Work Plan

Ed Sheets presented a draft work plan for the Council. He discussed various procedures to use to begin hiring staff for the Council's central office and indicated that the transition team felt it was important to begin a series of informational briefings as soon as possible on some of the following topics: load forecasting, fish and wildlife, conservation, renewable resources, the hydro-thermal system and transmission network, conventional resources, public participation and the history of the Regional Power Act. The briefings will be public meetings with invited parties addressing the Council on subjects within their expertise. Ed Sheets will take requests from parties interested in addressing the Council. He can be contacted at the Washington State Energy Office, 400 E. Union, ER-11, Olympia, Washington 98504.

Chairman Evans appointed a Personnel Committee and a Work Plan Committee. Personnel Committee: Mr. Colbo, Chairman, Mr. Schwab, Mr. Evans and Mr. Saxvik. Work Plan Committee: Mr. Hemmingway, Chairman, Mr. Carlson, Mr. Mueller and Mr. Collins.

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It was moved and unanimously approved that the Council will meet in Helena, Montana on May 13, 1981 and in Seattle, Washington on May 20 and 21, 1981.

It was agreed that the Council meetings and proceedings will be taped and the tapes made available to the public at the Council offices.

Discussion of Office Site

It was moved and unanimously approved that the decision on location of office space be postponed and made an agenda item for the Montana meeting on May 13.

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.