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February 3, 2005

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Council Members

**FROM:** Dick Watson

**SUBJECT:** Briefing by Washington State Deputy Attorney General Sharon Nelson on *Ending the Energy Stalemate – A Bipartisan Strategy to Meet America's Energy Challenges*

*Ending the Energy Stalemate* is the product of the bipartisan National Commission on Energy Policy. It is a consensus report that offers a balanced and comprehensive approach to the economic, national security, and environmental challenges that the energy issue presents to our nation. There are elements of commonality in this report and the Council's Fifth Power Plan. A summary of that report is attached.

Sharon Nelson represented the Northwest on the Commission. Sharon is currently the Chief of the Consumer Protection Division of the Washington Attorney General's Office. She is also Chair of the Board of Directors of the Consumer's Union and a member of the Board of the North American Electrical Reliability Council, NERC. She is very familiar with Northwest power issues. She served for several years as the Chair of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission and was Chair of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners.

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