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November 2, 2006

MEMORANDUM

TO: Power Committee

FROM: Jeff King

SUBJECT: Status Report for Northwest Wind Integration project

The third meeting of the Technical Work Group (TWG) was held on October 30. The meeting was devoted to discussion of the findings to date by the technical subcommittees, and to the identification of next steps and deliverables for the January meeting of the Policy Steering Committee.

Wind Data and Forecasting: The TWG reached agreement that the wind resource mesoscale modeling effort proposed by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory is needed to fully assess system flexibility (regulation and load-following capability) and transmission needs for integrating the amount of wind likely to be developed in the longer-term in the Northwest. A fully-developed proposal for accomplishing the modeling in 2007 will be provided to the Steering Committee at its January meeting.

System Operators: The first step at assessing regional integration capability will be a "Sum of Utilities" effort combining the results of the individual utility wind integration studies. The total of the BPA, IPCo, Avista & Puget studies is 5850 MW.

Wind Operators: Ramping control capability of current and proposed Northwest projects is being inventoried. The committee will meet with the System Operators committee to determine the conditions under which project output might be curtailed.

Cost Recovery and Regulatory Policy: Alternatives to having load pay for regulation are under investigation by Bonneville. Firm transmission rights as prerequisite for project financing was discussed.

Transmission Planning and Expansion: A forecast of the magnitude and alternative locations of future wind development is needed to proceed. Council staff is preparing this estimate with the assistance of Bonneville. The Technical Working Group as a whole agreed that future Northwest wind power development would likely exceed the 6000 MW of the Fifth Plan.

Flexibility Expansion: This committee is just getting organized and will initially focus on determining how much flexibility can be extracted from the existing system.

Agendas and detailed notes of the Steering Committee and Technical Work Group meetings are posted on the project webpage at <http://www.nwcouncil.org/energy/Wind/Default.asp>.

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