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March 30, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: John Fazio, Senior Power System Analyst
Jim Ruff, Manager, Mainstem Passage and River Operations

SUBJECT: April 2007 Runoff Forecast and Power Supply Status

Purpose

The purpose of this presentation is to provide the Council with updated water supply forecasts for selected sites in the Columbia River Basin and assess potential impacts associated with the forecasts.

April 2007 Water Supply Forecasts

The NOAA Northwest River Forecast Center's official April water supply forecasts, which are the official runoff forecasts for the 2007 season, together with an assessment of potential impacts, will be presented to the Council at its April 18, 2007 meeting in Libby, Montana. Unfortunately, the Northwest River Forecast Center will not have compiled and released its official April runoff forecasts for the Columbia River Basin prior to the packet deadline. Accordingly, an updated memo, including slides with the forecasts and our analysis, will be e-mailed to Council members as soon as the final April water supply forecasts become available and we can complete our analysis during the second week in April.

Power Supply Status for Spring and Summer of 2007

Currently, the regional electricity market has an annual energy surplus of about 1,900 average megawatts based on critical water conditions and assuming that generation from regional uncontracted independent power producers (IPP) is accessible to Northwest utilities. Variations in water supply (runoff volume) from now through the end of summer will not affect the adequacy of the power supply but may lead to small variations in electricity prices.

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