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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Power Committee

**FROM:** Terry Morlan

**SUBJECT:** Proposed Energy Efficiency Forum

Bonneville Power Administration has suggested that they and the Council host an energy efficiency forum to help accelerate the acquisition of improved efficiency in the region. Preliminary discussions of the idea among Steve Wright, Tom Karier, and Bonneville and Council staff have resulted in a draft proposal for such a forum. The proposal identifies goals of the forum, the general structure, and potential participants. We anticipate an initial meeting of high-level policy representatives from a broad array of interested parties. This meeting would identify some strategies to be explored by a second technically oriented group to flesh out specific approaches to implementing the recommendations of the policy level group. The technical group would report back to the policy group, either in a third meeting or in a published report.

The proposal generally reflects Council concerns that the process should not require large amounts of Council staff time when we are developing a new power plan and that it should be a limited process focused on some fairly specific objectives. Council participants felt that the enthusiasm and support for efficiency improvements is already high so the conference need not focus on building support for action. In addition, we did not feel that the forum should try to replicate the technical information that is developed by the Regional Technical Forum (RTF) or the Council's power planning process.

Instead we would like to see the forum focus on ways to accelerate acquisition of efficiency through additional commitment of funds and other support. For example, additional financial commitment to specific opportunities that currently are unfunded, under funded, or not receiving sufficient attention. Some of these have been identified as "orphans" by the RTF, but there may be others that can be identified through the efficiency forum process.

Specific goals of the forum could include, (1) increase the awareness of changing electricity markets, (2) identify barriers to accelerated conservation development, (3) determine opportunities for coordinated regional efforts that would lower the cost or increase the pace of conservation development, (4) develop a plan and secure budget commitments for accelerated

acquisition of efficiency, and (5) provide input to the Council's Sixth Power Plan conservation strategies.