Joan M. Dukes Chair Oregon

Bruce A. Measure Montana

> James A. Yost Idaho

W. Bill Booth Idaho



Rhonda Whiting Vice-Chair Montana

Bill Bradbury Oregon

Tom Karier Washington

Phil Rockefeller Washington

June 12, 2012

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Power Committee Members

FROM: Tom Eckman Sandra Hirotsu

SUBJECT: Regional Technical Forum Membership Solicitation

The Regional Technical Forum (RTF) will be soliciting 20-30 technical experts to serve as Voting Members for the period January 2013 through December 2015. The term for the current group of Voting Members expires at the end of 2012. Nominations for non-voting members (RTF corresponding members, ex officio members and/or interested parties) will also be considered during this process.

Selection of Voting Members will follow the process set forth in the proposed RTF charter and bylaws. The process is also consistent with the RTF's existing charter. The solicitation process will begin in June 2012 with a call for nominees. The process will conclude in October with the Council, in consultation with the Power Committee Chair and Power Division Director, appointing the Voting Members. Although the new Voting Members' term does not begin until January 2013, an October decision by the Council on membership is necessary to ensure Voting Members can make necessary arrangements to participate in the January 2013 RTF meeting.

Attached is a draft solicitation letter that will be forwarded to the energy community as well as posted on the Council's website. Also attached is a draft solicitation letter that will be sent to the regulatory commissions of Idaho, Oregon, Montana and Washington.

W. Bill Booth Chair Idaho

James A. Yost Idaho

Tom Karier Washington

Dick Wallace Washington



Bruce A. Measure Vice-Chair Montana

Rhonda Whiting Montana

Melinda S. Eden Oregon

Joan M. Dukes Oregon

June xx, 2012

Dear Interested Party,

The Northwest Power and Conservation Council (Council) is soliciting applications for appointment to its Regional Technical Forum to serve three years terms beginning January 2013.

The Regional Technical Forum (RTF) was established in 1999. Its function is to advise the Council, the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), the region's utilities, and other organizations, such as the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance and the Energy Trust of Oregon, on technical matters related to conservation and renewable resources development. The RTF develops standardized protocols for verifying and evaluating conservation savings, tracks conservation and renewable resource goals and provides feedback and suggestions for improving the effectiveness of conservation and renewable resource development programs in the region.

Since its formation the RTF has met more than 120 times to review, revise, refine and augment its recommendations. During this period the RTF conducted numerous technical reviews of potentially cost-effective efficiency measures, updated program specifications and developed work scopes for regional evaluation and research. The RTF also conducts regular surveys of the region's utilities and system benefits charge administrators to assess regional progress on conservation and reports its results to the region.<sup>1</sup> The RTF, with funding assistance from BPA, now maintains an extensive online database of conservation measure cost and savings.

The RTF focuses on technical issues not policy. Therefore, RTF members must have expertise and experience in the areas of economic and engineering analysis and the planning, implementation, and evaluation of conservation programs and renewable resource projects. The RTF reviews and provides comments on analyses and other materials prepared by Council and Bonneville staff and RTF contractors. Interested parties might wish to visit the RTF's website to view past meeting agendas, materials and work products to gain a more in-depth view of the topics it addresses.<sup>2</sup>

The RTF meets 10 - 12 times annually. Meetings last most of the day and require some preparation time to review meeting materials. With it increased work load the RTF now relies heavily on subcommittees to assist in its reviews. Therefore, members are also encouraged to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See <u>http://www.nwcouncil.org/energy/rtf/consreport/Default.asp</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See <u>http://www.nwcouncil.org/energy/rtf/Default.htm</u>

participate in subcommittees of the RTF. Members can be reimbursed for their travel. In addition, a limited number of RTF members can be compensated for the time they are engaged in RTF work if their employer does not otherwise reimburse them. Approximately 20 to 30 RTF members will be appointed.

Qualified and interested individuals who are willing to commit the necessary time should submit letters of interest and a resume indicating their areas of technical expertise and experience with their letter of interest. All current members of the RTF will be considered for re-appointment but are required to submit letters of interest and a current resume. Please also indicate if you would need to be compensated for your time.

The Council is aware that all those who might wish to participate in the work of the RTF may not be able to do so. It is also aware that some individuals are interested in only limited topic areas. Therefore, the Council is requesting that individuals indicate whether they would be interesting in serving as "corresponding members." These individuals will placed on an electronic mailing list to receive RTF meeting agendas, working papers and meeting minutes. While "corresponding members" are encouraged to participate in RTF meetings, serve on subcommittees and provide written comments and suggestions on issues it considers, they will not have a vote nor be compensated for their travel or time.

Please address any questions you may have to Tom Eckman the Council's Manager of Conservation Resources who chairs the RTF (503) 222-5161 or <u>Teckman@nwcouncil.org</u>

Please send letters of interest and resumes by August 31, 2012 to:

## **Gillian Charles**

Northwest Power and Conservation Council 851 SW Sixth Ave., Suite 1100 Portland, OR 97204-1348 Ph (503) 222-5161 Fax (503) 820-2370 <u>GCharles@nwcouncil.org</u>

Applicants selected to serve on the RTF will be notified in October. The first RTF meeting for new appointees is scheduled for January x, 2013 at the Council's central offices in Portland.

Sincerely,

Steve Crow

**Executive Director** 

Joan M. Dukes Chair Oregon

Bruce A. Measure Montana

James A. Yost Idaho

W. Bill Booth Idaho



Rhonda Whiting Vice-Chair Montana

Bill Bradbury Oregon

Tom Karier Washington

Phil Rockefeller Washington

June xx, 2012

Dear Commissioner,

The Northwest Power and Conservation Council (Council) is soliciting applications from technical experts for appointment to its Regional Technical Forum for the period January 2013 through December 2015. As state utility regulators, commissioners from Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington and commission staff are offered the opportunity to participate in the RTF as either *ex officio* non-voting members of the RTF or to serve as voting members at their discretion.

The Regional Technical Forum (RTF) was established in 1999. Its function is to advise the Council, the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), the region's utilities, and other organizations, such as the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance and the Energy Trust of Oregon, on technical matters related to conservation and renewable resources development. The RTF develops standardized protocols for verifying and evaluating conservation savings, tracks conservation and renewable resource goals and provides feedback and suggestions for improving the effectiveness of conservation and renewable resource development programs in the region. The RTF, with funding assistance from BPA, now maintains an extensive online database of conservation measure cost and savings. More information about the RTF's work is available on its website at <a href="http://www.nwcouncil.org/energy/rtf/Default.htm">http://www.nwcouncil.org/energy/rtf/Default.htm</a>.

The RTF meets monthly for day-long meetings. Some preparation time before each meeting is recommended in order to review technical materials which are posted online in advance. The RTF also has approximately twenty (20) subcommittees which it relies on to assist in technical reviews. Commissioners or commission staff, whether participating as *ex officio* or voting members, are encouraged to participate in RTF subcommittees. Subcommittee participation is determined on an as-needed basis throughout the year.

Please contact Tom Eckman, the Council's Manager of Conservation Resources and Chair of the RTF if you are interested in serving on the RTF in any capacity or for any questions. <u>Teckman@nwcouncil.org</u> or (503) 222-5161.

Sincerely,

Steve Crow Executive Director

851 S.W. Sixth Avenue, Suite 1100 Portland, Oregon 97204-1348 www.nwcouncil.org

## June 2012 Power Committee and Council Meeting

Regional Technical Forum Membership 2013-2015



