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July 2, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: Power Committee

FROM: Charlie Black

SUBJECT: Briefing on Power Plan Provisions of the Northwest Power Act

During development of the Sixth Northwest Power Plan Mid-Term Assessment, several regional interests provided comments requesting the Council to address significant changes that have occurred since the Northwest Power Act was adopted in 1980, and to consider how these changes can be reflected in development of the Seventh Northwest Power Plan.

As discussed at the Power Committee meeting in Missoula on June 11, 2013, this topic is being addressed in three parts:

1. What requirements does the Northwest Power Act impose regarding the process and content of the Council's Northwest Power Plans?
2. What was the overall context for power planning in 1980 and how did it shape development of the Act and the Council's First Northwest Power Plan?
3. What is the overall context for power planning in 2013 and how should it shape development of the Council's Seventh Northwest Power Plan?

At the Power Committee meeting on July 9, 2013, staff will present information addressing the first item listed above, namely requirements of the Northwest Power Act regarding development of the Council's Northwest Power Plans.