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January 7, 2014

## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Council Members

**FROM:** Charlie Black, Power Planning Division Director

**SUBJECT:** Report on December Cold Snap in the Northwest

In early December 2013, the Pacific Northwest experienced several days of comparatively cold weather. This event provided a good opportunity to observe how the region's power system performed during a period of higher than average electricity demand. These kinds of real-world experiences can help improve the Council's power planning work, particularly including the efforts of the Resource Adequacy Advisory Committee and its annual resource adequacy assessments. They can also demonstrate how effectively the operations of the electric and natural gas industries are coordinated in the region.

At the Council meeting on January 15, several presenters will report on various aspects of the December cold weather event. Speakers will include:

- Jerry D. Rust, President of the Northwest Power Pool
- Mike Rasmuson, Director of Marketing Services for Williams Northwest Pipeline
- Jessica Zahnow, Reporter, U.S. Electricity, Argus Media, Inc.

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