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March 5, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Ben Kujala

SUBJECT: Presentation from Nicole Hughes, Executive Director, Renewable Northwest

BACKGROUND:

Presenter: Nicole Hughes, Executive Director, Renewable Northwest

Summary: Ms. Hughes will provide a brief overview of Renewable Northwest, its 2019 priorities and related issues. She joined as Executive Director in June 2018.

Background: Presentation material and press release attached

More Info: <https://renewablenw.org/>

Press Release

RNP Press Release
June 26, 2018

Board hires new Executive Director of Renewable Northwest

The Board of Renewable Northwest (RNW) today announced that Nicole Hughes will be its new executive director. Renewable Northwest is the region's leading renewable energy advocacy organization. Hughes brings more than 15 years of experience in all aspects of renewable energy development including project management, financing, and strategic policy to the helm of Renewable NW. She succeeds long-time executive director, Rachel Shimshak, who late last year announced plans to leave the organization by this July.

"The Board is very excited to have Nicole lead the Renewable Northwest team and help us continue the groundbreaking work of the past near quarter century," said Nancy Hirsh, Board Chair. "Nicole truly understands what it takes to successfully deliver renewable resources to meet the needs of customers and the region's climate goals."

"I am truly honored to be chosen to lead this incredibly important organization and excited for the challenge of expanding renewables in the region," said incoming Executive Director, Nicole Hughes.



Hughes has worked for the country's leading renewable energy companies, including AWS Truepower, HDR, Inc., Element Power, RES America, Tetra Tech, and the Bonneville Power Administration. With a background in anthropology she entered the industry from a siting and permitting perspective and has grown from there to help integrate the role of public policy, markets, financial drivers and community input while making environmentally responsible renewable energy projects work.

"The organization will be in good hands with Nicole," said outgoing Executive Director, Rachel Shimshak. "Her deep knowledge of renewable resources, and both the business and non-profit elements of our membership, position her well for leadership of the organization and its mission in the broader energy community."

"Nicole enjoys a clear understanding of the critical importance of bringing stakeholders together to develop a shared vision of community success and win-win solutions that move the clean and affordable energy future forward," added Hirsh.

"I have worked with Renewable Northwest and with Nicole for many years, and believe this is a fantastic match," said Chris Taylor, Renewable Energy Asset Manager at Google. "Nicole's depth and breadth of experience across the spectrum of issues RNW works on will allow her to hit the ground running and drive renewable energy growth in the region to new levels. RNW is losing a legend but gaining a rising star."

Hughes will officially take over the leadership of Renewable Northwest near the end of next month.

Renewable Northwest is a regional non-profit of businesses and public interest groups promoting responsibly developed new, renewable resources throughout the Northwest.

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Renewable Northwest Presentation

Northwest Power and Conservation Council

March 12, 2019

Nicole Hughes, Executive Director



Renewable Northwest

- Established 25 years ago
- Region = Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana
- Headquartered in Portland, OR
- Staff
 - 3 full-time policy staff
 - 3 full-time regulatory staff
 - Contract lobbyists
 - 2 full-time administrative staff
 - Hiring development manager
- Funding comes from membership dues and foundation grants



Membership

For Profit		Non-Profit
174PowerGlobal	EDF Renewable Energy	CEERT
3Degrees	EDP Renewables	Climate Solutions
7Skyline, LLC	Erwin Legal	CREA
Advance Energy	Eurus Energy America	Environment OR
Avangrid Renewables	Green Mountain Energy	Environment WA
AWEA	Invenergy	Geothermal Resources Council
BEF/NRDC	K&L Gates	Idaho Conservation League
Capital Power	Kapla Law PLLC	MEIC
Clearway Energy Group	Latitude45 Associates	MontPIRG
Scout Clean energy	MAP	NEBC
Cypress Creek Renewables	National Grid	NRDC
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP	NEOEN	NWEC
DNV GL	NextEra	Oregon CUB
Ecoplexus	One Energy	OSEIA
Oregon Tech	SWCA	OSPIRG
Orion Renewable Energy Group	Tetra Tech	Solar Oregon
Pattern Energy	Vestas Americas	Spark Northwest
Sempra Renewables	Warm Springs	WA Environmental Council
S-Power	Sulus Solar	WashPIRG
Stoel Rives, LLP	SunPower	Western Resources Advocates



Mission



We advocate for the expansion of environmentally responsible renewable energy resources in the Northwest through collaboration with government, industry, utilities, customers, and advocacy groups.



Focus

- Policy
- Regulatory Process
- Transmission
- Clean Energy Markets



2019 Policy Priorities

- Legislative Session
 - Oregon Siting Bills
 - Oregon Clean Energy Jobs
 - Washington 100% Clean



2019 Regulatory Priorities

- PAC IRP
 - Coal Analysis and Replacement Power
 - Public Commission filings re: smaller scale projects and diverse generation and procurement
- Other utility IRPs and RFP dockets



2019 Transmission Priorities

- BPA
 - EIM
 - Efficient use of transmission system
- Transmission system and Resource planning coordination
 - PUC transmission workshops
 - Distribution System Planning
 - MRDAP
 - DERs
 - Storage
- Interconnection Queue Efficiencies



2019 Clean Energy Market Priorities

- Cap n' Trade
- 100% clean policies
- Regionalization
- Tracking siting issues that may impact development opportunities



Roll of NWPCC in Renewables

Passing of 100% clean in WA and CEJ in OR, what does it mean for NWPCC?

- Engagement on cost effective ways to incorporate more renewables.
- Incorporation of transmission into planning efforts.
- Modelling of hydro system to expand capabilities of balancing variable energy resources
- Modelling of hydro system to account for effects of climate change
- Using relevant cost projections for modelling renewable and storage cost curves.

