

**Henry Lorenzen**  
Chair  
Oregon

**Bill Bradbury**  
Oregon

**Phil Rockefeller**  
Washington

**Tom Karier**  
Washington



## Northwest Power and Conservation Council

**W. Bill Booth**  
Vice Chair  
Idaho

**James Yost**  
Idaho

**Pat Smith**  
Montana

**Jennifer Anders**  
Montana

July 6, 2016

### DECISION MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Council members

**FROM:** Gillian Charles  
Energy Policy Analyst

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Generating Resources Advisory Committee Charter

#### PROPOSED ACTION:

Authorize the creation of, and approve a two-year charter for, a Generating Resources Advisory Committee

#### SIGNIFICANCE:

The charter for the Generating Resources Advisory Committee (GRAC) expired March 2016. The GRAC helped to develop the generation technology availability and cost assumptions in the Council's Seventh Power Plan. The Seventh Power Plan calls on the GRAC to assist the Council in monitoring and tracking the progress of emerging generating technologies, ocean energy technologies, utility scale solar photovoltaic and natural gas-fired technology costs and performance, and to develop a white paper on the value of energy storage to the power system. The Seventh Plan also calls on the GRAC to assist the Council in monitoring current and proposed federal and state regulations regarding the impacts of generating resources on the environment and the regional power system.

Except for minor updates to create better uniformity across the Council's advisory committee charters, the provisions of the proposed charter remain largely the same as the previous charter for the GRAC.

#### BUDGETARY / ECONOMIC IMPACTS

Support for the Generating Resources Advisory Committee will cost approximately \$13,000 per year in travel support to public committee members. In addition, about

three months of staff time will be required to coordinate meetings, develop agendas, prepare presentations and minutes, and attend meetings.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Power Act requires the Council produce a long-term regional demand forecast for electricity and a resource plan for conservation and generating resources to meet that demand at the lowest cost consistent with adequate and reliable electricity service. The GRAC has played an important advisory role in the development and implementation of the Council's power plan. The Seventh Power Plan sets forth several specific actions for the GRAC to undertake in assisting the Council implement its plan.

## **ANALYSIS**

Attached is a copy of the proposed charter for the Generating Resources Advisory Committee. The charter was prepared in accordance with the Council's policy on advisory committees and the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

The Council could accomplish similar results without actually creating an advisory committee. That would require meetings and consultations between Council staff and many different groups and would lack the benefit of getting the region's experts together in one place to discuss the issues.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Generating Resources Advisory Committee Charter  
List of proposed GRAC members

## Generating Resources Advisory Committee (GRAC) Membership

(as of 7/6/2016)

Chair: Gillian Charles, Northwest Power and Conservation Council

Vice Chair: New Hire, Northwest Power and Conservation Council

Management Officer: Ben Kujala, Northwest Power and Conservation Council.

### Members:

Organization	Name
<b>Investor-Owned Utilities</b>	
Avista	John Lyons
Energy Trust of Oregon	<i>TBD</i>
Idaho Power	Phil DeVol
NorthWestern Energy	Luke Hansen
Portland General Electric	<i>TBD</i>
Puget Sound Energy	Elizabeth Hossner
PacifiCorp	<i>TBD</i>
<b>Public Utilities</b>	
Benton PUD	Chris Johnson
Bonneville Power Administration	Rob Petty
Clark PUD	Terry Toland
EWEB	Erin Erben
Flathead Electric	Russ Schneider
Grant County PUD	<i>TBD</i>
Idaho Falls Power	Bear Prairie
PNGC Power	Greg Mendonca
PPC	Kevin O'Meara
Seattle City Light	<i>TBD</i>
Snohomish PUD	<i>TBD</i>
Tacoma Power	<i>TBD</i>
WA PUD Association	Dave Warren
<b>State Agencies</b>	
Idaho PUC	<i>TBD</i>
Montana Department of Commerce	Tom Kaiserski
OR DOE	<i>TBD</i>
Washington Department of Commerce	Greg Nothstein
WUTC	Dave Nightingale
<b>Other Regional Stakeholders</b>	
California Energy Commission	Bryan Neff
Energy Northwest	J. Kent Dittmer
Northwest Energy Coalition	Fred Huetten
Pacific Northwest National Lab	Michael Hoffman
Pwrcast	Dave LaVee
Renewable Northwest	Cameron Yourkowski
US Army Corps of Engineers	Dan Davis

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## Northwest Power and Conservation Council

### CHARTER OF THE GENERATING RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1. Official Designation: This advisory committee will be known as the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's Generating Resources Advisory Committee.
2. Background: The Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act, P.L. 96-501, 16 U.S.C. §839 et seq. (Act), in Section 4(d)(1), requires the Pacific Northwest Electric Power and Conservation Planning Council (Council) to develop "a regional conservation and electric power plan." The plan is to include a twenty year forecast of electricity demand and a resource plan for the development of conservation and generation to meet the demand at the lowest cost consistent with adequate and reliable electricity service. The Generating Resources Advisory Committee will assist the Council in its development and implementation of the Northwest Conservation and Electric Power Plan (power plan) by advising on data, assumptions and analyses regarding generating resources.

This advisory committee is established as part of a network of advisory committees satisfying the Council's obligation under the Act to establish a Scientific and Statistical Advisory Committee. Section 4(c)(11). Under Section 4(a)(4) of the Act, the terms of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. Appendix I, sections 1-14, apply "to the extent appropriate" to the Council's advisory committees.

3. Objectives and Scope of Activity: The Generating Resources Advisory Committee will advise the Council regarding generating resource and technology alternatives having significance to the development and implementation of the power plan. Activities of the Committee will include:
  - (A) Assisting in the identification of generating resources and technology alternatives having significance to the power plan and its implementation. In addition, assisting in the identification and tracking of emerging technologies with the potential to play a role in the future power system.
  - (B) Assisting in the identification of sources of technical, cost, environmental and other important information concerning significant generating resources and technology alternatives.
  - (C) Reviewing the information and assumptions concerning generating resources and technology alternatives.
  - (D) Reviewing and interpreting the analyses concerning generating resources and technology alternatives undertaken for development of the power plan.
  - (E) Reviewing and interpreting the analyses regarding policies affecting the development of new generating resources and the operation of existing resources, for example state renewable portfolio standards.
4. Official to Whom the Advisory Committee Reports: The Generating Resources Advisory Committee will report to the Council's Executive Director.

5. Authority of the Advisory Committee: The Generating Resources Advisory Committee will serve in an advisory capacity only. Neither the Committee nor its members are authorized to make statements or commitments on behalf of the Council. Non-staff members of the Committee are not Council employees.

6. Estimated Annual Operating Costs in Dollars and Person-Days: Five-thousand dollars (\$5,000) per year for travel, teleconference and video conference meetings support; eight thousand dollars (\$8,000) per year contracted services for minutes; and thirty staff days to organize and attend committee meetings.
7. Advisory Committee Members: Every two years, the chair of the advisory committee, in consultation with the Director of the Power Planning Division will solicit technical experts to participate on the advisory committee from a wide range of regional stakeholders. The Council's Executive Director shall approve the participants and, in doing so, shall ensure that membership of the advisory committee is fairly balanced in terms of the points of view represented and the functions to be performed by the advisory committee.

Committee members shall be selected based primarily on their technical expertise and experience. Members may include electric and gas public and private utilities, experts in the regionaleconomy, state energy offices, Bonneville, the Energy Trust of Oregon, non-utility program implementers, state utility regulators, trade associations, energy efficiency industry firms, public interest groups, and the general public. All committee members serve at the pleasure of the Council.

If a member is unable to complete the two year term, the organization the member is affiliated with may designate another person to serve for the remainder of the original member's term. All replacement members must be approved by the Executive Director of the Council. The Executive Director shall be responsible for ensuring Council members are timely notified of any such replacement members.

If a member is unable to attend a particular committee meeting, that member may designate another person from his/her organization to attend in his/her place. Members may also participate in committee meetings electronically via webinar or telephone.

8. Advisory Committee Management Officer: The Advisory Committee Management Officer (Management Officer) for the Generating Resources Advisory Committee will be the Director of the Council's Power Planning Division.
9. Chair:
  - (A) The Chair of the Generating Resources Advisory Committee will be selected by the Executive Director of the Council.
  - (B) The Chair may be called upon to report to the Executive Director of the Council on appropriate matters, including the Advisory Committee's progress on the tasks described in Part 3 of this Charter.
  - (C) The duties of the Chair will include presiding over Generating Resources Advisory Committee meetings, setting agendas for such meetings, ensuring that detailed minutes of such meetings are prepared and submitted to the Executive Director of the Council in a timely manner, and maintaining communication between the Committee and the Council's staff.
  - (D) The Chair will certify detailed minutes of meetings of the Generating Resources Advisory Committee. The minutes should include a complete and accurate description of matters discussed, conclusions reached, actions taken, persons invited to meet with the Committee, and persons in attendance. The minutes also will include copies of reports received, issued or approved by the Committee. Minutes of meetings will be prepared and released within ten days of the meeting, unless the Management Officer grants an extension. The Chair will distribute copies of the minutes to members of the Committee and other interested persons.
  - (E) Subcommittees or small workgroups of the Generating Resources Advisory Committee may be established by the Chair of the Committee to undertake particular aspects of the Committee's work. Methods for organizing the work and procedures of the Committee must

follow the scope of responsibilities assigned to the Committee by the Council. Council staff will make arrangements for Committee meetings and provide general support services.

10. Vice-Chair:

- (A) A Vice-Chair of the Generating Resources Advisory Committee may be appointed from Council staff by the Council's Executive Director.
- (B) The Vice-Chair will perform the duties of the Chair of the Committee in the absence of the Chair, and such other duties as the Chair of the Committee may assign.

11. Rules: The advisory committee rules approved and adopted by the Council on March 17, 1982, as amended from time to time, will apply to the Generating Resources Advisory Committee to the extent such matters are not covered in this Charter.

12. Estimated Frequency of Committee Meetings: The Chair of the Generating Resources Advisory Committee, after consultation with the Management Officer, or his/her designee, will call meetings as necessary. The estimated frequency of meetings during development of a power plan is quarterly. The estimated frequency of meetings during implementation of a power plan is semi-annual to annual, with additional subgroups of the advisory committee meeting as needed. All meetings will be open to the public, unless closed pursuant to 5 U.S.C. §552b(c). Timely notice of meetings, including agendas, will be made. Interested persons may attend Committee meetings and appear before or file statements with the Committee pursuant to the Council's advisory committee rules and subject to such other rules as the Council may prescribe.

13. Reimbursement of Expenses: The Council will reimburse public members of the Generating Resources Advisory Committee for travel, including per diem in lieu of subsistence in accordance with the Council's travel regulations for contractors and advisory committee members, for the purpose of attending Committee meetings as authorized by 5 U.S.C. §5703. The Executive Director shall determine who public members are.

14. Duration: The Generating Resources Advisory Committee will terminate two years from the date this Charter is adopted unless renewed in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

This Charter for the Generating Resources Advisory Committee was approved and adopted at a duly noticed meeting of the Northwest Power and Conservation Council, July 12-13, 2016 at Olympia, Washington.

NORTHWEST POWER AND CONSERVATION  
COUNCIL

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Henry Lorenzen, Chair

Date Filed: \_\_\_\_\_