



## Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration  
P.O. Box 3621  
Portland, Oregon 97208-3621

ENVIRONMENT, FISH AND WILDLIFE

January 26, 2010

In reply refer to: KEW-4

Mr. Tony Grover  
Northwest Power and Conservation Council  
851 S.W. Sixth Avenue, Suite 1100  
Portland, OR 97204-1348

Dear Mr. Grover;

In July and September 2009<sup>1</sup>, the Northwest Power and Conservation Council (Council) provided budget recommendations to Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) for wildlife projects for Fiscal Years 2010 through 2014 that were part of the Council's Wildlife Category Review. Prior to the Council's recommendation, and consistent with BPA's general practice of providing start-of-year budgets in the month of June preceding each fiscal year, BPA identified FY 2010 project-specific planning budgets for wildlife-related projects. These start-of-year (SOY) expense planning budgets were based on the FY 2009 levels plus a 2.5% adjustment for inflation. BPA's FY 2010 SOY capital planning budgets were primarily based on sponsor expectations for land acquisitions associated with existing projects and previous budgets from the FY 2007-2009 period. The Council then recommended five-year expense and three-year capital not-to-exceed planning budgets for 36 wildlife-related projects. The Council's recommendation also provided programmatic and project-specific guidance and cost savings recommendations for project implementation. The Council's recommendations and guidance are expected to maintain project integrity. The Council also indicated that it expected BPA to achieve cost savings in project implementation.

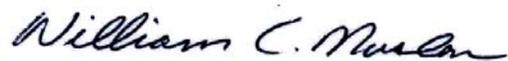
Since that time, the Council's Wildlife Category Review recommendations have been uploaded into BPA's Taurus tracking system (*see* <http://www.cbfish.org/Assessment.mvc/ViewAssessments/208/4>), including the programmatic and project-specific recommendations. In response to Council guidance accompanying its wildlife categorical review recommendations, all wildlife projects are being systematically reviewed by BPA as their contracts come up for renewal in FY 2010 and where the Council's comments identify specific issues that BPA should consider during the renewal process, BPA staff are working with project sponsors to take these comments into consideration, as well as to document how they were addressed. BPA proposes to update the Council on its progress in addressing the wildlife category review recommendations as part of the quarterly within-year process.

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<sup>1</sup> The Council's July 27, 2009, letter recommended budgets for 34 projects in the Wildlife Category Review; the September 14, 2009, letter recommended budgets for two additional projects in the Review.

In summary, BPA is committed to implementing the wildlife portfolio within the available budget and in a manner to sustain each project's integrity. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or David Byrnes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William C. Maslen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a clear, legible font.

William C. Maslen  
Director of Fish & Wildlife

cc:

Lynn Palensky, Northwest Power and Conservation Council  
Peter Paquet, Northwest Power and Conservation Council  
Mark Fritsch, Northwest Power and Conservation Council  
Brian Lipscomb, Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority

bcc:

G. Delwiche – KE-4  
B. Zelinsky – KEWB-4

R. Mazaika – KEWL-4  
D. Byrnes – KEWM-4  
P. Krueger – KEWM-4  
A. Creason – KEWR-4  
J. Hilliard Creecy – KEWR-4  
P. Lofy – KEWU-4  
P. Key – LC-7