

Bruce A. Measure
Chair
Montana

Rhonda Whiting
Montana

W. Bill Booth
Idaho

James A. Yost
Idaho



Dick Wallace
Vice-Chair
Washington

Tom Karier
Washington

Melinda S. Eden
Oregon

Joan M. Dukes
Oregon

April 28, 2010

DECISION MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Jeff King, Senior Resource Analyst

SUBJECT: Charter of the Generating Resources Advisory Committee

PROPOSED ACTION: Authorize a two-year extension of the charter of the Generating Resources Advisory Committee. Appoint Jeff King as chairperson of the Generating Resources Advisory Committee and Wally Gibson as vice-chairperson.

SIGNIFICANCE: Information regarding generating resources and technology alternatives is essential to the power-related activities of the Council. Review of information and assumptions regarding generating resources by industry experts and other interested parties comprising the Generating Resources Advisory Committee improves the quality of this information and enhances the credibility and awareness of the Council's work.

BUDGETARY/ECONOMIC IMPACTS

Staff anticipates two to three meetings of the Generating Resources Advisory Committee over the next two years. Travel support for public committee members is estimated to cost about \$1,200 per meeting. Approximately one week of staff time is required to organize and run a meeting and to prepare minutes.

BACKGROUND

In the past, a Generating Resources Advisory Committee (GRAC) has been established 18 to 24 months in advance of the expected adoption of a power plan to review the generating resource data and assumptions for that plan. The committee is typically comprised of representatives of Bonneville, public and investor-owned utilities, relevant state agencies, power plant developers, and public interest groups. The committee helps identify sources of information and reviews planning data and assumptions for accuracy and reasonableness.

The Sixth Power Plan GRAC was authorized in April 2008 for a two-year period. Rather than allowing the charter to lapse until work commences on the next power plan, as has been past

practice, staff believes that it is desirable to maintain the GRAC as a standing committee. The committee can then be convened as needed to review and otherwise support plan implementation activities, the development of the Biennial Review, and any special analyses that the Council may undertake in the interim.

ANALYSIS

Sound technical, cost, environmental, and other information regarding generating resources and technology alternatives is essential to much of the power-related work of the Council. System adequacy and reliability, power price forecasts, and risk modeling are among the activities that require data and assumptions regarding generating resources and technology alternatives.

Though a comprehensive review and update of generating resource data is undertaken for each power plan, rapid advances in technology, changing economic conditions and the expanding need for new types of data require that resource data be reviewed and augmented to support Council activities undertaken in the period between power plans. The Council adoption of a biennial plan review beginning with the Fifth Power Plan is evidence of these factors. The currency of generating resource data and assumptions is essential to the acceptance and credibility of the Council's work.

ALTERNATIVES

The Council could accomplish similar results without creating an advisory committee. That would require meetings and consultations with many different groups and would lack the attractive feature of getting experts together to discuss the issues. Furthermore, the Act calls for the establishment of advisory committees for assistance in developing the regional conservation and electric power plan.

ATTACHMENTS

Attached is a copy of the proposed charter for the Generating Resources Advisory Committee. The charter was prepared in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

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PACIFIC NORTHWEST POWER AND CONSERVATION COUNCIL

CHARTER OF THE GENERATING RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1. **Official Designation:** This advisory committee will be known as the Pacific 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(e)(3)(D), requires the Pacific Northwest Power and Conservation Council ('Council') to develop "a regional conservation and electric power plan." The plan is to include a twenty year forecast of electricity demands 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 Pacific Northwest Conservation and Electric Power Plan by advising on data, assumptions and analyses regarding generating resources.

This advisory committee is established as one of several advisory committees satisfying the Council's obligation under the Act to establish a Scientific and Statistical Advisory Committee. 16 U.S.C. 839b(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. 16 U.S.C. 839b(a)(4).

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 Pacific Northwest Conservation and Electric 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.
 - (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.

4. Official to Whom the Advisory Committee Reports: The Generating Resources Advisory Committee will report to the Executive Director of the Council.
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. Committee members will not be considered to be members of the Council staff.
6. Estimated Annual Operating Costs in Dollars and Person-Years: \$7,500 and one staff month during development of the power plan; \$1,200 to \$2,400 and one to two staff weeks during implementation of the power plan.
7. 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 Division of Power Planning. The Management Officer will designate members of the Council's staff to coordinate and attend meetings of the Committee.
8. Chair:
 - (A) The Chair of the Generating Resources Advisory Committee will be appointed by the Chairman of the Council, with the concurrence of the Council members, and will serve at the pleasure 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 the Generating Resources Advisory Committee 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 an extension is granted by the Management Officer. The Management Officer will distribute copies of the minutes to members of the Committee and other interested persons.
 - (E) Sub-groups 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. The work of the

staff for the Committee will include making arrangements for Committee meetings, solving logistical problems, and providing clerical services.

9. Vice-Chair: A Vice-Chair of the Generating Resources Advisory Committee may be appointed by the Chairman of the Council, with the concurrence of the Council members, and will serve at the pleasure of the Council. The Vice-Chair will perform the duties of the Chair of the Committee in the absence of that Chair, and such other duties as the Chair of the Committee may assign.
10. 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.
11. Estimated Frequency of Committee Meetings: The Chair of the Generating Resources Advisory Committee, after consultation with the Management Officer, or his 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. 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, subject to such reasonable rules as the Council may prescribe.
12. 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. Section 5703. The Executive Director shall determine public members.
13. Duration: The Generating Resources Advisory Committee will terminate two years from the filing date of this Charter, unless renewed in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act. All Members of the Committee serve at the pleasure of the Council.

This Charter for the Generating Resources Advisory Committee was approved and adopted at a duly called meeting of the Pacific Northwest Power and Conservation Council, May 12, 2010 at Portland, Oregon.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST POWER
AND CONSERVATION COUNCIL

By: _____
Bruce Measure, Chair

Date Filed: _____