June 17, 2016

Mr. John Ollis  
Ms. Tina Jayaweera  
NW Power and Conservation Council  
851 SW Sixth Avenue  
Portland, OR 97204

Dear John and Tina:

Following are comments from the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) on the Council’s proposed Demand Response Advisory Committee (DRAC). BPA is very supportive of this effort and appreciates the opportunity to make suggestions, provide perspective and suggest some clarifying elements.

Demand Response Advisory Committee Proposal

- BPA supports the formation of the DRAC and will nominate a DRAC member to represent the agency. We also agree with the scope as currently proposed for the near-term, and the items to be deferred until the planned mid-term review of the 7th Power Plan.

- For clarity and ease of reference, we suggest that the items listed in the scope be linked to 7th Power Plan DR Action Plan items. For example, proposed scope items (A) and (B) link to Action Plan item BPA-3.

- Some 7th Power Plan Action Plan items are not referenced in the DRAC proposal. For example, there is no linkage to Action Plan item RES-4, for which the DRAC could provide guidance and input on how current conservation programs might be leveraged to expand DR infrastructure. Likewise, elements of RES-4 related to better developing, testing, and verifying DR contracts and delivery systems to enable rapid summer or winter dispatchable DR are absent from the DRAC scope. We suggest that the Council scan the Action Plan and ensure that the DRAC scope covers all of the Action Plan items.

- Some Regional Advisory Committees seem to have 7th Power Plan Action Plan items that may overlap to some degree with proposed DRAC scope and focus, including the Resource Adequacy Advisory Committee (see RES-3) and the Generating Resource Advisory Committee (see ANLYS-14).

It may be helpful if these relationships between the DRAC and other Council Advisory Committees were acknowledged in the DRAC charter. At least, some liaison and monitoring of other Advisory Committee work products, studies, and assessments could be embedded in the DRAC charter to indicate that they will be an accepted and expected DRAC activity.
System Integration Forum

- Regarding the proposed 2018 System Integration Forum (Forum), BPA suggests an alternative approach to advance this important topic. The scope and depth of topics to be discussed at the contemplated regional forum are detailed and complex. A limited regional meeting on these topics will likely not result in the necessary in-depth discussion and exploration by participating parties. As an alternative, BPA recommends that, during the mid-term review of the 7th Power Plan, a proposal be developed to establish a new regional advisory committee with a system integration scope. The main benefit of this approach is that it results in a new advisory committee that will provide a forum for exploring the suggested topics on an active and sustained basis.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. We look forward to a successful DRAC kick-off and expect important contributions to the Council’s work from that Advisory Committee.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Peter T. Cogswell
Director of Intergovernmental Affairs