



Northwest Public Power Association

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**Government Relations Committee (GRC) Meeting  
Heathman Lodge  
Vancouver, WA  
March 3, 2004**

**Minutes of Meeting**

**A. ATTENDING**

Bruce Pilling, Emerald PUD  
Jim Dyer, Salem Electric  
Walter Sapp, Kodiak Electric  
Tim Gregori, Southern Montana G&T  
Larry Descheemaeker, Fergus Electric  
Karl Schrade, Flathead Electric  
Meera Kohler, Alaska Village Electric Cooperative  
Marianne Roose, Lincoln Electric Cooperative  
Ron Hatfield, Pacific Co. PUD  
Tom Blackweasel, Glacier Electric  
Nate Narrance, Inland Power & Light  
Joel Myer, Mason PUD #3  
Linda Gott, Mason PUD #3  
Jim Feider, Redding Electric Utility  
Valarie Koss, Columbia River PUD  
Jennifer Keeseey, Grays Harbor PUD  
Robert Wilkinson, Copper Valley Electric Assoc.  
Pat McGary, Clark Public Utilities  
George Litzenberger, Springfield Utility Board  
Neal Harth, Wasco Electric  
Bob Titus, City of Ellensburg  
Ron Benfield, Central Lincoln PUD  
Dwight Langer, N. Wasco PUD  
Al Aldrich, Snohomish PUD  
Jim Hubenthal, Lewis County PUD  
Gary Merrill, Murray City Power  
Robin Rego, Lakeview Light & Power  
Fred Guyer, Benton REA



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### NWPPA Staff

Bryan Case, Deputy Executive Director  
Debbie Kuraspediani, Communication Director  
Jason Franulovich, NWPPA Intern

### Others In Attendance

Scott Lindsay, NWPPA Consultant  
Karen Price, Morgan Meguire (via conference call)

Government Relations chair Robin Rego called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 3, 2004. The meeting was held at The Heathman Lodge in Vancouver, Wash. A quorum was present. Fred Guyer, Benton REA was the acting parliamentarian for the meeting.

## **B. CONSENT AGENDA**

George Litzenberger moved to approve the Minutes from the September 18, 2003 meeting as prepared. With a second from Ron Hatfield the motion carried with none opposed.

## **C. WASHINGTON D.C. UPDATE**

NWPPA's Washington D.C. Consultant Karen Price joined the meeting via conference call. The following are highlights from the D.C. Legislative Update:

- The Energy Bill is in flux over major issues with cost:
  - The original bill cost \$31 billion
  - Sen. Domenici pared the bill back to \$14 billion
  - The administration wants it pared back to \$8 billion
- Senate still doesn't have the votes to pass the bill . . . which includes Hydro and Electricity titles.
- Problematic 3<sup>rd</sup> party financing language in the President's budget. NW delegation (with exception of Rep. Dicks) sent a letter to the administration voicing concern.
- Energy & Commerce Chairman (House) Billy Tauzin is retiring and Rep. Joe Barton (TX) will take his place (not a positive for public power — he's pro-RTOs and pro-IOUs). Rep. Ralph Hall (TX) switched parties to chair the Energy & Air Quality sub-committee (Barton's old slot).



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- With the Democratic Nominee set (Kerry) for the presidential race, politics will impact policy on the hill.

## D. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED 2004 RESOLUTIONS

1. **En Bloc Resolution Consideration** — Motion to approve the En Bloc Resolutions as presented was made by Jim Hubenthal. With a second the motion to approve the En Bloc Resolution packet passed with none opposed. (Proposed resolution considered En Bloc include: 04-2, 4, 6-10, 12-18, 20-22, 24, 27, and 28.)
2. **Individual Resolution Consideration** —
  - 04-1** — Bob Titus moved to take no action to change the resolution wording. With a second a show of hands was taken. There were seven (7) opposed and thirteen (13) for. Motion passed.
  - 04-3** — Meera Kohler moved to approve the addition of the words “*and telecommunications*” to line 25 after the word electrical. With a second the motion carried with none opposed.
  - 04-5** — Bob Titus moved to modify line 19 to remove “*or enhance*”. With a second the motion carried with none opposed. Nate Narrance moved to accept the resolution with the proposed “*insertion of line 19-22 with the deletion of Bob’s motion.*” With a second the motion carried with none opposed.
  - 04-11** — Bob Titus moved to direct staff to incorporate the recommended changes to language and work with NRECA and APPA for language consistency and to bring the resolution with added language changes back to the May GRC Meeting for final approval. Resolution will be sent out by e-mail for review prior to the May meeting. With a second the motion carried with none opposed.
  - 04-19** — Fred Guyer made a motion to “*remove lines 54-59*” from resolution. A show of hands was taken and ten (10) were for the removal of lines 54-59 and ten (10) were against the removal of lines 54-59. A revote was taken another tie was counted. The vote failed because the Chair declined to vote to break the tie. Bob Titus moved to add the word “*reconfirm*” instead of the word clarify in line 54 and to “*remove the second sentence in line 56.*” With a second the motion carried with one opposed.
  - 04-23** — Meera Kohler moved to approve the following changes to the resolution language in lines 18-29:

“*Given the significant number of fires that have devastated much of the Western states including Alaska, and more*”



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*specifically burned thousands of acres of federally controlled lands, NWPPA adamantly opposes the implementation of the Roadless Policy.*

*Implementation of any policy that seeks to restrict access to federal lands should be delayed until potential impacts are determined by the completion of an economic analysis and an environmental impact statement with a commensurate level of public input.*

*Implications of any federal action should be fully understood and alternative policies developed that take into consideration the basic needs of the communities established in and near federally controlled lands.”*

**04-25** — Bob Titus moved to retain resolution and not retire as proposed by Benton REA. With a second the motion carried with none opposed.

**04-26** — Bob Titus moved to retain and approve adoption of the original 04-26 and to add proposed language in lines 23-26. With a second the motion carried with none opposed.

**04-29** — Al Aldrich moved to adopt this resolution with changes as submitted by SMUD. With a second the motion for adoption carried with none opposed.

**04-30** — Jim Dyer moved to approve the resolution with changes submitted by Snohomish PUD & Emerald PUD.

*Add the word “reduction” in first line of the title of resolution and replace the word *elimination* with the words “significant reduction before of summer project.”*

*In line 30 add “reduce or” before cease spring flow and in line 32 add words “significantly reduce or” before eliminate the summer project.*

*Add the following second to the last paragraph: “Flow management options include, but are not limited to the expansion of predator management programs; and springtime protection programs in order to assure maintaining or improving salmon recovery levels, while ceasing spring summer flow augmentation and eliminating the summer spill project because we believe these and other actions will result in a net benefit to fish at less cost.”*

With a second the motion carried with none opposed.



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## E. OTHER BUSINESS & REPORTS

1. **Political Action Committee (PACs)** — The GRC suggests that Scott Lindsay develop a white paper on PACs and route it to the GRC members for review. The committee suggests this would be an effective tool to do at the Annual Meeting.
2. **Future Power Supply Needs** — Tim Gregori recommended that staff pen a resolution that more clearly defines what Public Power's responsibility will be in providing its future power supply needs.

## F. NEXT MEETING DATE & LOCATION

The next meeting date will be May 17 — 8:30 a.m. to noon at the Victoria Conference Centre in Victoria, B.C. This meeting will be held in conjunction with the 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference & Membership Meeting.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robin A. Rego". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'R'.

Robin Rego, Lakeview Light & Power  
2003/2004 GRC Chair