NORTHWEST PUBLIC POWER ASSOCIATION

30-07 ARCHIVED RESOLUTION

SUPPORT FOR FEDERAL EMERGENCY DISASTER ASSISTANCE

In light of recent events, Northwest Public Power Association (NWPPA) members believe the federal government has an obligation to provide assistance in the event of natural disasters. Specifically, an examination of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) should be conducted to identify and implement changes to improve delivery of disaster assistance and mitigation funding. Mitigation projects are a wise investment of federal funds and should result in long-term federal budget savings by reducing the potential for future disaster damages and losses.

NWPPA strongly supports the continued eligibility for disaster assistance and mitigation programs for rural electric cooperatives, public/people's utility districts and municipals. In addition, we urge FEMA to develop a standardized, FEMA-approved format for submitting disaster assistance claims and, in the event claims are denied, to require explicit, definitive rationale for the denial of such claims. We also support the establishment of clear and specific standards of eligibility for disaster assistance to which FEMA will be held accountable. These actions are necessary in order to ensure that facilities necessary to serve rural areas are fully restored without undue impact upon consumers.

Origination Date: 2-2006 at the request of Fergus Electric Co-op, MT