



The Large Public Power Council

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November 10, 2009

Honorable Ken Salazar, Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Mr. Secretary:

As you and the Administration continue to focus on the many issues associated with development of a transmission system to deliver renewable energy to consumers, the members of the Large Public Power Council (LPPC) want to re-affirm our continued support for the promotion and development of renewable energy resources.

Many of our members are leaders and pioneers in renewable deployment and energy efficiency. We are committed to continuing to promote these goals and we are closely tied to the values of our local communities.

We are hoping we can soon meet with you and key Interior officials to personally re-affirm LPPC support for renewable resource development -- and to discuss LPPC concerns with some of the proposed plans for addressing such transmission expansion issues as system planning and cost allocation. The LPPC would like to continue to be "part of the solution" -- and not "part of the problem."

LPPC members own and operate over 75,000 megawatts of generation capacity and nearly 34,000 circuit miles of high voltage transmission lines. Collectively, LPPC members own nearly 90% of the transmission investment owned by non-federal public power entities in the US.

Member utilities own and operate a diverse portfolio of fossil, nuclear, hydropower, tidal energy, wind, geothermal, and other renewable energy sources that reflect the national energy mix.

As the debate unfolds over the best means to facilitate the integration of renewable resources to the grid, the members of the LPPC are concerned by the

Austin Energy (TX) • Chelan County PUD (WA) • CPS Energy (TX) • Clark Public Utilities (WA) • Colorado Springs Utilities (CO)
IID (CA) • JEA (FL) • Long Island Power Authority (NY) • Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (CA) • Lower Colorado River Authority (TX)
MEAG Power (GA) • Nebraska Public Power District (NE) • New York Power Authority (NY) • Omaha Public Power District (NE) • OUC (FL)
Platte River Power Authority (CO) • Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (PR) • Sacramento Municipal Utility District (CA) • Salt River Project (AZ)
Santee Cooper (SC) • Seattle City Light (WA) • Snohomish County PUD (WA) • Tacoma Public Utilities (WA)

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unfounded characterizations of our position on renewable energy being offered by some who do not agree with us on some of the issues.

While there are certainly legitimate differences of opinion over such issues as system planning and cost allocation, claims that stakeholders who question the components of such plans are opposed to the expansion of renewables are unfortunate and unjustified.

As an organization, LPPC members can point to numerous national award-winning renewable projects throughout the years. A recent survey of LPPC members has identified approximately \$15 billion in renewable project currently under consideration. In fact, one of our members is currently considering financing options on a large wind project expected to cost over \$1 billion.

We look forward to working with you to achieve the objective of ensuring a transmission system is in place that provides improved reliability and that encourages the development of renewable resources.

Sincerely,



Robert P. Johnston
LPPC Chair