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**BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**BPA seeks clarification and rehearing on
FERC order on Environmental Redispatch**

Portland, Ore. - While seeking a regional settlement as the best option to address electricity oversupply issues, the Bonneville Power Administration met a procedural deadline today and filed a request for clarification and rehearing of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's order on BPA's Interim Environmental Redispatch policy.

"While BPA is meeting a regulatory deadline to respond to ongoing litigation, we continue to believe that a solution developed in the Northwest by regional parties is the best path forward," said BPA Administrator Steve Wright. "We support the continuation and acceleration of ongoing informal settlement discussions with affected parties."

Developing a regional solution is especially important before the spring snowmelt season and expiration of the interim policy on Environmental Redispatch on March 30, 2012. With or without a settlement BPA must adopt a new policy. A regional settlement provides a far better foundation for continued integration of renewable resources than continued litigation. Absent a settlement, any new policy seems likely to lead to even more litigation that may stretch for many years.

Environmental Redispatch addressed the challenges BPA confronts when spring snowmelt leads to substantial hydropower production which combined with wind power production can lead to more electricity being produced than there is demand for it. Under these circumstances BPA must make difficult choices that have proven to be highly contentious.

BPA is a non-profit federal agency that markets renewable hydropower from federal Columbia River dams, operates three-quarters of high-voltage transmission lines in the Northwest and funds one of the largest wildlife protection and restoration programs in the world. BPA and its partners have also saved enough electricity through energy efficiency projects to power four large American cities. For more information, contact us at 503-230-5131 or visit our website at www.bpa.gov.

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Bonneville Power Administration

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