



# Journal

December 2014

## Public power, BPA top five-year EE target

Since 2010, Northwest publicly owned electric utilities and BPA have saved at least 560 average megawatts of electricity, greatly surpassing the five-year goal of 504 aMW set by the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's Sixth Power Plan.

"Public power and BPA continue to lead the region's energy efficiency efforts," says Richard Génecé, vice president of Energy Efficiency. "And this fantastic accomplishment could only be achieved through the great collaboration that we have here in the Pacific Northwest."

Although energy savings are still being reported, BPA and Northwest publicly owned electric utilities are projecting that they will have saved more than 560 aMW of electricity between 2010 and 2014. The five years of savings is enough to meet the power needs of more than 400,000 Northwest homes and adds up to at least \$360 million in lower electric bills for Northwest ratepayers. The final savings achieved will be more precisely known in early 2015.

BPA and publicly owned electric utilities in the Northwest have worked hard not only to achieve but to substantially exceed the aggressive energy efficiency target.

"Public power's investment in energy efficiency has produced impressive savings in the past five years," said Scott Corwin, executive director of the Public Power Council, which represents the interests of publicly owned utilities in the Northwest. "This would not be possible without the commitment at the local level by utilities who know the needs of their retail customers."

The region's energy-saving goals are set by the Northwest Power and Conservation Council, which includes two members from each of the four Northwest states (Idaho, Oregon, Montana and Washington). BPA and Northwest publicly owned utilities administer programs that pursue cost-effective energy savings in all sectors of the economy in support of public power's share of the region's energy efficiency target. Public power utilities are responsible for roughly 42 percent of the total regional



target. This includes providing incentives for energy-saving upgrades, developing and implementing cutting-edge programs, and advancing new energy-efficient technologies, codes and standards.

Since 2010, there have been a number of standouts in the region's efforts to enhance energy efficiency. Programs like BPA's award-winning Energy Smart Industrial more than doubled the savings industrial facilities achieved compared to the previous five years (from 35 to over 75 aMW). The Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance, an organization that furthers the adoption of energy-efficient products, services and practices, supported by BPA, worked to improve the efficiency of the television market in the Northwest and achieved over 70 aMW of regional savings.

Standouts notwithstanding, a commitment to working together has been the key to success.

"Whether it's an upgrade for a homeowner or a process improvement at an industrial plant, collaboration between utility and BPA staff and our members is essential to achieving the region's energy conservation goals," says Stan Price, executive director of the Northwest Energy Efficiency Council, an industry association that promotes energy efficiency.

The region has exceeded the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's annual targets every year since 2005. Early reporting shows that BPA and Northwest



publicly owned electric utilities saved 55 aMW of energy in fiscal year 2014, exceeding the target range of 48 to 56 aMW. (The fiscal year 2014 savings figure is preliminary and likely to be adjusted after all reporting from utilities is submitted and verified.)

“The region’s impressive accomplishments are saving money for consumers, protecting the environment by helping to limit carbon emissions from power plants, and keeping our electricity supply the cleanest and least expensive in the nation,” said Pat Smith, chair of the Council’s Power Committee, which is overseeing development of the upcoming Seventh Power Plan.

Since Congress passed the Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act in 1980, over half of the region’s new demand for electricity has been met through energy savings. In those 34 years, the Northwest has saved 5,600 aMW of electricity, enough energy to power four cities the size of Seattle for an entire year or about \$3.5 billion in reduced electric bills for the people and businesses of the Northwest.

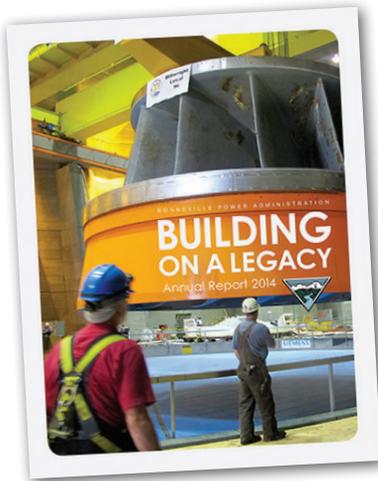
“Energy efficiency is our cleanest, quickest, cheapest new power source, and critical to meeting our carbon-reduction responsibilities,” said Sara Patton, NW Energy Coalition executive director. “We applaud Bonneville’s continuing efforts to help the region’s utilities meet and exceed their savings goals, and look forward to even greater accomplishments in coming years.”

According to the Council, the average cost of efficiency improvements is about \$17 per megawatt-hour, about five times less than the cost of power from a new gas-fired plant.

So without energy efficiency, the region would need to generate enough additional electricity to power 3.6 million Northwest homes.

“Northwesterners should be proud of the fact that energy efficiency is the second-largest power resource in the region,” G nec  adds. “By using energy more efficiently, we can extend the value of the federal power system and its ability to continue to provide clean, affordable, reliable energy for the region.”

## Annual report recognizes FY 2014 accomplishments



As the Columbia River Basin enjoyed its fourth year in a row of average or above precipitation in fiscal year 2014, BPA’s workforce was focused on efficiency and collaboration. The impact of its teamwork around the region is apparent on every page of the new BPA annual report, called “Building on a Legacy.”

“Throughout the successes and challenges of my first year as administrator,

I have been tremendously impressed by the caliber and commitment of BPA’s workforce,” Elliot Mainzer writes in his Administrator’s Letter to open the 2014 annual report. “I continue to draw energy and inspiration from employees’ dedication to our public service mission. It will serve us well as we move ahead in finding common interests and new solutions to the increasingly complex regional objectives of the future.”

Plentiful streamflows and steady power prices strengthened BPA’s net revenue picture for fiscal year 2014. BPA finished solidly in the black with Federal Columbia River

Power System net revenues of \$444 million and adjusted net revenues of \$236 million, an increase in net revenues of \$478 million from the rate case and \$497 million from the start-of-year forecast, on total operating revenues of \$3.6 billion.

Power Services achieved net revenues of \$474 million and power modified net revenues of \$96 million, a \$465 million increase in net revenues from the rate case level of \$9 million. Transmission Services finished the year with net revenues of \$140 million, a \$12 million increase from the rate case.

Beyond financials, the annual report chronicles an array of activities and accomplishments by Bonneville. Among the key work of 2014: addressing shortcomings in BPA’s human resources practices; improving safety; refurbishing one of the largest hydroelectric turbines in the world at Grand Coulee Dam; constructing two new 500-kilovolt transmission lines; helping surpass the region’s five-year goal for energy efficiency; exploring ways to optimize regional energy resources; and supporting record-breaking salmon and steelhead runs totaling 2.3 million past Bonneville Dam.

Read “Building on a Legacy,” the 2014 BPA Annual Report, at [www.bpa.gov/news/pubs](http://www.bpa.gov/news/pubs).

## Kudos for EE's 'Save the Power' campaign

Accolades are rolling in for "Save the Power," BPA's marketing campaign that encourages commercial businesses to use more energy-efficient power strips.

BPA provides incentives to its publicly owned electric utility customers for implementing energy efficiency within their service territories. BPA also supports its utility customers with marketing materials at no additional cost, which is a big benefit to utilities with limited staff and resources.

"Most people know we reimburse our utility customers for the energy efficiency measures they implement," said Dave Moody, BPA's EE marketing lead. "But we also develop marketing materials that help them spread the word to their retail customers about rebates and energy-saving opportunities."

BPA developed the "Save the Power" campaign as a marketing tool for utilities to persuade commercial businesses to use smart power strips. The kit includes a brochure, bill inserts, posters, sticker sheets, email templates and other leave-behind materials. And best of all, the materials can be customized with a local utility or trade ally to fit their needs.

For utilities, clearly communicating how smart power strips work was essential to gaining participation in the program.

"The campaign uses a strong, trendy, iconic design to clearly communicate how a smart power strip should be set up," says Justin Holzgrove, conservation manager for Mason County PUD No. 3. "The clings and other collateral allow for continued education and are a stylish reminder for how smart power strips can eliminate energy waste."

"Save the Power" is BPA's latest marketing campaign to receive regional and national recognition. Earlier this fall, E Source, a leading energy research and advisory services company, recognized the campaign with a second-place award in its best business print ad category from a pool of more than 800 nominations. Other Northwest winners included Seattle City Light, which won the best residential print ad award.

In September, the Northwest Public Power Association presented BPA with a third-place Excellence in Communication award for the advertising campaign. Energy Northwest and Clark Public Utilities finished first and second in the group.

BPA's Energy Efficiency marketing team creates a variety of products that promote energy efficiency programs in residential, industrial, commercial, federal and agricultural sectors. See BPA's EE marketing resources at [www.bpa.gov/goto/EE](http://www.bpa.gov/goto/EE).

## Public Involvement [updates & Notices]

### BPA PROJECTS

#### BP-16 Rate Case [Regionwide]

BPA expects to publish notice of its initial rate proposal for the BP-16 Rate Case in the Federal Register on Dec. 4. The BP-16 rate proceeding will set rates for wholesale power, transmission, and ancillary and control area services for FY 2016 and 2017. BPA expects that the formal rate-setting process will culminate in filing a final rate proposal and the administrator's record of decision with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in late July 2015. BPA will request approval for the rates to be effective Oct. 1, 2015. For parties expecting to participate in the formal rate hearing, a scheduling conference call is set for Dec. 5. The prehearing conference is scheduled for Dec. 10. For information, go to [www.bpa.gov/goto/BP16](http://www.bpa.gov/goto/BP16). **SEE CALENDAR**

### POWER

#### Cost verification for FY 2014 Slice true-up adjustment charge [Regionwide]

BPA is accepting comments through Dec. 11 on the composite cost pool true-up table and the Slice true-up adjustment, which reflects the pertinent actual expenses and revenue credits for fiscal year 2014. BPA will consider the identification of any Slice true-up adjustment issues for inclusion in the agreed-upon procedures, which are miscellaneous financial services provided to BPA by an external auditor. BPA will draft the tasks to be included in the agreed-upon procedures to address any identified issues no later than Dec. 19. The fiscal year 2014 composite cost pool savings, when compared to the rate case forecast, is \$150 million. As a result, the fiscal year 2014 Slice true-up adjustment that is applicable to Slice customers is a credit of \$40.8 million. For more information, go to [www.bpa.gov/goto/costverification](http://www.bpa.gov/goto/costverification).

# Public Involvement [updates & Notices]

## TRANSMISSION

### Northern Mid-Columbia Joint Project [Douglas and Chelan counties, Wash.]

Public Utility District No. 1 of Douglas County and BPA are accepting comments through Jan. 14, 2015, on the draft environmental assessment for the proposed Northern Mid-Columbia Joint Project. If constructed, this 230-kV transmission line and associated facilities would be located south of Wenatchee, Wash., in Douglas and Chelan counties. Douglas PUD and BPA will hold two open-house meetings on Dec. 9 and 10 to answer questions and accept comments on the draft environmental assessment. Spanish language translation services will be available at both meetings. A final EA is expected in summer 2015. For information, go to [www.bpa.gov/goto/NorthernMidColumbia](http://www.bpa.gov/goto/NorthernMidColumbia).

### Salem-Albany Rebuild Project [Polk, Benton, Marion and Linn counties, Ore.]

BPA is proposing to rebuild the 24-mile Salem-Albany No. 1 and the 28-mile Salem-Albany No. 2 wood-pole transmission lines. The 115-kv lines run from Salem to Albany, Ore., through Polk, Benton, Marion and Linn counties. The final EA is expected in early- to mid-December. For information, go to [www.bpa.gov/goto/Salem-Albany](http://www.bpa.gov/goto/Salem-Albany).

## ENVIRONMENT, FISH AND WILDLIFE

### Wallooskee-Youngs Confluence Restoration Project [Clatsop County, Ore.]

BPA will be seeking comments on a draft environmental assessment as it evaluates whether to fund the restoration and enhancement of 193 acres of tidal wetlands. The draft environmental assessment is expected to be released in January 2015, and a 30-day comment period will follow. For information, go to [www.bpa.gov/goto/WallooskeeYoungs](http://www.bpa.gov/goto/WallooskeeYoungs).

### Eightmile Ranch Coho Acclimation Pond [Okanogan County, Wash.]

BPA and the U.S. Forest Service will be seeking comments on a draft environmental assessment to evaluate a proposal to construct and operate a coho acclimation pond at Eightmile Ranch. The proposed pond would be located on the Chewuch River, about eight miles north of Winthrop, Wash. BPA expects to release the draft environmental assessment late this month or in January 2015. BPA will accept comments for 30 days after the assessment becomes available. For information, go to [http://efw.bpa.gov/environmental\\_services/Document\\_Library/EightmileAcclimation](http://efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/EightmileAcclimation).

### Kootenai River Restoration at Bonners Ferry [Boundary County, Idaho]

BPA will be seeking comments on a draft EA as it evaluates whether to fund the restoration and enhancement of portions of the Kootenai River near Bonners Ferry, Idaho. The draft EA is expected to be released in January 2015, and a 30-day comment period will follow. For information, go to [http://efw.bpa.gov/environmental\\_services/Document\\_Library/BonnersFerry/](http://efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/BonnersFerry/).

### Trestle Bay Restoration Project [Clatsop County, Ore.]

BPA is cooperating with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to prepare a final environmental assessment for the Trestle Bay Restoration Project. The Corps is proposing to breach portions of the Trestle Bay jetty to improve habitat for juvenile salmon and steelhead. BPA expects the final assessment will be available in January 2015. For information, go to [www.nwp.usace.army.mil/Media/Announcements.aspx](http://www.nwp.usace.army.mil/Media/Announcements.aspx).

## CLOSE OF COMMENT

**Dec. 11** – Cost verification for FY 2014 Slice true-up adjustment charge

**Jan. 14** – Northern Mid-Columbia Joint Project

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### BP-16 Rate Case scheduling conference call

- **Dec. 5**, 9 a.m. to undesignated end time  
Phone bridge: 877-336-1828; participant code: 2906902

### BP-16 Rate Case prehearing conference

- **Dec. 10**, 9 a.m. to undesignated end time  
BPA Rates Hearing Room  
1201 Lloyd Blvd., Suite 200, Portland, Ore.

### Northern Mid-Columbia Joint Project open house meeting

- **Dec. 9**, 4:30 to 7 p.m., Rock Island Elementary School  
5645 Rock Island Road, Rock Island, Wash.
- **Dec. 10**, 4:30 to 7 p.m., Alcoa Inc., Production Facility  
6200 Malaga Alcoa Hwy., Malaga, Wash.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Information on other projects under environmental review is available at [www.bpa.gov/goto/NEPA](http://www.bpa.gov/goto/NEPA).

For information about the National Environmental Policy Act in general, go to [www.bpa.gov/goto/environmentalplanning](http://www.bpa.gov/goto/environmentalplanning).

The Journal is a monthly publication of the Bonneville Power Administration. If you have questions or comments, or you want to be added to the mailing list for any project, call toll free 800-622-4519.

To order copies of documents, call: 800-622-4520 or 503-230-7334. Written comments may be sent to: BPA, P.O. Box 14428, Portland, OR 97293-4428. Email address: [comment@bpa.gov](mailto:comment@bpa.gov). BPA home page: [www.bpa.gov](http://www.bpa.gov). For details on BPA environmental reviews listed above, including site maps and documents issued to date, see [www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental\\_services/nepadocs.aspx](http://www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/nepadocs.aspx). Process Abbreviations: EA-Environmental Assessment, EIS-Environmental Impact Statement, ESA-Endangered Species Act, FONSI-Finding of No Significant Impact, NOI-Notice of Intent, ROD-Record of Decision.

