

**PACIFIC NORTHWEST ELECTRIC POWER
AND CONSERVATION PLANNING COUNCIL:
CHARTER OF THE HYDROPOWER ASSESSMENT STEERING COMMITTEE**

1. Official Designation: This advisory committee will be known as the Pacific Northwest Electric Power and Conservation Planning Council's Hydropower Assessment Steering Committee.

2. Background: On November 15, 1982, the Pacific Northwest Electric Power and Conservation Planning Council ("Council") adopted a Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program ("Program"), as required by the Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act, P.L. 96-501, 16 U.S.C. 839 et seq. ("Act"). Section 1204(b)(2) of the Program calls on the Bonneville Power Administration to fund a study (upon approval by the Council) to develop criteria and methods for assessing potential cumulative affects of hydroelectric development on fish and wildlife. Section 1204(c)(1) calls on Bonneville to conduct an 18-month study (upon approval by the Council) of alternative means for classifying and designating certain streams and wildlife habitat to be protected from future hydroelectric development. Based on the results of that study, the Council will (pursuant to section 1204(c)(2) of the program) designate stream reaches and wildlife habitat areas to be protected from further hydroelectric development. On April 27, 1983, the Council adopted a Northwest Conservation and Electric Power Plan ("Plan") as required by the Act. Action item 14.2

of the Plan's two-year action plan states that the Council will design a study to identify and rank potential hydropower sites in the region based on fish and wildlife concerns. Two-year action item 14.3 calls on the Council to continue its efforts to refine the data base on existing and potential hydropower sites that are environmentally sound and cost-effective. Because the above hydropower-related measures from both the Plan and Program are closely related, the Steering Committee is to be formed to advise the Council on coordination of these measures. The Act authorizes the Council to establish such an advisory committee at section 4(c)(12). 16 U.S.C. 839b(c)(12). Under section 4(a)(4) of the Act, the terms of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. Appendix I, §§1-14, apply "to the extent appropriate" to the Council's advisory committees. 16 U.S.C. 839b(a)(4).

3. Objectives and Scope of Activity: The Hydropower Assessment Steering Committee will advise the Council on coordination of hydropower-related studies of the plan and program by:
 - (A) Assisting the Council in designing a study to identify and rank potential hydropower sites in the region;
 - (B) Assisting the Council in its efforts to refine the data base on existing and potential hydropower sites that are environmentally sound and cost-effective;
 - (C) Assisting the Council in designing and implementing a study to develop methods and criteria for assessing potential cumulative

effects of hydroelectric development on fish and wildlife and in developing a method to incorporate such methods into the federal processes for review, authorization and support of hydroelectric development; and

(D) Assisting the Council in designing and implementing a study of alternative means for classifying and designating certain streams and wildlife habitat that should be protected from future hydroelectric development.

4. Official to Whom the Advisory Committee Reports: The Hydropower Assessment Steering Committee will report to the Executive Director of the Council.
5. Authority of the Advisory Committee: The Hydropower Assessment Steering Committee will serve in an advisory capacity only. Neither the Committee nor its members are authorized to make statements or commitments on behalf of the Council. Committee members will not be considered to be members of the Council staff.
6. Estimated Annual Operating Costs in Dollars and Man-Years: \$6,000; one-third man-year.
7. Advisory Committee Management Officer: The Advisory Committee Management Officer ("Management Officer") for the Hydropower Assessment Steering Committee will be the Director of the Council's

Division of Fish and Wildlife. The Management Officer will designate members of the Council's staff to attend meetings of the Committee.

8. Chairman:

- a. The Chairman of the Hydropower Assessment Steering Committee will be appointed by the Chairman of the Council, with the concurrence of the Council members, and will serve at the pleasure of the Council.
- b. The Chairman may be called upon to report to the Executive Director of the Council on appropriate matters, including the Steering Committee's progress on the tasks described in Part 3 of this Charter.
- c. The duties of the Chairman will include presiding over Hydropower Assessment Steering Committee meetings, ensuring that detailed minutes of such meetings are prepared and submitted to the Executive Director of the Council in a timely manner, and maintaining communication between the Committee and the Council's staff.
- d. The Chairman will certify detailed minutes of meetings of the Hydropower Assessment Steering Committee. The minutes should include a complete and accurate description of matters discussed, conclusions reached, action taken, persons invited to meet with the Committee, and persons in attendance. The minutes also will include copies of any reports received, issued or approved by the

Committee. Minutes of meetings will be prepared and released within ten days of the meeting, unless an extension is granted by the Management Officer. The Management Officer will distribute copies of the minutes to members of the Committee and to other interested persons.

- e. Small sub-groups of the Hydropower Assessment Steering Committee may be established by the Chairman of the Committee to undertake particular aspects of the Committee's work. Methods for organizing the work and procedures of the Committee must follow the scope of responsibilities assigned to the Committee by the Council. The Committee will receive assistance in its work by the Council's staff, through the Management Officer. The work of the staff for the Committee will include making arrangements for Committee meetings, solving logistical problems, providing clerical services, and preparing minutes of meetings.

- 9. Vice-Chairman: A Vice-Chairman of the Hydropower Assessment Steering Committee may be appointed by the Chairman of the Council, with the concurrence of the Council members, and will serve at the pleasure of the Council. The Vice-Chairman will perform the duties of the Chairman of the Committee, in the absence of that Chairman, and such other duties as the Chairman of the Committee may assign.

10. Rules: The rules approved and adopted by the Council on March 17, 1982 for its advisory committees and subcommittees will apply to the Hydropower Assessment Steering Committee.

11. Estimated Frequency of Committee Meetings: The Chairman of the Hydropower Assessment Steering Committee, after consultation with the Management Officer or her designee, will call meetings at least once a month. All meetings will be open to the public, unless closed pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(c). Timely notice of meetings, including agendas, will be made. Interested persons may attend Committee meetings and appear before or file statements with the Committee, subject to such reasonable rules as the Council may prescribe.

12. Reimbursement of Expenses: The Council will reimburse public members of the Hydropower Assessment Steering Committee for travel, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, for the purpose of attending Committee meetings as authorized by 5 U.S.C. Section 5703. The Executive Director shall determine who are public members.

13. Duration: The Hydropower Assessment Steering Committee will terminate two years from the filing date of this Charter, unless renewed in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act. All members of the Committee serve at the pleasure of the Council.

This Charter for the Advisory Committee was approved and adopted at a duly called meeting of the Pacific Northwest Electric Power and Conservation Planning Council held on October /9, 1983 at Portland, Oregon.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST ELECTRIC POWER
AND CONSERVATION PLANNING COUNCIL

By: Keith F. Colbo
Keith Colbo, Chairman

Attachment.

Date Filed: 10/20/83