

WPUDA opposes selling assets of the Bonneville Power Administration and any effort to privatize PMAs

PUDs rely on the Federal Columbia River Power System and the Bonneville Power Administration to serve communities with clean, renewable hydropower. PUDs pass the value of the federal system to the people of Washington State and, in turn, the ratepayers pay for the federal system which serves the region with power, transportation, flood control and recreation. Any attempt to sell the assets of BPA or privatize Power Marketing Agencies, such as BPA would shift the region's primary clean energy resource and related public value to private interests, potentially having far-reaching implications for the region's economy, environmental health and the quality of life for its citizens.



Ensuring the continued public value of the Federal Columbia River Power System for PUD customers

The Administration's budget includes a provision that would sell the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) transmission system to generate revenue for the federal government. WPUDA encourages the Washington State Delegation to oppose any efforts to sell the power assets of the Bonneville Power Administration or any broader effort to privatize the Power Marketing Agencies, including BPA. Here's why:

- The Federal Columbia River Power System is funded by power customers in the Northwest, not taxpayers. If the federal government sells Bonneville Power Administration assets, they are selling assets paid for by power customers with no guarantee the value of the assets will be returned to the region.
- Hydropower is a vital component to our clean energy economy in the Northwest. The Federal Columbia River Power System and BPA are critical to ensuring this power is delivered in a reliable, safe and responsible manner to PUD communities. The sale of BPA transmission assets or privatization of BPA would hand over resources vital to our economy, environment and quality of life to private interests and remove the management of the assets from a transparent, public, stakeholder-driven process focused on public value.
- Selling assets of BPA or privatizing the PMAs brings into question the continuation of funding for important programs such as fish and wildlife and energy conservation. Obligating a private owner to these programs could impact the sale price of the system and raise legal challenges.

The Washington PUD Association continues to work with the Bonneville Power Administration to ensure the system continues to provide value to the region including PUD –served communities.

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