

**Renewable  
Northwest  
Project**

917 SW Oak  
Suite 303  
Portland, OR 97205

Phone  
503.223.4544  
Fax  
503.223.4554  
www.RNP.org

**Members**

American Wind  
Energy Association  
Calpine Corporation  
Center for  
Energy Efficiency and  
Renewable Technologies  
Citizens' Utility Board  
Eurus Energy America  
FPL Energy, Inc.  
Geothermal  
Resources Council  
GE Wind Energy  
Green Mountain Energy  
Montana Environmental  
Information Center  
Montana Public Interest  
Research Group  
Natural Resources  
Defense Council  
Northwest  
Energy Coalition  
Northwest  
Environmental Advocates  
Oregon State  
Public Interest  
Research Group  
PPM Energy, Inc.  
Portland Energy  
Conservation, Inc.  
Renewable  
Energy Systems  
Solar Energy  
Association of Oregon  
Vestas American  
Wind Technology, Inc.  
Washington  
Environmental Council  
Washington State  
Public Interest  
Research Group  
Zilkha Renewable Energy



Renewable Northwest Project

July 1, 2004

**VIA EMAIL**

Mr. Charles Meyer, TM-DITT2  
Vice President for Transmission Marketing and Sales  
Bonneville Power Administration  
P.O. Box 491  
Vancouver, WA 98666-0491

Dear Chuck,

The Renewable Northwest Project (RNP) appreciates your continued attention to issues affecting renewable resource development in the region and to solving transmission access problems for all generators. We are writing to request that the Transmission Business Line (TBL) hold a technical workshop during its Programs In Review/Rate Case process to discuss "curtailable-firm" transmission products that the wind industry and other generators have discussed recently with the TBL.

We understand that there may be some system issues that make it challenging for TBL to implement the curtailment priority inherent in this type of product. However, we believe it is critical that these products are addressed in the 2006-2007 rate case. Funding for system development and staff necessary to implement these products needs to be continued. In addition, pricing should be set during this rate case so that once the necessary systems are in place, customers do not have to wait for yet another rate case before new products can be offered.

The current transmission resources in the region are not adequate to support a growing percentage of renewable resources in our electricity mix. With many of the regions utilities looking to acquire renewable resources, the region is at a critical juncture where transmission to serve these new resources is necessary. We support cost effective expansion of the transmission system provided that this is the least cost solution to current transmission problems. And we support TBL's continued efforts to implement non-wires alternatives that will allow for more efficient use of the current system in order to accommodate new resources. Non-wires alternatives are especially important in the short-term, since construction of additional lines is a multi-year process.

The specific non-wires solution RNP is requesting TBL consider in its rate case is a "curtailable-firm" transmission product that has curtailment priority for months that TBL is unable to offer firm service. Since new transmission

lines to serve generators have not been built in recent years, BPA should consider offering innovative products like this that make more efficient use of their transmission system over constrained paths and allow new generators to get their power to utilities.

A “curtailable-firm” product has the additional benefit of bringing more revenue to BPA. And alternatives to transmission line construction like “curtailable-firm” can be more cost effective for end use customers, and allow utilities to gain a more accurate picture of their future generation needs before committing large amounts of capital for infrastructure upgrades.

We request that TBL hold a technical workshop that will bring all parties together to discuss the benefits and challenges of offering this type of transmission product. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. RNP will submit comments on the TBL Programs In Review addressing all of our issues under separate cover.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Natalie McIntire".

Natalie McIntire  
Policy Associate

cc: Mark Maher  
Brian Silverstein