

November 23, 2004

Mark Walker  
Director of Public Affairs  
Northwest Power & Conservation Council  
851 SW 6th Avenue, Suite 1100  
Portland, Oregon 97204-1348

Dear Mark,

I am writing to comment on the Council's draft Power Plan. Specifically, I want to ensure that the Council is aware of ongoing work to provide better estimates of the savings available from high performance windows/glazing systems in new and existing commercial buildings.

Several months ago Charlie Grist provided me with preliminary savings estimates for various high performance glazing options in both new and existing commercial buildings. These estimates were significantly lower than estimates generated by others including the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL). I have been working with Charlie, the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (NEEA) and LBNL to gain a better understanding of the source of the variance between the savings estimates included in the draft plan and the estimates provided by LBNL.

For example, the analysis completed in support of the draft Plan estimates savings for new construction based on the difference between a code compliant window and a high performance window. The analysis performed for the Council estimated that in a new office building with gas heat and electric cooling, the savings for window with a U-factor of 0.35 and an SHGC of 0.40 would be less than 1kwh/sqft of glazing. For the same scenario LBNL estimated savings greater than 3kwh/sqft of glazing.

Given that Council staff, Alliance staff and LBNL are still working to resolve this issue I ask that the Council remain open to revising the savings estimates for high performance windows/glazing systems in commercial buildings.

Sincerely,

Gary Curtis  
The West Wall Group