

Snohomish PUD Comments on Draft Fuel Price Forecasts for the 5th Northwest Conservation and Electric Power Plan

7/15/02

1. Overall the forecasts and the methods used to derive them seem reasonable, and we find little to argue with.
2. On page 4 it is stated “For a number of reasons, the Council has chosen to retain many elements of its long-term demand forecasts from the 4th power plan Therefore the fuel price assumptions will not directly drive the demand forecasts of this power plan.” We would like to see a fuller explanation of what is meant by this.
3. One of the things the region has learned recently is just how volatile the power markets can be. The Draft mentions the likely increase in gas volatility due to lower reserves. Should the Draft and the Plan take more account of electric market volatility than traditionally assumed?
4. We assume that nuclear fuel price is not mentioned because nuclear plants are unlikely to ever be on the margin. A footnote saying this might help.