

Mark Walker
Director of Public Affairs
Northwest Power and Conservation Council

Dear Mr. Walker,

I recently learned that the region is greatly outpacing the conservation targets set in the 5th Northwest Power and Conservation Plan. That's great news! According to your recent study, "A Retrospective Look at the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's Conservation Planning Assumptions," the region is acquiring conservation at a much faster pace than the Plan expected.

It seems these gains are being made with little assistance from the Bonneville Power Administration, which has not raised its conservation budget. If others can increase their pace of acquiring efficiency, BPA should too. After all, efficiency is much cheaper than creating new generation capacity. Together we should be able to get 30-40% more cost-effective energy efficiency by 2023 than expected.

It is critical that we continue at or beyond the present pace and that Bonneville do its part. Unless the Council increases the 5th Plan's conservation target to reflect the real situation, BPA and other utilities might easily forego opportunities to save their customers money by acquiring all available, cost-effective conservation resources.

I'm writing to urge the Council to revise the 5th Plan to increase the total 20-year "achievable" conservation target by at least 30 percent and to revise the interim targets accordingly.

Respectfully yours

G Donahue