

MEDIA ADVISORY – Sept. 21, 2012

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****Media Advisory****
***Columbia Generating Station License Renewal
Employee Celebration Today***

RICHLAND, Wash. – Energy Northwest will host an event at Howard Amon Park for all employees to celebrate the renewal of Columbia Generating Station’s operating license today from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission granted Columbia’s license extension on May 22 for an additional 20 years, allowing the plant to continue producing reliable, affordable and environmentally-responsible power through 2043.

A highlight of the event will be the presentation at 3:45 p.m. of Energy Northwest Meritorious Service Awards to the license renewal team. The awards will be presented by Energy Northwest Executive Board Vice Chair Jack Janda. The award, established by the executive board in 2006, has only been presented on two other occasions. The award presentation will take place on the “fingernail” stage at Howard Amon.

**Energy Northwest License Renewal Employee Celebration
Meritorious Service Award Presentation**

Date: Today

Time: 3:45 p.m.

Location: Fingernail Stage, Howard Amon Park, Richland

Background on License Renewal

Energy Northwest began pursuing license renewal for Columbia in 2007. The formal application, more than 2,200 pages, was submitted to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in January 2010. Following that, the Energy Northwest team worked with the NRC to gather information relating to safety and potential environmental aspects of operating for an additional 20 years. Based on their thorough independent reviews and inspections, the NRC concluded license renewal should be granted. The NRC process involved multiple on-site visits, as well as opportunities for public input.

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About Energy Northwest

Energy Northwest develops, owns and operates a diverse mix of electricity generating resources, including hydro, solar and wind projects – and the Northwest’s only nuclear generating facility. These projects provide enough reliable, affordable and environmentally responsible energy to power more than a million homes each year, and that carbon-free electricity is provided at the cost of generation. As a Washington state, not-for-profit joint operating agency, Energy Northwest comprises 27 public power member utilities from across the state serving more than 1.5 million ratepayers. The agency continually explores new generation projects to meet its members’ needs. Energy Northwest – www.energy-northwest.com.



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