

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Sept. 25, 2012**John Dobken, Public Affairs, 509-377-8369  
Angela Smith, Public Affairs, 509-377-4154

News Release 12-11

Page 1 of 1

## **Nine Canyon Wind Project Attains Milestone; Phase I Reaches 10-year Anniversary**

**RICHLAND, Wash.** – On Sept. 25, 2002, Phase I of Energy Northwest’s Nine Canyon Wind Project, comprising 37, 1.3 megawatt turbines, began producing clean energy for the first time. Nine Canyon, located approximately 10 miles southeast of Kennewick, was developed in three phases and today features 63 wind turbines that produce up to 96 megawatts of renewable electricity.

At the time Phase I of Nine Canyon was being developed, it was considered the largest public power-owned wind project in the nation. Phase II added 12, 1.3 megawatt turbines in 2003. Phase III came online in 2008 with 14 larger turbines, capable of generating 2.3 megawatts of electricity each.

In fiscal year 2012, Nine Canyon produced 261,624 net megawatt-hours of electricity. The power from Nine Canyon is provided at-cost to participating Energy Northwest member utilities. They include Benton County PUD, Chelan County PUD, Cowlitz County PUD, Franklin County PUD, Grays Harbor PUD, Lewis County PUD, Okanogan County PUD, Grant County PUD and Mason County PUD. Douglas County PUD also receives a portion of Nine Canyon output.

“Nine Canyon Wind Project is a shining example of how public power can lead the way,” said Energy Northwest CEO Mark Reddemann. “Energy Northwest’s commitment to clean energy generation began with Packwood Lake Hydroelectric Project in 1964; continued with Columbia Generating Station in 1984; and was sustained by Nine Canyon.”

During the lifetime of the project, Nine Canyon has produced 1,946,894 net megawatts of electricity (through August 2012).

### **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 power plant. 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](http://www.energy-northwest.com). Find us on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.*

#####