

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Oct. 4, 2013 Angela Walz, Public Affairs, 509-377-4010 Angela Smith, Public Affairs, 509-377-4154

Energy Northwest Supports Public Power Week

RICHLAND, Wash. – The Energy Northwest Executive Board passed a resolution supporting Public Power Week, Oct. 6-12, at its meeting last week in Richland. The resolution cited the reliable, efficient and cost-competitive electricity enjoyed by ratepayers throughout the Northwest and the nation.

Energy Northwest comprises 27 public power member utilities from across the state serving more than 1.5 million ratepayers. The agency is celebrating Public Power Week along with more than 2,000 electric utilities that collectively provide electricity on a not-for profit basis to 47 million Americans.

"We're proud to work with our member public power utilities to fulfill our essential role in generating cost-effective and environmentally responsible electricity for the Pacific Northwest," said Energy Northwest CEO Mark Reddemann. "Through concerted efforts focused on our decommissioning fund and debt management and negotiation of a long-term fuels purchase agreement, Energy Northwest has been able to provide hundreds of millions of dollars in savings through 2028 for Northwest ratepayers," Reddemann said.

Although ratepayers in the region enjoy statistically lower rates than the rest of the country, energy efficiency and conservation will also help to reduce power rates and carbon footprints, he said.

This year will mark Public Power Week's 27th anniversary as a country-wide program to celebrate the importance of public power to local citizens and other key publics, including state and national officials.

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 energy 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

