

**RESOLUTION NO. 2018-03 OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
NORTHWEST REQUIREMENTS UTILITIES**

**A Resolution in Support of the Operation of Columbia Generating Station,
As a Carbon-Free Source of Affordable Electricity**

May 2, 2018

Whereas, Northwest Requirements Utilities (NRU) 54 members comprise approximately 25% of BPA firm wholesale load and rely on BPA for a reliable supply of electricity at affordable prices.

Whereas, NRU members rely on BPA for as much of their electricity as economically reasonable from carbon-free generating resources.

Whereas, Energy Northwest, a Joint Operating Agency of the state of Washington, is committed to producing electricity from carbon-free generating resources.

Whereas, Energy Northwest operates the Columbia Generating Station, a nuclear power plant that is the largest source of carbon-free electricity in the State of Washington after the state's indigenous supply of clean hydroelectric power.

Whereas, the Columbia Generating Station is capable of delivering 1,207 megawatts of continuously available power to the grid, which is sufficient to power a million homes while emitting virtually no greenhouse gases.

Whereas, the Columbia Generating Station has an exemplary record of safe and reliable operation, producing enough low-cost, carbon-free electricity each year to supply a city the size of Seattle.

Whereas, the replacement of Columbia Generating Station by a similarly reliable source of electricity could add up to 3,000,000 tons of carbon to the atmosphere each year, which would adversely affect efforts to combat climate change.¹

Whereas, the power generated by the Columbia Generating Station is available regardless of weather conditions, and is therefore well-suited to support reliable electric grid baseload and capacity demand, including backing up increasing levels of intermittent renewable wind and solar power.

Whereas, the Columbia Generating Station has been an integral part of our community, culture and economy for over thirty years, and currently supports more than 990 high-paying jobs in the area, while contributing approximately \$475 million annually to the local and state economy.

Whereas, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, following extensive safety and environmental technical reviews, and onsite inspections, found that the Columbia Generating Station can continue its safe and reliable operation through 2043.

Whereas, based on current economics and power supply alternatives, the NRU Board has concluded that the safe, reliable and economic operation of Columbia Generating Station can contribute to the region's customers a continuing supply of affordable, carbon-free electricity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that:

Energy Northwest should take all reasonable steps to ensure the continued safe, reliable, and economic contribution of Columbia Generating Station, through its lifecycle, to the northwest clean energy mix, as approved by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

In addition, NRU should collaborate with other BPA customers and BPA to perform a study and assessment of Columbia Generating Station as part of BPA's long-term power supply.

ADOPTED by the NRU Board of Directors on this the 2nd day of May, 2018.



Doug Elliott, NRU Board Secretary/Treasurer

ⁱ From Energy Northwest: 8760 hours x 90% capacity factor x 1,190 MWs (upgraded to 1207 MWs in 2017) x 700 lbs CO₂ per MWh from the most efficient CCGT. Columbia historically runs at greater than 90% capacity; according to a separate 2014 study by IHS Cambridge Energy Research Associates (Boston,

Mass.), Columbia prevents 3.6 million metric tons of CO2 emissions annually compared to the most feasible replacement option of efficient natural gas-fired generation.