

Washington Public Utility Districts Association

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

November 17, 2017

WHEREAS, a majority of Washington utilities, as well as residents, customers and ratepayers, rely on a reliable supply of electricity at affordable prices.

WHEREAS, members of the Washington Public Utility Districts Association are committed to providing their customers with as much electricity as economically possible from carbon-free generating resources.

WHEREAS, a majority of the Washington Public Utility Districts Association member utilities are members of Energy Northwest, a Joint Operating Agency of the State of Washington, which is committed to producing electricity from carbon-free generating resources.

WHEREAS, Energy Northwest operates 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, Columbia Generating Station is capable of delivering 1,207 megawatts of continuously available power to the grid, with annual power generation equivalent to approximately 10 percent of the electricity generated in Washington and 4 percent of all electricity used in the Pacific Northwest.

WHEREAS, Columbia Generating Station has an exemplary record of safe and reliable operation, producing enough low-cost, carbon-free electricity each year to power a million homes or the entire city of Seattle, while emitting virtually no greenhouse gases.

WHEREAS, the replacement of Columbia Generating Station by a similarly reliable source of electricity would add at least 3,000,000 tons of carbon to the atmosphere each year, which would adversely affect efforts to combat climate change.ⁱ

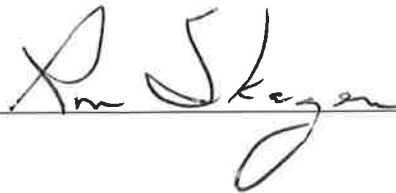
WHEREAS, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, following extensive safety and environmental technical reviews, and onsite inspections, found that Columbia Generating Station can continue its safe and reliable operation through 2043.

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Washington Public Utility Districts Association has found that the operation of Columbia Generating Station is essential to ensuring that utilities and ratepayers receive a continuing supply of affordable, carbon-free electricity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Energy Northwest should take all possible steps to ensure the continued safe and reliable contribution of Columbia Generating Station, through its lifecycle, to the northwest clean energy mix, as approved by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ADOPTED by the Board of Directors for the Washington Public Utility Districts Association on this the 17th day of November 2017.

SIGNED: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Steger", written over a horizontal line.

ⁱ 8760 hours x 90% capacity factor x 1,207 MWs x 700 lbs CO₂ per MWh from the most efficient CCGT. Since 2012 Columbia has run 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.