

20.0 CONCLUSION

As required by law, the rates established and adopted in this ROD have been set to recover the costs associated with the acquisition, conservation, and transmission of electric power, including the amortization of the Federal investment in the FCRPS (including irrigation costs required to be repaid out of power revenues) over a reasonable period of years and all other costs and expenses incurred by the Administrator in carrying out the requirements of the Northwest Power Act and other provisions of law. In addition, these rates have been designed to be as low as possible consistent with sound business principles, to encourage the widest possible use of BPA's power, to equitably allocate the recovery of transmission costs between Federal and non-Federal users, and to satisfy BPA's other ratemaking obligations, including those contained in the Energy Policy Act of 1992. The Hearing Officer has assured that all interested parties and participants were afforded the opportunity for a full and fair evidentiary hearing, as required by law.

BPA must evaluate the proposed rates in a section 7(i) proceeding pursuant to the Northwest Power Act. BPA must also evaluate the potential environmental impacts of the proposed rate increases and alternatives thereto, as required by NEPA. In this instance, the environmental analysis provided by the Business Plan Final EIS details the environmental impacts of BPA's 2002 final power rate proposal. The environmental analysis contained in the Business Plan Final EIS has been considered in making the decisions in this ROD.

Based upon the record compiled in this proceeding, the decisions expressed herein, and all requirements of law, I hereby adopt the attached Wholesale Power Rate Schedules as Bonneville Power Administration's 2002 final power rate proposal. In accordance with Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Requirements, 18 C.F.R. section 300.10(g), the Administrator hereby certifies that the Wholesale Power Rate Schedules adopted herein are consistent with applicable laws and are the lowest possible rates consistent with sound business principles.

Issued at Portland, Oregon, this 10th day of May, 2000.

/s/ Judith Johansen
Administrator