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BPA will continue assisting California at no cost to the Pacific Northwest

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Bonneville Power Administration

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PORTLAND, Ore. – Bonneville Power Administration continued making energy deliveries of power to California today to assist the state in meeting peak evening loads. California has indicated it expects to face a Stage 3 Power Emergency during this evening's peak.

California must return power to BPA on a two-for-one exchange basis. A least half of the return must occur within 24 hours of BPA deliveries. The remainder of the exchange can occur during nighttime hours and weekends when loads are relatively low.

"Because the transaction is an exchange, it's impact on BPA's reliability, financial status and fish obligations should be neutral, or beneficial for the Northwest," said Steve Wright, BPA acting administrator.

Mark Glyde, of the NW Energy Coalition, a region wide alliance of environmental, consumer and other public interest groups and utilities, expressed strong support for BPA's actions and indicated that he is pleased BPA is maintaining its commitment to protect endangered Northwest salmon.

Electricity supplies are running short this winter on the West Coast. The Pacific Northwest was on alert status earlier this week as a cold front approached but has returned to normal operating status. California faces a Stage 3 emergency due to power shortages.

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