

Comment on WP-07 Power Rate Case

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To whom it may concern, As Chief Executive Officer of the fourth largest public district hospital in the state of Washington, I understand the necessity to keep expenses down to maintain a positive bottom line so we can reinvest in our public facility. We at Skagit Valley Hospital in Mount Vernon have felt the pinch of ever-increasing power bills. While our consumption of electricity has increased by 20.3 percent from 1999 to 2005, our energy bill over the same period has increased by 27.7 percent to an average of \$33,893 per month. It is vital to us that power rates remain affordable. Your current rate request continues a trend of high power costs. I encourage you to consider lowering power rates for the benefit of all. As a member of the Northwest Coalition for Affordable Power, I am joining together with other businesses and organizations from across the Northwest to encourage BPA to set a target rate of \$27 per megawatt hour, a 10 percent decrease from the rate BPA is proposing. It is time for BPA to lower our power rates and put the economic health of our region and our communities first. Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on this important issue. Gregg A. Davidson, FACHE Chief Executive Officer Public Hospital District No. 1/Skagit Valley Hospital