



## Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration  
P.O. Box 3621  
Portland, Oregon 97208-3621

CORPORATE

December 10, 2003

In reply refer to: KDP-4

Mr. Eric Christensen  
Snohomish County PUD  
Office of the General Counsel  
2320 California Street  
Everett, Washington 98201  
(435) 783-8212

RE: FOIA Request #04-011

Dear Mr. Christensen:

Thank you for your letter of November 26, 2003, requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act. In your letter you request the following:

1. All correspondence, including emails, discussing or concerning RTO West, the formation of an RTO in the Pacific Northwest, or the formation of an RTO in the Western interconnection between officials of the United States Department of Energy and Bonneville officials: Steven Wright, Administrator; Steven Hickok, Deputy Administrator; Mark Maher, SVP; Vickie Van Zandt, VP, for the period of January 1, 2000 to the present (November 26, 2003).
2. All correspondence, including emails, discussing or concerning the combination or consolidation of BPA control area operations with the control area operations of any other electric utility, between any of the BPA officials identified in item number one and any representative of PacifiCorp, Idaho Power Company, British Columbia Hydro Corporation, Powerex or Montana Power Company (a.k.a., Northwestern), for the period of January 1, 2000 to the present (November 26, 2003).

Your request was received by our office on December 5, 2003 and has been logged in as FOIA #04-011.

In your letter you requested a fee waiver. The waiver request is denied. The FOIA provides that "[d]ocuments shall be furnished without any charge or at a charge reduced below the fees established under clause (ii) if disclosure of the information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester." See 5 U.S. C. 552(a)(4)(A)(iii). You have not met this criteria.

We will not proceed further on this request until we hear from you, in writing, your willingness to pay fees. If you wish, we can provide you with an estimation of fees to comply with your request. If you have any questions, you may contact my associate, Debra Smiley at (503) 230-3084, or by email [dlsmiley@bpa.gov](mailto:dlsmiley@bpa.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Annie Eissler".

Annie Eissler  
Freedom of Information Officer