



Department of Energy

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

POWER SERVICES

May 19, 2020

In reply refer to: PS-6

To Regional Customers and Interested Parties:

Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) received a request from the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) to reconsider the Regional Dialogue Policy exception that applies to tribal utilities under Regional Dialogue to augment the Tier 1 system and request firm power service. In May of 2017, ATNI passed a resolution to encourage BPA to extend the time period for New Tribal Utilities to augment their Contract High Water Marks (CHWM). Section 4.1.6.4 of the of the Tiered Rate Methodology (TRM) establishes limits for increasing CHWMs for New Tribal Utilities for load growth and the expansion of service territory, up to a total of 40 aMW in aggregate. The Regional Dialogue policy exception for tribes expires at the end of FY 2021, or the earlier of when the 40 aMW aggregate amount allocated for New Tribal Utilities is exhausted or when the overall 250 aMW CHWM limit for New Public Utilities is reached. The policy also allows BPA to reconsider the expiration of the time period. Based on the ATNI request BPA agreed to propose the extension and give customers the chance to consider the proposal at the same time as the BP-22 RHWM process.

Concurrently with the BP-22 RHWM process, BPA is proposing to extend the treatment that Section 4.1.6.4 of the Tiered Rate Methodology (TRM) provides to New Tribal Utilities for load growth from its original expiration at the end of FY 2021 to the end of FY 2028. The Long-Term Regional Dialogue Record of Decision specifically contemplated such a treatment and BPA believes the unique challenges associated with load growth for New Tribal Utilities continues to warrant this exception. The remaining limits of 40 aMW aggregate amount for New Tribal Utilities and 250 aMW for aggregate amount for New Public CHWM augmentation will remain in place. As of BP-22, 8.105 aMWs of the 40 aMW of the New Tribal Utilities limit and 69.259 aMWs of the 250 aMW limit for all New Public Utilities has been used.

If you have comments on the proposed extension, please provide them under the comment period established for the preliminary BP-22 RHWMs, which will be open May 20 through June 3.

Please contact Kathryn Patton (kbpatton@bpa.gov, 206-220-6785) for further information.

Sincerely,

Kim Thompson
Acting Vice President
NW Requirements Marketing