

NEW ISSUE

BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY

*In the opinion of Special Counsel, interest on the Series 2016-2 Bonds is not excluded from gross income for U.S. federal income tax purposes pursuant to Section 103 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). See "TAX MATTERS – Certain U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations" herein. In the further opinion of Special Counsel, interest on the Series 2016-2 Bonds is exempt from present State of Oregon personal income taxation. See "TAX MATTERS – Certain State of Oregon Income Tax Considerations" herein.*

**\$115,085,000**  
**PORT OF MORROW, OREGON**  
**Transmission Facilities Revenue Bonds**  
**(Bonneville Cooperation Project No. 5)**  
**Series 2016-2 (Federally Taxable)**

Dated: Date of Delivery

Due: September 1, as shown on inside cover

The Series 2016-2 Bonds will be special obligations of the Port of Morrow, Oregon (the "Issuer") payable solely from the trust estate pledged therefor which trust estate includes amounts derived from rental payments paid to the Issuer pursuant to a Lease-Purchase Agreement between the Issuer and the United States of America, Department of Energy, acting by and through the Administrator of the

**BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION**

Bonneville's payments under the Lease-Purchase Agreement will be made solely from the Bonneville Fund. The Lease-Purchase Agreement provides that Bonneville's obligation to pay the rental payments and all amounts payable under the Lease-Purchase Agreement is absolute and unconditional, and is payable without any set-off or counterclaim, regardless of whether or not the Project financed with the proceeds of the Series 2016-2 Bonds is operating or operable. Bonneville's payment obligations under the Lease-Purchase Agreement are not, nor shall they be construed to be, general obligations of the United States of America nor are such obligations intended to be or are they secured by the full faith and credit of the United States of America. See "THE ISSUER – Limited Obligation."

The Series 2016-2 Bonds are being issued for the principal purpose of acquiring certain transmission facilities to be leased by the Issuer to Bonneville. See "PURPOSE OF ISSUANCE AND USE OF PROCEEDS."

The Series 2016-2 Bonds will bear interest as shown on the inside cover, payable on September 1, 2016 and semi-annually thereafter on March 1 and September 1 of each year.

The Series 2016-2 Bonds will be issued in fully registered form and will be initially registered only in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee of The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York ("DTC"), which will act as securities depository for the Series 2016-2 Bonds. Individual purchases in principal amounts of \$5,000 or multiples thereof will be made only through the book-entry-only system maintained by DTC through brokers and dealers who are, or act through, DTC Participants. The purchasers of the Series 2016-2 Bonds will not receive certificates representing their interest in the Series 2016-2 Bonds. Ownership interests in the Series 2016-2 Bonds will be shown on, and transfers of Series 2016-2 Bonds will be effected only through, records maintained by DTC and its participants. Payments of principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Series 2016-2 Bonds will be made to owners by DTC through its participants.

The Trustee for the Series 2016-2 Bonds is U.S. Bank National Association.

**The Series 2016-2 Bonds are subject to redemption prior to maturity as described herein.**

*The Series 2016-2 Bonds are offered when, as, and if issued and received by the Underwriters, subject to the approval of the proceedings authorizing the Series 2016-2 Bonds by Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP, and to certain other conditions. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the Issuer by Monahan, Grove & Tucker, Milton-Freewater, Oregon, and for Bonneville by its General Counsel and by its Special Counsel, Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP, New York, New York. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the Underwriters by Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP, New York, New York. The Series 2016-2 Bonds are expected to be delivered through the facilities of DTC on or about June 29, 2016.*

**Wells Fargo Securities**  
**BofA Merrill Lynch**

**Citigroup**  
**TD Securities**

June 21, 2016

**MATURITIES, PRINCIPAL AMOUNTS,  
INTEREST RATES AND PRICES  
\$115,085,000**

<b><u>Year</u></b> <b><u>(September 1)</u></b>	<b><u>Principal</u></b> <b><u>Amount</u></b>	<b><u>Interest</u></b> <b><u>Rate</u></b>	<b><u>CUSIP*</u></b> <b><u>Number</u></b>
2020	\$57,500,000	1.582%	73474TAK6
2021	57,585,000	1.782	73474TAL4

---

\* The CUSIP number is provided by CUSIP Global Services, managed on behalf of the American Bankers Association by Standard & Poor's. The CUSIP number is not intended to create a database and does not serve in any way as a substitute for CUSIP service. CUSIP numbers are provided for convenience and reference only, and are subject to change. Neither the Issuer nor the Underwriters take responsibility for the accuracy of the CUSIP number.

The information contained in this Official Statement has been obtained from the United States of America, Department of Energy, acting by and through the Administrator of the Bonneville Power Administration (“Bonneville”) and in certain limited instances from the Port of Morrow, Oregon (the “Issuer”) and other sources which are deemed to be reliable. This Official Statement is submitted in connection with the sale of the securities referred to herein, and may not be reproduced or be used, in whole or in part, for any other purpose. The delivery of this Official Statement at any time does not imply that the information herein is correct as of any time subsequent to its date.

**No dealer, salesman or any other person has been authorized by the Issuer or Wells Fargo Bank, National Association and the other Underwriters (collectively the “Underwriters”) to give any information or to make any representations other than as contained in this Official Statement in connection with the offering described herein and, if given or made, such other information or representation must not be relied upon as having been authorized by any of the foregoing. This Official Statement does not constitute an offer of any securities, other than those described on the cover page, or an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy in any jurisdiction in which it is unlawful to make such offer, solicitation or sale.**

The Underwriters have provided the following sentence for inclusion in this Official Statement. The Underwriters have reviewed the information in the Official Statement in accordance with, and as part of their responsibilities to investors under the federal securities laws as applied to the facts and circumstances of this transaction, but the Underwriters do not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of such information.

The Issuer makes no representation as to the accuracy or completeness of any information in this Official Statement and takes no responsibility for its contents, other than the information relating to the Issuer under the headings “THE ISSUER,” “VALIDATION,” and “LEGAL MATTERS.”

---

**CERTAIN PERSONS PARTICIPATING IN THIS OFFERING MAY ENGAGE IN TRANSACTIONS WHICH STABILIZE, MAINTAIN OR OTHERWISE AFFECT THE MARKET PRICE OF THE SERIES 2016-2 BONDS.**

This Official Statement contains statements which, to the extent they are not recitations of historical fact, constitute “forward-looking statements.” In this respect, the words “estimate,” “project,” “anticipate,” “expect,” “intend,” “believe” and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. A number of important factors affecting Bonneville’s business and financial results could cause actual results to differ materially from those stated in the forward-looking statements. Bonneville does not plan to issue updates or revisions to the forward-looking statements.

**(THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK)**

---

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

---

	<b>Page</b>
INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT .....	1
THE ISSUER.....	1
General .....	1
Administration.....	2
Limited Obligation .....	2
VALIDATION .....	2
PURPOSE OF ISSUANCE AND USE OF PROCEEDS.....	3
THE PROJECT .....	3
SOURCES OF PAYMENT AND SECURITY FOR THE SERIES 2016-2 BONDS.....	3
Trust Estate.....	3
Source of Bonneville’s Payments: The Bonneville Fund.....	4
THE SERIES 2016-2 BONDS .....	6
General .....	6
Book-Entry-Only System .....	6
Optional Redemption .....	8
Partial Redemption.....	9
Notice of Redemption .....	10
THE LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT .....	10
Rental Payments .....	11
Indemnity .....	11
Operation of the Project .....	11
Covenants.....	11
Damage, Destruction and Condemnation.....	12
Termination of the Lease-Purchase Agreement .....	12
Defaults .....	12
Remedies.....	12
Statutory Limitation on Legal Remedies against Bonneville .....	13
Options .....	13
Force Majeure .....	13
Assignment or Sublease .....	14
Amendment .....	14
Changing the Definition of the Project.....	14
Sale, Assignment, or Other Dispositions of Portions of the Project.....	14
THE INDENTURE.....	15
Trust Estate.....	15
Project Fund .....	15
Bond Fund.....	15
Reserve Fund.....	15
Investments .....	15
Additional Bonds.....	16
Events of Default and Remedies .....	16
Waivers of Events of Default .....	17
Application of Moneys after Default.....	17
Amendments of the Indenture .....	17
Amendment of the Lease-Purchase Agreement .....	18
Discharge of the Indenture .....	18

CONTINUING DISCLOSURE.....	18
ERISA CONSIDERATIONS .....	19
RATINGS.....	19
UNDERWRITING .....	19
CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS .....	20
TAX MATTERS .....	20
Certain U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations .....	20
Certain State of Oregon Income Tax Considerations .....	21
LEGAL MATTERS .....	21
APPENDIX A    BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION.....	A-1
APPENDIX B-1  FEDERAL SYSTEM AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEARS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2015, 2014 AND 2013 .....	B-1-1
APPENDIX B-2  FEDERAL SYSTEM UNAUDITED FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2016 .....	B-2-1
APPENDIX C    FORM OF OPINION OF ORRICK, HERRINGTON & SUTCLIFFE LLP.....	C-1
APPENDIX D    FORM OF CONTINUING DISCLOSURE CERTIFICATE .....	D-1

## OFFICIAL STATEMENT

**\$115,085,000**  
**Port of Morrow, Oregon**  
**Transmission Facilities Revenue Bonds**  
**(Bonneville Cooperation Project No. 5),**  
**Series 2016-2 (Federally Taxable)**

---

### INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

---

This Official Statement provides information concerning the issuance by the Port of Morrow, Oregon (the “Issuer” or the “Port”) of \$115,085,000 principal amount of its Transmission Facilities Revenue Bonds, Series 2016-2 (the “Series 2016-2 Bonds”). The Series 2016-2 Bonds are being issued to finance the costs of acquiring certain transmission facilities (the “Project”), as further described herein under “THE PROJECT,” to be owned by the Issuer and leased to the United States of America, Department of Energy, acting by and through the Administrator of the Bonneville Power Administration (“Bonneville”).

The Issuer will execute a Lease-Purchase Agreement with Bonneville dated June 29, 2016 (the “Lease-Purchase Agreement”) pursuant to which the Issuer will lease the Project to Bonneville. The Series 2016-2 Bonds will be issued under an Indenture of Trust dated as of June 1, 2016 (the “Indenture”) between the Issuer and U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee (the “Trustee”). Under the Indenture, the Issuer will assign to the Trustee certain rights under the Lease-Purchase Agreement, including the right to receive rental payments from Bonneville in amounts at least sufficient to pay when due the principal of, and interest on, the Series 2016-2 Bonds.

Brief descriptions and summaries of the Series 2016-2 Bonds, the Lease-Purchase Agreement and the Indenture follow in this Official Statement. These descriptions and summaries do not purport to be complete and are subject to and qualified by reference to the provisions of the complete documents, copies of which are available at the offices of the Trustee at Global Corporate Trust Services, 555 SW Oak Street, PD-OR-P7TD, Portland, Oregon 97204. Appendices A and B to this Official Statement have been furnished by Bonneville and contain information concerning the business of Bonneville. Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings given to such terms in the Indenture.

### THE ISSUER

#### General

The Issuer, a port district located in Morrow County, Oregon, was organized in 1957 under Oregon Revised Statutes, Section 777, as amended. The Issuer’s boundaries, approximately 2,049 square miles, are coterminous with Morrow County. To the north, the Issuer is bordered by the Columbia River and is transected by Interstate 84 and Union Pacific railroad mainline. Both the highway and the railroad pass through Boardman, the location of the Port’s administrative office and a portion of its industrial park.

Port districts in the State of Oregon are authorized to acquire, hold, use, enjoy and convey, lease or otherwise dispose of real and personal property, or any interest therein, necessary or convenient in carrying out its powers. Port powers include the right to acquire rights of way for the placing of transmission lines over which to carry electric energy, with the full power to lease and sell the same, together with the lands upon which they are situated, whether held by the port in its governmental capacity or not.

The Port’s major mission remains economic development and creation of jobs for the cities of Boardman, Lexington, Heppner, Ione and Irrigon. The Port’s area has approximately 11,300 residents. A five member Board of Commissioners governs the Port.

**Board of Commissioners**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Term Began</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>
Joe Taylor	President	Farmer	07/01/13	06/30/17
Marvin Padberg	Vice-President	Farmer	07/01/15	06/30/19
Larry Lindsay	Secretary/Treasurer	Farmer	07/01/15	06/30/19
Jerry Healy	Commissioner	Retired	07/01/13	06/30/17
Rick Stokoe	Commissioner	Police Chief	04/06/15	06/30/17

**Administration**

The Port employs a manager, who is responsible for all management and administrative functions. The manager has a staff of 75 full-time equivalent employees to assist in administrative and facility maintenance activities.

**Limited Obligation**

The Series 2016-2 Bonds shall not be payable out of any funds of the Issuer other than those pledged therefor but shall be payable by the Issuer solely from the Trust Estate. Nothing in the Series 2016-2 Bonds, in the Lease-Purchase Agreement or in the Indenture or any other agreement or binding document shall be considered as pledging any other funds or assets of the Issuer. All right, title, and interest of the Issuer in and to the Trust Estate shall be pledged to the Trustee for the benefit of Series 2016-2 Bondholders for the payment of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Series 2016-2 Bonds in accordance with their terms and provisions of the Indenture. THE SERIES 2016-2 BONDS, TOGETHER WITH THE INTEREST THEREON, SHALL BE SPECIAL LIMITED OBLIGATIONS OF THE ISSUER PAYABLE SOLELY FROM THE TRUST ESTATE PLEDGED UNDER THE INDENTURE; AND THE SERIES 2016-2 BONDS SHALL NOT CONSTITUTE A DEBT OR PLEDGE OF THE FULL FAITH AND CREDIT OR TAXING POWER OF THE ISSUER, THE STATE OR ANY POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE OR A LOAN OF THE CREDIT OF ANY OF THE FOREGOING WITHIN THE MEANING OF ANY CONSTITUTIONAL OR STATUTORY LIMITATION AND SHALL NEVER CONSTITUTE OR GIVE RISE TO A PECUNIARY LIABILITY OF THE ISSUER, THE STATE OR ANY POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE. NO OWNER OF ANY SERIES 2016-2 BONDS SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO COMPEL ANY EXERCISE OF TAXING POWER OF THE ISSUER, THE STATE OR ANY POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE, INCLUDING THE ISSUER, TO PAY THE SERIES 2016-2 BONDS OR THE INTEREST THEREON. THE LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT SHALL NOT CONSTITUTE AN INDEBTEDNESS, GENERAL OBLIGATION OR A CHARGE AGAINST THE GENERAL CREDIT OR TAXING POWER OF THE ISSUER, THE STATE OR ANY POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE WITHIN THE MEANING OF ANY CONSTITUTIONAL OR STATUTORY LIMITATION.

**VALIDATION**

On March 15, 2012, the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon of the County of Morrow, in a validation procedure brought by the Issuer, determined among other things, that the Issuer has the authority to issue revenue bonds in one or more series and to enter into financing agreements to finance or refinance the costs of acquisition, installation and/or construction of future or existing transmission facilities which are now or will be leased to Bonneville and that upon execution and delivery thereof, all bonds issued in connection with said transmission facilities, including the Series 2016-2 Bonds, and any leases or indentures executed in connection with such transmission facilities, including the Indenture and Lease-Purchase Agreement, will be valid, legal and binding obligations in accordance with their terms.

The judgment binds and permanently enjoins all persons from the institution of any action or proceeding challenging the validity of any bonds, indentures or leases in connection with such transmission facilities or any matters adjudicated in such validation actions or which could have adjudicated in such actions. The validation judgment became effective on April 15, 2012.

## **PURPOSE OF ISSUANCE AND USE OF PROCEEDS**

Pursuant to a lease-purchase agreement and a related construction agreement dated as of July 20, 2011, between Bonneville and the Northwest Infrastructure Financing Corporation V (“NIFC V”), NIFC V provided for the acquisition, construction, installation and equipping of certain transmission assets (as described below, the “Project”) and leased the Project to Bonneville. NIFC V financed such acquisition, construction, installation and equipping through a credit agreement with Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, and secured its obligations under such credit agreement with the lease-purchase agreement by and between NIFC V, as lessor, and Bonneville, as lessee, and the payments from Bonneville thereunder.

The proceeds from the sale of the Series 2016-2 Bonds will be used by the Issuer to acquire the Project from NIFC V. NIFC V will use the funds received from the Issuer to pay the indebtedness incurred under said credit agreement. Upon receipt of the acquisition payment, NIFC V will relinquish all of its rights and interests in the Project and irrevocably transfer such rights and interests to the Issuer. The proceeds from the sale of the Series 2016-2 Bonds will also be used by the Issuer to pay the costs of issuance of the Series 2016-2 Bonds (including Underwriters’ discount) and certain administrative costs of the Issuer. The costs of issuance and such administrative costs are \$861,640.

## **THE PROJECT**

As described herein under “THE LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT,” the Project will be leased by the Issuer to the United States Department of Energy, acting by and through the Administrator of the Bonneville Power Administration. The Project consists solely of fixtures and/or equipment that are a part of electric transmission system facilities located in the Pacific Northwest region of the United States. The Project includes: (i) one Federal Columbia River Power System (the “Federal System”) transmission line with airway lighting, conductor, fiber-optic cable, insulators, overhead ground wire, overhead ground wire wood poles, and steel towers; and (ii) additions or replacements at five Federal System substations for aluminum bus, breaker control packages, cable, control cable boots, communications equipment, current transformers, disconnect switches, grounding systems, insulators, oil spill containment systems, power circuit breakers, relays with racks, revenue metering, seismic jumper assemblies, supervisory control and acquisition data systems, surge arresters, switchyard surface crushed rock, transfer trip packages, or voltage transformers. These additions, replacements, and improvements were acquired, constructed, installed or equipped for the purpose of maintaining system reliability and providing enhanced electric transmission service. Bonneville’s leasehold interests in the Project and its rights and obligations in connection therewith are a part of the “Federal Transmission System” as described in Bonneville’s organic statutes. Bonneville has obtained and holds, in the name of the United States of America, all of the rights of way and other real property interests on which the Project is sited. These real property interests are not subject to condemnation by any state or local authority.

Under the Lease-Purchase Agreement and the Indenture, the definition of the Project may be amended from time to time without the consent of the holders of the Series 2016-2 Bonds; provided, however, that a change in the definition of the Project shall not entitle Bonneville to any abatement or reduction in the rental payments under the Lease-Purchase Agreement. See “THE LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT - Changing the Definition of the Project.”

The Series 2016-2 Bonds will not be secured by a mortgage or other lien on the Project and the interest of the Issuer in the Project is limited by the Lease-Purchase Agreement as described under “SOURCES OF PAYMENT AND SECURITY FOR THE SERIES 2016-2 BONDS – Trust Estate.” Therefore, the Bondholders should not look to the Project as providing any security for the payment of the Series 2016-2 Bonds.

## **SOURCES OF PAYMENT AND SECURITY FOR THE SERIES 2016-2 BONDS**

### **Trust Estate**

Under the terms of the Indenture, the Series 2016-2 Bonds are payable solely but equally and ratably from and are secured solely but equally and ratably by the Trust Estate which consists of (i) all right, title and interest of

the Issuer in and to the Lease-Purchase Agreement, including all rental payments, revenues and receipts payable or receivable thereunder, excluding, however, the Issuer's Reserved Rights, which rights may be enforced by the Issuer and the Trustee jointly or severally; (ii) all right, title and interest of the Issuer in and to the Project, subject to the Lease-Purchase Agreement; (iii) all moneys and securities from time to time held by the Trustee under the terms of the Indenture including amounts set apart and transferred to the Project Fund, the Bond Fund or the Reserve Fund, and all investment earnings of any of the foregoing, subject to disbursements from the Project Fund, the Bond Fund, or the Reserve Fund in accordance with the provisions of the Lease-Purchase Agreement and the Indenture; (iv) any and all other property of every kind and nature from time to time which was heretofore or will be hereafter by delivery or by writing of any kind conveyed, mortgaged, pledged, assigned or transferred, as and for additional security under the Indenture, by the Issuer or by any other person, firm or corporation with or without the consent of the Issuer, to the Trustee which is hereby authorized to receive any and all such property at any time and at all times to hold and apply the same subject to the terms of the Indenture.

Pursuant to the Lease-Purchase Agreement between Bonneville and the Issuer, Bonneville is required to make rental payments in the amounts set forth in schedules contained in the Lease-Purchase Agreement which schedules will provide for rental payments at times and in amounts more than sufficient to pay the principal of and interest and all other amounts due on the Series 2016-2 Bonds. See herein "THE LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT" and "THE INDENTURE." Such rental payments are irrevocably pledged by the Issuer pursuant to the Indenture for the payment of principal or redemption premium, if any, of and interest on the Series 2016-2 Bonds. The Lease-Purchase Agreement provides that such rental payments will be made directly to the Trustee for deposit in the Bond Fund.

The Lease-Purchase Agreement provides that Bonneville's obligation to pay the rental payments and all other amounts payable under the Lease-Purchase Agreement is absolute and unconditional, and is payable without any set-off or counterclaim, regardless of whether or not the Project is operating or operable. Bonneville's obligation to make the rental payments will continue until September 1, 2021, unless sooner terminated or extended in accordance with the provisions of the Lease-Purchase Agreement, and is coterminous with the final maturity of the Series 2016-2 Bonds. **Bonneville's obligations under the Lease-Purchase Agreement are not, nor shall they be construed to be, general obligations of the United States of America nor are such obligations intended to be or are they secured by the full faith and credit of the United States of America.**

The Issuer, during the term of the Lease-Purchase Agreement, waives any and all rights as owner or as lessor of the Project to re-enter and take possession of the Project, to sublease the Project, to terminate the Lease-Purchase Agreement and to exclude Bonneville from possession of the Project upon the occurrence of an event of default under the Lease-Purchase Agreement. The Issuer and Bonneville will declare that the Lease-Purchase Agreement does not create a security interest in the Project in favor of the Issuer and the Issuer will waive any rights it may have as a secured party with respect to the Project. The Series 2016-2 Bonds will not be secured by a mortgage or other lien on the Project and the interest of the Issuer in the Project is limited by the Lease-Purchase Agreement as described above. Therefore, the Bondholders should not look to the Project as providing any security for the payment of the Series 2016-2 Bonds. See "THE PROJECT."

#### **Source of Bonneville's Payments: The Bonneville Fund**

The Bonneville Fund is a continuing appropriation available exclusively to Bonneville for the purpose of making cash payments to cover Bonneville's expenses. All receipts, collections and recoveries of Bonneville in cash from all sources are deposited in the Bonneville Fund. For a more complete discussion of the Bonneville Fund, see APPENDIX A - "BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION—Bonneville Financial Operations—The Bonneville Fund."

Bonneville may make expenditures from the Bonneville Fund, which shall have been included in Bonneville's annual budget submitted to Congress without further appropriation and without fiscal year limitation but subject to such specific directives or limitations as may be included in appropriations acts, for any purpose necessary or appropriate to carry out the duties imposed upon Bonneville pursuant to law.

***Payments by Bonneville under the Lease-Purchase Agreement are not, nor shall they be construed to be, general obligations of the United States Government nor are such obligations or the Series 2016-2 Bonds intended to be or are they secured by the full faith and credit of the United States of America.***

Bonneville is required to make certain annual payments to the United States Treasury. These payments are to be made from net proceeds, which are gross cash receipts remaining in the Bonneville Fund after deducting all of the costs paid by Bonneville to operate and maintain the Federal System, other than those used to make payments to the United States Treasury for: (i) the repayment of the federal investment in certain transmission facilities and the power generating facilities at federally-owned hydroelectric projects in the Pacific Northwest; (ii) debt service on bonds issued by Bonneville and sold to the United States Treasury; (iii) repayments of appropriated amounts to the United States Corps of Engineers and the United States Bureau of Reclamation for certain costs allocated to electric power generation at federally-owned hydroelectric projects in the Pacific Northwest; and (iv) costs allocated to irrigation projects as are required by law to be recovered from power sales. Bonneville met its fiscal year 2015 payment responsibility to the United States Treasury in full and on time for the 32nd consecutive year.

For various reasons, Bonneville's revenues from the sale of electric power and other services may vary significantly from year to year. In order to accommodate such fluctuations in revenues and to assure that Bonneville has sufficient revenues to pay the costs necessary to maintain and operate the Federal System, all cash payment obligations of Bonneville for operating and maintenance expenses, including Bonneville's payments under the Lease-Purchase Agreement, have priority over payments by Bonneville to the United States Treasury. In the opinion of Bonneville's General Counsel, under federal statutes, Bonneville may make payments to the United States Treasury only from net proceeds; all other cash payments of Bonneville, including payments relating to the Lease-Purchase Agreement and other operating and maintenance expenses, have priority over payments by Bonneville to the United States Treasury for the costs described in (i) through (iv) in the preceding paragraph.

The requirement to pay the United States Treasury exclusively from net proceeds would result in a deferral of United States Treasury payments if net proceeds were not sufficient for Bonneville to make its scheduled payments in full to the United States Treasury. Such deferrals could occur in the event that Bonneville were to receive less revenue or if Bonneville's costs were higher than expected. Such deferred amounts, plus interest, must be paid by Bonneville in future years. Bonneville has not deferred such payments since 1983.

Bonneville also has a substantial number of agreements with Preference Customers, as hereinafter described in Appendix A - "BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION—GENERAL," pursuant to which Bonneville has an obligation to provide credits against power and transmission purchases made from Bonneville by such customers. Under these "net billing" agreements, related Bonneville Preference Customers ("Participants") have the obligation to make payments to two third-parties (Energy Northwest and the City of Eugene, Oregon, Water and Electric Board ("EWEB")) to meet the costs of certain nuclear generating projects, one of which is currently operating. In return, Bonneville has an obligation to the Participants to provide payment credits ("net billing credits") against the monthly power and transmission bills issued by Bonneville. The net billing credits reduce the amount of cash that Bonneville would otherwise have to pay its cash payment obligations. The occurrence of net billing credits is determined in part by the availability of funds to Energy Northwest and EWEB, apart from net billing, to cover the related projects' costs. As described below, Bonneville has entered into certain direct payment agreements that result in direct payments from Bonneville to Energy Northwest and EWEB for all related project costs. These agreements have enabled Energy Northwest and EWEB to reduce net billing to zero. However, if Bonneville is unable or fails to make direct payments, or if certain other conditions occur, net billing would be re-established. For additional descriptions of Bonneville's substantial net billing arrangements, see APPENDIX A - "BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION—CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO BONNEVILLE—Regional Cooperation Debt and Related Actions," "—POWER SERVICES—Description of the Generation Resources of the Federal System," "—BONNEVILLE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS—Bonneville's Non-Federal Debt—Bonds for Energy Northwest's Net Billed Projects," and "—BONNEVILLE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS—Direct Pay Agreements." Bonneville has other crediting commitments that are similar to net billing credits in that they reduce the amount of revenue in cash that Bonneville receives. See APPENDIX A - "BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION—BONNEVILLE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS—Bonneville's Non-Federal Debt—Electric Power Prepayments" and "TRANSMISSION SERVICES—Bonneville's Federal Transmission System."

Because Bonneville's payments to the United States Treasury may be made only from net proceeds, payments of other Bonneville costs out of the Bonneville Fund have a priority over its payments to the United States Treasury. Thus, the order in which Bonneville's costs are met is as follows: (1) net billed project costs to the extent covered by net billing credits, (2) cash payments out of the Bonneville Fund to cover all required payments incurred by Bonneville pursuant to law, including payments by Bonneville under the Lease-Purchase Agreement, but excluding payments to the United States Treasury and (3) payments to the United States Treasury. For further information, see APPENDIX A - "BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION—BONNEVILLE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS—Order in Which Bonneville's Costs Are Met."

## **THE SERIES 2016-2 BONDS**

### **General**

The Series 2016-2 Bonds will be issued originally as a single global certificate for each maturity registered to DTC, or its nominee, Cede & Co., to be held in DTC's book-entry-only system. So long as the Series 2016-2 Bonds are held in the book-entry-only system, DTC (or a successor securities depository) or its nominee will be the registered owner of the Series 2016-2 Bonds for all purposes of the Indenture, the Series 2016-2 Bonds and this Official Statement. Interest on the Series 2016-2 Bonds will be payable only through participants or indirect participants in DTC so long as the Series 2016-2 Bonds are held in the book-entry-only system. The Series 2016-2 Bonds are available to the ultimate purchasers in book-entry form only, in denominations of \$5,000 and integral multiples thereof. See "Book-Entry-Only System" below.

The Series 2016-2 Bonds are dated the date of their delivery, and mature on September 1 in the years and in the principal amounts shown on the inside cover page of this Official Statement. The Series 2016-2 Bonds will bear interest, computed on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months, at the rates shown on the inside cover page of this Official Statement. The Series 2016-2 Bonds are subject to redemption prior to maturity as set forth below. Additional Bonds may be issued under the Indenture. Such Bonds, together with the Series 2016-2 Bonds, are referred to as the "Bonds."

Interest on the Series 2016-2 Bonds will be payable on March 1 and September 1 of each year, commencing September 1, 2016, to the persons in whose name the Series 2016-2 Bonds are registered on the fifteenth day of the month preceding the interest payment date; provided that overdue interest shall be paid to the persons in whose name such Series 2016-2 Bonds are registered by close of business on the fifth Business Day next preceding the date of payment of the defaulted interest. So long as the Series 2016-2 Bonds are held in the book-entry-only system, all payments of principal of and premium, if any, and interest are required to be made by the Trustee to DTC in immediately available funds for further distribution to beneficial owners of the Series 2016-2 Bonds.

### **Book-Entry-Only System**

DTC will act as securities depository for the Series 2016-2 Bonds. The Series 2016-2 Bonds will be issued as fully-registered Series 2016-2 Bonds registered in the name of Cede & Co. (DTC's partnership nominee) or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. One fully-registered Series 2016-2 Bond will be issued for the Series 2016-2 Bonds for each maturity, in the aggregate principal amount of such maturity, and will be deposited with DTC.

DTC is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a "banking organization" within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a "clearing corporation" within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a "clearing agency" registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. DTC holds and provides asset servicing for over 3.5 million issues of U.S. and non-U.S. equity issues, corporate and municipal debt issues, and money market instruments from over 100 countries that DTC's participants ("Direct Participants") deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the post-trade settlement among Direct Participants of sales and other securities transactions in deposited securities, through electronic computerized book-entry transfers and pledges between Direct Participants' accounts. This eliminates the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct Participants include both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing

corporations, and certain other organizations. DTC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation (“DTCC”). DTCC is the holding company for DTC, National Securities Clearing Corporation and Fixed Income Clearing Corporation, all of which are registered clearing agencies. DTCC is owned by the users of its regulated subsidiaries. Access to the DTC system is also available to others such as both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, and clearing corporations that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Direct Participant, either directly or indirectly (“Indirect Participants”). The DTC Rules applicable to its Participants are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”). More information about DTC can be found at [www.dtcc.com](http://www.dtcc.com) and [www.dtc.org](http://www.dtc.org).

Purchases of the Series 2016-2 Bonds under the DTC system must be made by or through Direct Participants, which will receive a credit for the Series 2016-2 Bonds on DTC’s records. The ownership interest of each actual purchaser of each Series 2016-2 Bond (“Beneficial Owner”) is in turn to be recorded on the Direct and Indirect Participants’ records. Beneficial Owners will not receive written confirmation from DTC of their purchase. Beneficial Owners are, however, expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transaction, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the Direct or Indirect Participant through which the Beneficial Owner entered into the transaction. Transfers of ownership interests in the Series 2016-2 Bonds are to be accomplished by entries made on the books of Direct and Indirect Participants acting on behalf of Beneficial Owners. Beneficial Owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in the Series 2016-2 Bonds, except in the event that use of the book-entry-only system for the Series 2016-2 Bonds is discontinued.

To facilitate subsequent transfers, all Series 2016-2 Bonds deposited by Direct Participants with DTC are registered in the name of DTC’s partnership nominee, Cede & Co., or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. The deposit of the Series 2016-2 Bonds with DTC and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. or such other DTC nominee do not affect any change in beneficial ownership. DTC has no knowledge of the actual Beneficial Owners of the Series 2016-2 Bonds; DTC’s records reflect only the identity of the Direct Participants to whose accounts such Series 2016-2 Bonds are credited, which may or may not be the Beneficial Owners. The Direct and Indirect Participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to Direct Participants, by Direct Participants to Indirect Participants, and by Direct Participants and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Beneficial Owners of Series 2016-2 Bonds may wish to take certain steps to augment transmission to them of notices of significant events with respect to the Series 2016-2 Bonds, such as redemptions, tenders, defaults, and proposed amendments to the Series 2016-2 Bond documents. For example, Beneficial Owners of Series 2016-2 Bonds may wish to ascertain that the nominee holding the Series 2016-2 Bonds for their benefit has agreed to obtain and transmit notices to Beneficial Owners. In the alternative, Beneficial Owners may wish to provide their names and addresses to the Trustee and request that copies of notices be provided directly to them. **THE ISSUER, BONNEVILLE AND THE TRUSTEE WILL NOT HAVE ANY RESPONSIBILITY OR OBLIGATION TO SUCH DIRECT AND INDIRECT PARTICIPANTS OR THE PERSONS FOR WHOM THEY ACT AS NOMINEES WITH RESPECT TO THE SERIES 2016-2 BONDS.**

Redemption notices will be sent to DTC. If less than all of the Series 2016-2 Bonds are being redeemed, DTC’s practice is to determine by lot the amount of the interest of each Direct Participant in such issue to be redeemed.

Neither DTC nor Cede & Co. (nor any other DTC nominee) will consent or vote with respect to the Series 2016-2 Bonds unless authorized by a Direct Participant in accordance with DTC’s MMI Procedures. Under its usual procedures, DTC mails an Omnibus Proxy to the Issuer as soon as possible after the record date. The Omnibus Proxy assigns Cede & Co.’s consenting or voting rights to those Direct Participants to whose accounts the Series 2016-2 Bonds are credited on the record date (identified in a listing attached to the Omnibus Proxy).

Principal and interest payments on the Series 2016-2 Bonds will be made to Cede & Co., or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. DTC’s practice is to credit Direct Participants’ accounts upon DTC’s receipt of funds and corresponding detail information from the Issuer or the Trustee, on payable dates in accordance with their respective holdings shown on DTC’s records. Payments by

Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is the case with securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in “street name,” and will be the responsibility of such Participant and not of DTC, the Trustee, or the Issuer, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Payment of principal and interest to Cede & Co. (or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC) is the responsibility of the Issuer or the Trustee, disbursement of such payments to Direct Participants will be the responsibility of DTC, and disbursement of such payments to the Beneficial Owners will be the responsibility of Direct and Indirect Participants.

DTC may discontinue providing its services as securities depository with respect to the Series 2016-2 Bonds at any time by giving reasonable notice to the Issuer or the Trustee. Under such circumstances, in the event that a successor securities depository is not obtained, Series 2016-2 Bonds are required to be printed and delivered as described in the Indenture.

The Issuer, at the direction of Bonneville, may decide to discontinue use of the system of the book-entry transfers through DTC (or a successor securities depository). In that event, Series 2016-2 Bond certificates will be printed and delivered to DTC.

THE ISSUER, THE TRUSTEE, BONNEVILLE AND THE UNDERWRITERS SHALL NOT HAVE ANY RESPONSIBILITY OR OBLIGATION TO ANY DIRECT OR INDIRECT PARTICIPANT, ANY BENEFICIAL OWNER OR ANY OTHER PERSON CLAIMING A BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP INTEREST IN THE SERIES 2016-2 BONDS UNDER OR THROUGH DTC OR ANY DTC PARTICIPANT, OR ANY OTHER PERSON WHICH IS NOT SHOWN ON THE REGISTRATION BOOKS OF THE TRUSTEE AS BEING A HOLDER, WITH RESPECT TO THE ACCURACY OF ANY RECORDS MAINTAINED BY DTC OR ANY DIRECT OR INDIRECT PARTICIPANT; THE PAYMENT BY DTC OR ANY DIRECT OR INDIRECT PARTICIPANT OF ANY AMOUNT IN RESPECT OF THE PRINCIPAL OF, PREMIUM, IF ANY, OR INTEREST ON THE SERIES 2016-2 BONDS; ANY NOTICE WHICH IS PERMITTED OR REQUIRED TO BE GIVEN TO OWNERS UNDER THE INDENTURE; THE SELECTION BY DTC OR ANY DIRECT OR INDIRECT PARTICIPANT OF ANY PERSON TO RECEIVE PAYMENT IN THE EVENT OF A PARTIAL REDEMPTION OF THE SERIES 2016-2 BONDS; ANY CONSENT GIVEN OR OTHER ACTION TAKEN BY DTC AS AN OWNER; OR ANY OTHER PROCEDURES OR OBLIGATIONS OF DTC UNDER THE BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY SYSTEM.

SO LONG AS CEDE & CO. (OR SUCH OTHER NOMINEE AS MAY BE REQUESTED BY AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF DTC) IS THE REGISTERED OWNER OF THE SERIES 2016-2 BONDS, AS NOMINEE OF DTC, REFERENCES HEREIN TO THE HOLDERS OR OWNERS OR REGISTERED HOLDERS OR REGISTERED OWNERS OF THE SERIES 2016-2 BONDS MEANS CEDE & CO., AS AFORESAID, AND DOES NOT MEAN THE BENEFICIAL OWNERS OF THE SERIES 2016-2 BONDS.

The foregoing description of the procedures and record keeping with respect to beneficial ownership interests in the Series 2016-2 Bonds, payment of principal, interest and other payments on the Series 2016-2 Bonds to Direct and Indirect Participants or Beneficial Owners, confirmation and transfer of beneficial ownership interest in such Series 2016-2 Bonds and other related transactions by and between DTC, the Direct and Indirect Participants and the Beneficial Owners is based solely on information provided by DTC. Accordingly, no representations can be made concerning these matters, and neither the Direct nor Indirect Participants nor the Beneficial Owners should rely on the foregoing information with respect to such matters, but should instead confirm the same with DTC.

### **Optional Redemption**

The Series 2016-2 Bonds are subject to redemption prior to their respective maturities at the option of the Issuer (with the approval of Bonneville), in whole or in part, on any Business Day, at the Make-Whole Redemption Price (as defined herein) determined by the Designated Investment Banker (as defined herein).

The “Make-Whole Redemption Price” is the greater of (i) the issue price of the Series 2016-2 Bonds as shown on the cover page of this Official Statement (but not less than 100% of the principal amount of the Series 2016-2 Bonds to be redeemed), or (ii) the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of

principal and interest on the Series 2016-2 Bonds to be redeemed, not including any portion of those payments of interest accrued and unpaid as of the date on which the Series 2016-2 Bonds are to be redeemed, discounted to the date on which such Series 2016-2 Bonds are to be redeemed on a semi-annual basis, assuming a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months, at the “Treasury Rate” (defined below) plus 10 basis points, plus accrued and unpaid interest on the Series 2016-2 Bonds to be redeemed on the redemption date.

“Treasury Rate” means, with respect to any redemption date for a particular Series 2016-2 Bond, the rate per annum, expressed as a percentage of the principal amount, equal to the semi-annual equivalent yield to maturity or interpolated maturity of the Comparable Treasury Issue (defined below), assuming that the Comparable Treasury Issue is purchased on the redemption date for a price equal to the Comparable Treasury Price (defined below), as calculated by the Designated Investment Banker (defined below).

“Comparable Treasury Issue” means, with respect to any redemption date for a particular Series 2016-2 Bond, the U.S. Treasury security or securities selected by the Designated Investment Banker that has an actual or interpolated maturity comparable to the remaining average life of the Series 2016-2 Bonds to be redeemed, and that would be utilized in accordance with customary financial practice in pricing new issues of debt securities of comparable maturity to the remaining average life of such Series 2016-2 Bonds to be redeemed.

“Comparable Treasury Price” means, with respect to any redemption date, (i) the most recent yield data for the applicable U.S. Treasury maturity index from the Federal Reserve Statistical Release H.15 Daily Update (or any comparable or successor publication) reported, as of 11:00 a.m. New York City time, on the Valuation Date; or (ii) if the yield described in (i) above is not reported as of such time or the yield reported as of such time is not ascertainable, the average of five Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations for that redemption date, after excluding the highest and lowest such Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations, or if the Designated Investment Banker obtains fewer than five Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations, the average of all such quotations.

“Designated Investment Banker” means one of the Reference Treasury Dealers appointed by the Issuer (with the approval of Bonneville).

“Reference Treasury Dealer” means each of five firms, specified by the Issuer (with the approval of Bonneville) from time to time, that are primary U.S. Government securities dealers in the City of New York (each, a “Primary Treasury Dealer”); provided, however, that if any of them ceases to be a Primary Treasury Dealer, the Issuer will substitute another Primary Treasury Dealer (with the approval of Bonneville).

“Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations” means, with respect to each Reference Treasury Dealer and any redemption date for a particular Series 2016-2 Bond, the average, as determined by the Designated Investment Banker, of the bid and asked prices for the Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed in each case as a percentage of its principal amount) quoted in writing to the Issuer, the Trustee and Bonneville by such Reference Treasury Dealer at 3:30 p.m. (New York City time) on the Valuation Date.

“Valuation Date” means a date that is no earlier than four days prior to the date the redemption notice is to be mailed.

### **Partial Redemption**

If less than all of the Series 2016-2 Bonds are to be redeemed, the Issuer may select the maturity or maturities to be redeemed. The Indenture provides that the portion of any Series 2016-2 Bonds of a denomination of more than \$5,000 to be redeemed will be in the principal amount of \$5,000 or any integral multiple thereof and that in selecting portions of such Series 2016-2 Bonds for redemption, the Trustee will treat each such Series 2016-2 Bonds as representing that number of such Series 2016-2 Bonds of \$5,000 denomination that is obtained by dividing the principal amount of such Series 2016-2 Bonds to be redeemed in part by \$5,000.

The particular Series 2016-2 Bonds to be redeemed shall be determined by the Trustee, using such method as it shall deem fair and appropriate. If the Series 2016-2 Bonds are registered in book-entry-only form, and so long as DTC or a successor securities depository is the sole registered owner of the Series 2016-2 Bonds, if less than all

of a maturity of the Series 2016-2 Bonds of a maturity are called for redemption, the particular Series 2016-2 Bonds or portions thereof to be redeemed shall be selected on a pro rata pass-through distribution of principal basis in accordance with DTC procedures, or such other method as is in accordance with the operational arrangements of DTC then in effect. It is the Issuer's intent that redemption allocations made by DTC, the DTC Participants or such other intermediaries that may exist between the Issuer and the Beneficial Owners be made in accordance with the pro rata pass-through distribution of principal basis described below. However, the Issuer can provide no assurance that DTC, the DTC Participants or any other intermediaries will allocate redemptions among registered owners on such basis. If the DTC operational arrangements do not allow for the redemption of the Series 2016-2 Bonds on a pro rata pass-through distribution of principal basis as discussed above, then the Series 2016-2 Bonds will be selected for redemption, in accordance with DTC procedures, by lot.

If the Series 2016-2 Bonds are not registered in book-entry-only form, any redemption of less than all of a maturity of the Series 2016-2 Bonds shall be allocated among the registered owners of such Series 2016-2 Bonds as nearly as practicable in proportion to the principal amounts of the Series 2016-2 Bonds owned by each registered owner, subject to the authorized denominations applicable to the Series 2016-2 Bonds. This will be calculated based on the following formula:

$$\frac{(\text{principal amount to be redeemed}) \times (\text{principal amount owned by registered owner})}{(\text{principal amount outstanding})}$$

### **Notice of Redemption**

Notice of redemption of any Series 2016-2 Bonds is to be given by the Trustee by first-class mail not less than 30 days nor more than 60 days before the redemption date to the registered owners of the Series 2016-2 Bonds which are to be redeemed at their last addresses shown on the registration books for the Series 2016-2 Bonds. Such notice shall be deemed conclusively to be received by the registered owners of the Series 2016-2 Bonds which are to be redeemed, whether or not such notice is actually received. Failure to mail any such notice or any defect therein shall not affect the validity of the redemption proceedings for the Series 2016-2 Bonds being redeemed. Notice of redemption having been given as described above, unless cancelled as described below, the Series 2016-2 Bonds called for redemption shall become due and payable on the redemption date specified in such notice and interest thereon shall cease to accrue from and after the redemption date, if money sufficient for the redemption of the Series 2016-2 Bonds to be redeemed, together with interest thereon to the redemption date, is held by the Trustee for such Series 2016-2 Bonds on the redemption date and the Series 2016-2 Bonds (or such portions thereof) shall cease to be entitled to any benefit or security under the applicable resolutions. The Issuer may cancel notice of an optional redemption prior to the designated redemption date by giving written notice of such cancellation, prior to the date scheduled for such redemption, to all parties who were given notice of redemption in the same manner as such notice was given.

For so long as a book-entry-only system is in effect with respect to the Series 2016-2 Bonds, the Trustee will mail notices of redemption to DTC or its nominee or its successor, and, if less than all of the Series 2016-2 Bonds of a maturity are to be redeemed, DTC or its successor and Participants and Indirect Participants (as such terms are defined herein under the heading "THE SERIES 2016-2 BONDS – Book-Entry-Only System") will determine the particular ownership interests of Series 2016-2 Bonds to be redeemed. Any failure of DTC or its successor or a Participant or Indirect Participant to do so, or to notify a Beneficial Owner of a Series 2016-2 Bond of any redemption, will not affect the sufficiency or the validity or the redemption of Series 2016-2 Bonds.

Neither the Issuer, the Trustee, nor the Underwriters can give any assurance that DTC, the Participants or the Indirect Participants will distribute such redemption notices to the Beneficial Owners of the Series 2016-2 Bonds, or that they will do so on a timely basis.

### **THE LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT**

The following is a summary of certain provisions of the Lease-Purchase Agreement, to which reference is made for the detailed provisions thereof.

## **Rental Payments**

Bonneville agrees under the Lease-Purchase Agreement to pay to the Trustee rental payments for deposit in the Bond Fund created under the Indenture in the amounts set forth in schedules to the Lease-Purchase Agreement, which schedules provide for rental payments more than sufficient for the payment of the principal of, and interest on, the Series 2016-2 Bonds. The obligation of Bonneville to make all payments provided in the Lease-Purchase Agreement is stated to be absolute and unconditional, without any set-off or counterclaim. See “SOURCES OF PAYMENT AND SECURITY FOR THE SERIES 2016-2 BONDS” herein.

Bonneville has also agreed to pay, as additional rent under the Lease-Purchase Agreement, all Impositions, which are defined as all taxes and assessments, general and specific, if any, levied and assessed upon or against the Project, the Lease-Purchase Agreement, any estate or interest of the Issuer or Bonneville in the Project or transfer of such estate or interest, or the rental payments under the Lease-Purchase Agreement during the term of the Lease-Purchase Agreement, and all assessments and other governmental charges and impositions whatsoever, foreseen or unforeseen, ordinary or extraordinary, under any present or future law, and charges for public or private utilities or other charges incurred in the occupancy, use, operation, maintenance or upkeep of the Project.

## **Indemnity**

Bonneville agrees to pay all reasonable costs and expenses of the Issuer incurred in connection with the Lease-Purchase Agreement and to protect and indemnify the Issuer against and hold the Issuer harmless from (i) all costs and expenses arising from or relating to compliance with environmental laws and regulations and orders of governmental agencies applicable to the Project or arising from or relating to mitigation, remediation, or abatement of environmental impacts, (ii) any and all claims (whether in tort, contract or otherwise), demands, expenses (including reasonable attorneys’ fees) and liabilities for any loss, damage, injury and liability of every kind and nature and however caused, including any liability arising from failure to comply with applicable environmental laws, regulations or orders applicable to the Project, and (iii) taxes of any kind and by whomsoever imposed on the Issuer in respect of the Project or the Bonds, in each case arising from or relating to the Project or resulting from, arising out of, or in any way connected with the financing of the costs of the Project and marketing, issuance or sale of the Bonds for such purpose (including amounts payable by the Issuer pursuant to its indemnification of the Trustee, the Bond Registrar and the Paying Agents); provided, however, that, Bonneville has no indemnification obligation for any such costs, expenses claims, demands, taxes or liabilities arising from the intentional misrepresentation or willful misconduct of the Issuer. Such indemnification set forth above shall be binding upon Bonneville for any and all claims, demands, expenses, liabilities and taxes set forth above and shall survive the expiration or termination of the Lease-Purchase Agreement. Any such payments shall be in addition to the above described rental payments under the Lease-Purchase Agreement.

## **Operation of the Project**

The Issuer has no control over, and no obligation with respect to, the Project, including the operation, maintenance, repair, replacement or use of the Project. Bonneville will pay all costs of operating the Project and will make all decisions regarding the operation or use of the Project. Bonneville may, in its discretion, transfer operational control to a regional transmission organization or other entity; provided that Bonneville is required to remain liable under the Lease-Purchase Agreement. Bonneville may suspend, delay, or terminate operation of, take out of service, or dismantle the Project, or any portion thereof, in its discretion, provided that the Lease-Purchase Agreement shall remain valid, binding and enforceable against Bonneville and there shall be no abatement, postponement or reduction in the rental payments or other amounts payable by Bonneville under the Lease-Purchase Agreement. Bonneville will hold, in the name of the United States, all easements, rights of way, and any other interests in land under the Project and the Issuer shall have no rights therein.

## **Covenants**

In the Lease-Purchase Agreement, Bonneville agrees, among other things, to pay all costs of maintaining the Project in the same manner in which Bonneville maintains similar facilities that it owns; to keep the Project free of liens, except as provided in the Lease-Purchase Agreement; to pay charges and assessments against the Project; to comply with law; to indemnify the Issuer and pay its fees and expenses as well as those of the Trustee; to furnish to

the Trustee, any requesting holder of more than \$1,000,000 of Series 2016-2 Bonds, and the Issuer, a copy of its financial statements, and to notify the Issuer and the Trustee of the occurrence of any Event of Default under the Lease-Purchase Agreement. See also “Continuing Disclosure” herein.

### **Damage, Destruction and Condemnation**

If the Project is damaged, destroyed or condemned, there will be no reduction in the rental payments or other amounts payable under the Lease-Purchase Agreement. The Issuer shall have no obligation to rebuild, replace, repair or restore the Project. Bonneville will not be obligated to rebuild, replace, repair or restore the Project or any portion thereof or purchase the Project or any portion thereof following a loss event so long as the Lease-Purchase Agreement shall remain valid, binding and enforceable on Bonneville following such loss event. If Bonneville elects to rebuild, replace, repair or restore the Project or any portion thereof, it shall do so with its own or others’ funds. Any proceeds of insurance or condemnation awards or recoveries of claims against contractors (or an amount equal to such proceeds, awards or recoveries) received by the Issuer or Bonneville shall be, as directed by Bonneville, deposited into the Project Fund or the Bond Fund for use to pay or reimburse the costs of repair or replacement of the related portions of the Project, for the prepayment of rental payments thereafter coming due, or as may otherwise be permitted in the Indenture; provided, however, that, if the foregoing proceeds (or amounts equal thereto) are received by Bonneville in respect of facilities that were a part of the Project when the damage or the basis for the claim originally arose but which facilities were subsequently removed from the definition of the Project, any proceeds (or amounts equal to such proceeds) received by Bonneville shall be retained by Bonneville as its own funds.

### **Termination of the Lease-Purchase Agreement**

Upon the redemption or defeasance in whole of all outstanding Bonds in accordance with the Indenture, Bonneville may terminate the Lease-Purchase Agreement.

### **Defaults**

The Lease-Purchase Agreement provides that any one or more of the following events will constitute an “Event of Default”:

- (a) Failure by Bonneville to pay when due any rental payment that has become due and payable under the Lease-Purchase Agreement; and
- (b) Failure of Bonneville to pay any amount due under the Lease-Purchase Agreement (other than under paragraph (a) above) and continuance of such failure for thirty (30) days, after notice of such failure is given to Bonneville or the Issuer or the Trustee.

### **Remedies**

Upon the occurrence and continuance of an Event of Default under the Lease-Purchase Agreement, the Issuer (with respect to its reserved rights) or the Trustee where so provided, but subject to the statutory limitations on remedies against Bonneville, may take whatever action at law or in equity permitted by law to be taken against Bonneville as may appear necessary or desirable to collect the rental payment then due and thereafter to become due under the Lease-Purchase Agreement.

Any amounts collected pursuant to action taken under this paragraph will be paid to the Trustee for deposit into the Bond Fund and applied in accordance with the provisions of the Indenture or, if the Bonds have been fully paid (or provision for payment thereof has been made in accordance with the provisions of the Indenture) to Bonneville.

The Issuer, during the term of the Lease-Purchase Agreement, waives any and all rights as owner or as lessor of the Project to re-enter and take possession of the Project, to sublease the Project, to terminate the Lease-Purchase Agreement and to exclude Bonneville from possession of the Project upon the occurrence of an event of

default under the Lease-Purchase Agreement. The Issuer and Bonneville declare that the Lease-Purchase Agreement does not create a security interest in the Project in favor of the Issuer and the Issuer waives any rights it may have as a secured party with respect to the Project.

### **Statutory Limitation on Legal Remedies against Bonneville**

The Issuer acknowledges in the Lease-Purchase Agreement that its remedies against Bonneville are limited to those provided under federal law, which provides that the exclusive remedy for breach of contract by Bonneville is a judgment for money damages. The Issuer and Bonneville have agreed that such damages shall be measured by the amounts required to be paid by Bonneville under the Lease-Purchase Agreement and not by the market value of the Project or a leasehold interest in the Project.

### **Options**

Under the Lease-Purchase Agreement, Bonneville has the option, at any time and from time to time, to make advance rental payments which, at the direction of Bonneville, will be deposited into the Bond Fund and held to make the next maturing scheduled payments of principal and interest on the Bonds or applied to redeem all or a portion of the Bonds, all in accordance with the terms of the Indenture. Bonneville has the option, at any time and from time to time, to purchase all or any portion of the Project by making a purchase option payment equal to the amount necessary to redeem all or the applicable portion of the Bonds on the next redemption date. Such purchase option may be assigned by Bonneville without the consent of the Issuer. The Project is divided into components as provided in the Lease-Purchase Agreement and Bonneville may exercise its purchase option with respect to any component or portion thereof by making a purchase option payment equal to the redemption price of the percentage of Bonds of the applicable maturity of the Bonds allocable to such component or portion. Bonneville or its assignee will exercise its option to make such advance rental payments or such purchase option by delivering a written notice of an authorized representative of Bonneville to the Trustee in accordance with the Indenture, with a copy to the Issuer, setting forth (i) the amount of the advance rental payment or purchase option payment, (ii) the principal amount of Bonds Outstanding requested to be redeemed with such advance rental payment (if any) or purchase option payment (which principal amount shall be in such minimum amount or integral multiple of such amount as shall be permitted in the Indenture), and (iii) the date on which such principal amount of Bonds are to be redeemed. Such advance rental payment to be applied to redeem Bonds or to make any such purchase option payment will be paid to the Trustee in legal tender on or before the redemption date and will be an amount which, when added to the amount on deposit in the Bond Fund and available therefor, will be sufficient to pay the Redemption Price of the Bonds to be redeemed, together with interest to accrue on the Bonds to be redeemed to the date fixed for redemption and all expenses of the Issuer, the Bond Registrar, the Trustee and the Paying Agents (including reasonable fees and expenses of counsel to the Issuer, the Bond Registrar, the Trustee and the Paying Agents) in connection with such redemption. After any purchase of a portion of the Project, the rental payment payable pursuant to the Lease-Purchase Agreement will be reduced by the percentage equal to the percentage that the portion of the Project purchased is to the entire Project (as shown in a schedule to the Lease-Purchase Agreement) or by such other amount agreed to by the Issuer and Bonneville with the consent of the Trustee; provided that, in either case, such amount may not be less than an amount sufficient to pay debt service on the Outstanding Bonds when due.

Bonneville may assign to another entity the options described in the preceding paragraph provided that all other provisions relating to the exercise of the options, including the provisions describe above, shall be complied with upon exercise of the options. It is possible that Bonneville could enter into a new lease-purchase agreement with the assignee of the option(s), and the assignee could exercise the option(s) to purchase or pre-pay all or a portion of the properties constituting the Project. In this circumstance, the assignee of the option(s) could pledge rental payments from Bonneville under the new lease to secure the issuance of debt the proceeds of which would be used to fund the pre-payment or purchase occasioned by the exercise of the option(s).

### **Force Majeure**

The obligations of the parties under the Lease-Purchase Agreement, except the obligation of Bonneville to make payments required to be made under the Lease-Purchase Agreement and to indemnify the Issuer, are subject to suspension during periods of force majeure.

## **Assignment or Sublease**

Bonneville may assign, partially assign (for instance, Bonneville may assign the Lease with respect to certain identified portions of the Project) or transfer the Lease-Purchase Agreement or sublet the whole or any part of the Project so long as Bonneville will remain liable to the Issuer for the payment of all rental payments and other payments under the Lease-Purchase Agreement and for the full performance of all of the terms, covenants and conditions of the Lease. Bonneville will furnish or cause to be furnished to the Issuer a copy of any such assignment, transfer or sublease in substantially final form within ten (10) days prior to the date of execution thereof. Bonneville may also enter into contracts relating to the use of the Project as provided in the Lease-Purchase Agreement. Funds received by or on account of Bonneville in connection with a sublease, assignment, partial assignment or transfer in accordance with this paragraph shall be Bonneville's funds.

## **Amendment**

The Lease-Purchase Agreement may not be amended except by an instrument in writing signed by Bonneville and the Issuer and consented to by the Trustee in accordance with the Indenture. See "THE INDENTURE - Amendment of the Lease-Purchase Agreement." A change in the definition of the Project pursuant to the Lease-Purchase Agreement will not constitute an amendment to the Lease-Purchase Agreement. See "THE LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT – Changing the Definition of the Project."

## **Changing the Definition of the Project**

Under the Lease-Purchase Agreement and the Indenture, the definition of the Project may be amended from time to time, without the consent of the holders of the Bonds, including to exclude components or portions thereof or to add other facilities; provided, however, that, Bonneville's rental payments shall remain unaffected by such a change in definition. By means of changing the definition of the Project, it is possible that, among other things, facilities that were once portions of the Project may be excluded from the definition and transferred to Bonneville's ownership, or transferred to another entity's ownership, but in any such instance the Lease-Purchase Agreement shall remain valid, binding and enforceable against Bonneville and there shall be no abatement, postponement or reduction in the rental payments or other amounts payable by Bonneville under the Lease-Purchase Agreement.

More particularly, the Issuer will commit to agree that, at the request of Bonneville, it will amend the definition of a Project (i) to change the location of the Project or any component or portion thereof, (ii) to remove any part of the Project, or (iii) to replace all or any part of such Project with facilities having a comparable value. The Project definition may be otherwise amended as may be agreed to by the Issuer and Bonneville. The amendment of the Project definition shall not entitle Bonneville to any abatement or reduction in the rentals and other amounts payable by Bonneville under the Lease-Purchase Agreement. In the event of a re-definition of the Project, there is no obligation or special right to call any of the Series 2016-2 Bonds prior to their final maturity. The right of Issuer and Bonneville to change the definition of the Project is separate and apart from the amendment of the Lease-Purchase Agreement. See "THE LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT - Amendment," and "THE INDENTURE - Amendment of the Lease-Purchase Agreement."

If a portion of the Project becomes obsolete, worn-out, or otherwise is taken out of service or retired prior to the final maturity of the Series 2016-2 Bonds, the Project may be re-defined to remove such portions of the Project through an amendment to the definition of the Project. See "Sale, Assignment, or Other Dispositions of Portions of the Project" below. If such portion of the Project is replaced, the facilities so replacing the portion may be owned by Bonneville or another project owner or replaced with funds obtained by the Issuer under a lease with Bonneville separate and apart from the Lease-Purchase Agreement. See "THE PROJECT."

## **Sale, Assignment, or Other Dispositions of Portions of the Project**

As described above, the definition of the Project may be amended from time to time to remove of any part of the Project. See "Changing the Definition of the Project" above. Bonneville may remove from the Project and sell, assign or otherwise dispose of any portion of the Project which is obsolete, worn-out or no longer usable for the purpose for which such portion had originally been acquired and Bonneville shall not be required to deposit in the

Bond Fund or otherwise pay to the Issuer any amounts received by Bonneville from such sale, assignment or disposition. When removing any part of the Project which is obsolete, worn-out or no longer usable for the purpose for which such portion had originally been acquired, Bonneville may notify Issuer that such portion no longer constitutes part of the Project and effective upon such notice the definition of the Project will be deemed so amended (the removal may also be effected through an amendment). Bonneville may remove from the Project and sell, assign or otherwise dispose of any portion of the Project which is not obsolete, worn-out or no longer usable for the purpose for which such portion had originally been acquired and the funds received from such sale, assignment or disposition shall be paid over to the Bond Fund to be applied to the payment of principal of, and interest and premiums, if any, on, the Series 2016-2 Bonds, and to the extent the amounts are so applied, they will constitute a contribution to rental payments otherwise payable by Bonneville.

## **THE INDENTURE**

The following is a summary of certain provisions of the Indenture, to which reference is made for the detailed provisions thereof.

### **Trust Estate**

Pursuant to the Indenture, (i) all of the Issuer's right, title and interest in and to the Lease-Purchase Agreement, including all amounts (excluding payments for indemnification and certain other payments thereunder) to be received by the Issuer pursuant to the Lease-Purchase Agreement, (ii) all of the right, title and interest of the Issuer in and to the Project, (iii) all moneys and securities held by the Trustee under the Indenture including amounts held by the Trustee in the Project Fund, the Bond Fund and the Reserve Fund established under the Indenture, and (iv) any and all other property that may be conveyed to the Trustee as security for the Bonds, are assigned and pledged to the Trustee to secure the payment of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Bonds.

### **Project Fund**

The proceeds of the sale of the Series 2016-2 Bonds will be deposited in the Project Fund to be held by the Trustee. Moneys in the Project Fund will be applied to finance the acquisition of the Project from NIFC V, and to pay expenses incurred in connection with the issuance and sale of the Series 2016-2 Bonds, and for other costs of the Project upon requisitions signed by an authorized representative of Bonneville or, with respect to certain costs of issuance, an authorized representative of the Issuer.

### **Bond Fund**

The Indenture establishes with the Trustee a Bond Fund into which will be deposited accrued interest, lease rental payments paid by Bonneville and other receipts to be paid into the Bond Fund. The Bond Fund will be used (except as otherwise provided in the Indenture) for the payment of principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Bonds.

### **Reserve Fund**

The Indenture establishes with the Trustee a Reserve Fund into which will be deposited any amounts remaining on deposit in the Bond Fund on the Business Day following each interest payment date on the Bonds. The Reserve Fund will be used for the payment of amounts payable by or to the Issuer upon requisitions signed by an authorized representative of the Issuer. There is no requirement in the Indenture that withdrawals from the Reserve Fund be replenished or that the Reserve Fund be maintained at a particular amount.

### **Investments**

Amounts in any fund or account established under the Indenture may be invested or reinvested by the Trustee upon the written direction of an authorized representative of the Issuer at the direction of Bonneville in obligations or securities specified in the Indenture.

## **Additional Bonds**

So long as the Lease-Purchase Agreement is in effect, Additional Bonds may be issued under the Indenture from time to time in the discretion of the Issuer for the purpose of (i) providing funds to repair, relocate, replace, rebuild or restore the Project in the event of damage, destruction or taking by eminent domain, (ii) providing extensions, additions or improvements to the Project, or (iii) refunding outstanding Bonds. It is a condition to the issuance of Additional Bonds that the amounts payable by Bonneville under the Lease-Purchase Agreement will be adjusted to provide for the payment of principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Additional Bonds. Additional Bonds shall be equally and ratably secured under the Indenture with the Series 2016-2 Bonds.

## **Events of Default and Remedies**

Each of the following is an “Event of Default” under the Indenture:

- (a) failure in the payment of interest on any Bond when due;
- (b) failure in the payment of the principal or redemption premium, if any, of, or sinking fund installment for, any Bond when due, whether at the stated maturity thereof, upon any proceedings for redemption thereof or otherwise;
- (c) failure by the Issuer to perform or observe any other of the covenants, agreements or conditions on the part of the Issuer in the Indenture or in the Bonds (except as set forth in (a) or (b) above), and the continuance thereof for a period of thirty days after written notice to the Issuer and Bonneville from the Trustee or the holders of more than 25% of the aggregate principal amount of Bonds then outstanding; provided that, if the default can be remedied but not within the applicable period, the Issuer or Bonneville proceeds with diligence to cure the default, it shall not be an Event of Default; or
- (d) an Event of Default under the Lease-Purchase Agreement.

Pursuant to the Lease-Purchase Agreement, the Issuer has granted to Bonneville full authority for the account of the Issuer to perform any covenant or obligation the non-performance of which is alleged in any notice received by Bonneville to constitute a default under the Indenture, in the name and stead of the Issuer with full power to do any and all things and acts to the same extent that the Issuer could do and perform any such things and acts with power of substitution. The Trustee agrees to accept such performance by Bonneville as performance by the Issuer.

Upon the occurrence and continuance of an Event of Default, the Trustee may, and at the direction of the holders of over 25% of the outstanding Bonds shall, take actions at law or equity to protect and enforce its rights and the rights of the Bondholders. If requested by the holders of over 25% of the outstanding Bonds, the Trustee shall maintain actions to prevent impairment of the security of the Indenture whether or not there has occurred an Event of Default. **The Indenture does not provide for the remedy of acceleration of payment of the Bonds.**

The holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of Bonds then outstanding have the right, at any time, by an instrument or instruments in writing delivered to the Trustee, to direct the method and place of conducting all proceedings to be taken in connection with the enforcement of the terms and conditions of the Indenture, or for the appointment of a receiver or any other proceeding under the Indenture; provided, that such direction shall not be otherwise than in accordance with the provisions of law and the Indenture.

No holder of any Bond shall have any right to institute any suit, action or proceeding in equity or at law for the enforcement of the Indenture or for the execution of any trust thereof or any remedy under the Indenture, unless the Trustee has been notified of the default, and the holders of over 25% of aggregate principal amount of Bonds then outstanding have made a written request to the Trustee and have offered reasonable opportunity either to exercise the powers granted in the Indenture or to institute such action, suit or proceeding in its own name, and unless they also have offered to the Trustee adequate security and indemnity and the Trustee refuses to comply within 60 days. Nothing in the Indenture shall, however, affect or impair the right of any Bondholder to payment of

the principal or redemption price, if applicable, of, sinking fund installments for, and interest on any Bond at and after the maturity thereof, or the obligation of the Issuer to pay the principal or redemption price, if applicable, of, sinking fund installments for, and interest on the Bonds to the respective holders thereof at the time, place, from the source and in the manner expressed in the Bonds and the Indenture.

### **Waivers of Events of Default**

The Trustee shall waive any Event of Default under the Indenture and its consequences only upon the written request of the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the Bonds then outstanding; provided, however, that there shall not be waived without the consent of the holders of all of the Bonds then outstanding (i) any default in the payment of the principal of any outstanding Bond when due or (ii) any default in the payment when due of the interest on any outstanding Bond, unless, prior to such waiver, all arrears of interest, with interest (to the extent permitted by law) at the rate borne by the Bonds on overdue installments of interest, and all arrears of payments of principal, when due, as the case may be, and all expenses of the Trustee in connection with such default, shall have been paid or provided for, or in case any proceeding taken by the Trustee on account of any such default shall have been discontinued or abandoned or determined adversely, then, and in every such case the Issuer, the Trustee, Bonneville and the Bondholders shall be restored to their former positions and rights under the Indenture, respectively, but no such waiver or rescission shall extend to any subsequent or other Event of Default, or impair any right consequent thereon.

### **Application of Moneys after Default**

All moneys received by the Trustee pursuant to any right given or action taken under the provisions of the Indenture shall, after payment of any amounts due under the Lease-Purchase Agreement and after the payment of the costs and expenses of the proceedings resulting in the collection of such moneys and of the fees, expenses, liabilities and advances incurred or made by the Trustee, be deposited in the Bond Fund. Such amounts will be applied first to the payment of interest and then to the payment of principal or redemption price, if any, which shall have become due.

### **Amendments of the Indenture**

The Issuer and the Trustee may, without the consent of, or notice to, the Bondholders, enter into indentures supplemental to the Indenture (a) to cure any ambiguity or formal defect or omission in the Indenture; (b) to grant or confer upon the Trustee for the benefit of the Bondholders any additional rights, remedies, powers, authority or security that may be lawfully granted; (c) to add additional covenants of the Issuer; (d) to add limitations and restrictions to be observed by the Issuer; which are not contrary to or inconsistent with the Indenture as theretofore in effect; (e) to confirm, as further assurance, any pledge under the Indenture, or to subject to the lien or pledge of the Indenture additional revenues, properties or collateral; (f) to effect any other change in the Indenture which is not to the material prejudice of the Trustee or the Bondholders; (g) to authorize the issuance of a Series of Additional Bonds; or (h) to modify, amend or supplement the Indenture or any indenture supplemental thereto in such manner as to permit the qualification thereof under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 or any similar federal statute then in effect or to permit the qualification of the Bonds for sale under the securities laws of the United States of America or of any of the states of the United States of America and, if they so determine, to add to the Indenture or any indenture supplemental thereto such other terms, conditions and provisions as may be permitted by the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 or similar federal statute.

With the consent of Bonneville and the holders of not less than a majority in aggregate principal amount of the Bonds then outstanding, the Issuer and the Trustee may enter into such other supplemental indentures as the Issuer shall deem necessary and desirable, provided there shall be no (i) change in the times, amounts or currency of payment of the principal of, sinking fund installments for, redemption premium, if any, or interest on any outstanding Bonds, a change in the terms of redemption or maturity of the principal of or the interest on any outstanding Bonds, or a reduction in the principal amount of or the redemption price of any outstanding Bond or the rate of interest thereon, or any extension of the time of payment thereof, without the consent of the holder of such Bond, (ii) the creation of a lien upon or pledge of the Trust Estate other than the liens or pledge created by the Indenture except as provided in the Indenture with respect to Additional Bonds, (iii) a preference or priority of any Bond or Bonds over any other Bond or Bonds, (iv) a reduction in the aggregate principal amount of Bonds required

for consent to such supplemental indenture, or (v) a modification, amendment or deletion with respect to any of the terms set forth above, without, in the case of items (ii) through (v) above, the written consent of 100% of the holders of the outstanding Bonds.

### **Amendment of the Lease-Purchase Agreement**

The Issuer and the Trustee may, without the consent of or notice to the Bondholders, consent to any amendment, change or modification of the Lease-Purchase Agreement (a) for the purpose of curing any ambiguity, formal defect or omission therein, (b) which, by the terms of the Lease-Purchase Agreement, may be made without the consent of the Bondholders, or (c) which is not materially to the prejudice of the Trustee or the Holders of the Bonds. The Trustee shall not consent to any other amendment, change or modification of the Lease-Purchase Agreement without the consent of the holders of at least a majority in principal amount of the Bonds then outstanding, provided, however, that without the written approval of the holders of 100% of the Bonds, there shall be no amendment, change or modification to the obligation of Bonneville to make rental payments under the Lease-Purchase Agreement with respect to the Bonds. Separate and apart from the amendment of the Lease-Purchase Agreement, the Issuer and Bonneville will reserve the right to amend the definition of the Project. See THE LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT – Changing the Definition of the Project.”

### **Discharge of the Indenture**

If the principal or redemption price of, sinking fund installments for, and interest on, the Bonds then outstanding shall have been paid in full or shall be deemed to have been paid in full, and all other amounts required to be paid to the Trustee under the Indenture shall be paid in full, then the pledge of any lease rentals, revenues or receipts from or in connection with the Project under the Indenture shall cease, terminate and be void and the Trustee shall cancel and discharge the lien and security interest of the Indenture and execute and deliver to the Issuer and Bonneville such instruments as shall be required to cancel and discharge the Indenture and pay over and deliver to the Issuer all money or securities held by it not required for payment of the Bonds.

Bonds or portions thereof for the payment (either by redemption or at maturity) of which sufficient moneys shall have been irrevocably deposited with the Trustee, shall be deemed to be paid within the meaning of the Indenture if (A) there shall have been deposited with the Trustee either moneys in an amount which shall be sufficient, or obligations of the United States government or obligations the principal of and interest on which are guaranteed by the United States government, the principal of and the interest on which when due without reinvestment will provide moneys which, together with the moneys, if any, deposited with the Trustee at the same time, shall be sufficient, to pay when due the principal, Sinking Fund Installment or Redemption Price, if applicable, and interest due and to become due on said Bonds or portion of all Outstanding Bonds on and prior to the redemption date or maturity date thereof, as the case may be; (B) no Event of Default shall exist on the date of such deposit or shall occur as a result of such deposit; and (C) the Issuer has delivered to the Trustee and any Paying Agent a certificate signed by an Authorized Representative and an opinion of counsel, each stating that the conditions set forth in subsections (A) and (B) above have been complied with.

### **CONTINUING DISCLOSURE**

Bonneville, as an “obligated person” within the meaning of Section (b)(5)(i) of Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c2-12 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (17 CFR Part 240, § 240.15c2-12) (the “Rule”), has undertaken in the Continuing Disclosure Certificate to provide certain information. A copy of the form of Continuing Disclosure Certificate is contained in Appendix D herein.

Bonneville has not failed to comply with all previous undertakings with respect to the Rule in any material respect in the preceding five years; however, until 2012 Bonneville had not included in its reports an update of the table of Operating Federal System Projects (contained in Appendix A under “POWER SERVICES—Operating Federal System Projects”), as provided under certain (but not all) of its previous undertakings. The information in such table does not vary substantially from year to year. On August 8, 2012, Bonneville filed a supplement to its reports for the previous five years to include Operating Federal System Projects tables for Operating Year 2008 through Operating Year 2013. The information to be provided in the Annual Information and the notices of such material events are set forth in Appendix D “FORM OF CONTINUING DISCLOSURE CERTIFICATE.”

The Issuer has not undertaken any continuing disclosure obligation with respect to the Bonds.

### **ERISA CONSIDERATIONS**

The Employees Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (“ERISA”), and the Code generally prohibit certain transactions between a qualified employee benefit plan under ERISA or tax-qualified retirement plans and individual retirement accounts under the Code (collectively, the “Plans”) and persons who, with respect to a Plan, are fiduciaries or other “parties in interest” within the meaning of ERISA or “disqualified persons” within the meaning of the Code. All fiduciaries of Plans should consult their own tax advisors with respect to the consequences of any investment in the Series 2016-2 Bonds.

### **RATINGS**

Moody’s Investors Service (“Moody’s”) and Fitch Ratings (“Fitch”) have assigned the Series 2016-2 Bonds the ratings of “Aa1” and “AA”, respectively. Ratings were applied for by Bonneville and certain information was supplied by Bonneville to such rating agencies to be considered in evaluating the Series 2016-2 Bonds. Such ratings reflect only the respective views of such rating agencies, and an explanation of the significance of such ratings may be obtained only from the rating agency furnishing the same. There is no assurance that any or all of such ratings will be retained for any given period of time or that the same will not be revised downward or withdrawn entirely by the rating agency furnishing the same if, in its judgment, circumstances so warrant. Any such downward revision or withdrawal of such ratings may have an adverse effect on the market price of the Series 2016-2 Bonds.

### **UNDERWRITING**

Wells Fargo Bank, National Association and the other Underwriters (the “Underwriters”) of the Series 2016-2 Bonds have jointly and severally agreed, subject to certain conditions, to purchase the Series 2016-2 Bonds from the Issuer at an underwriters’ discount of \$382,890 and to reoffer the Series 2016-2 Bonds at the initial public offering price set forth on the cover page hereof. The Underwriters have agreed to purchase all of the Series 2016-2 Bonds if any are purchased. The Series 2016-2 Bonds may be offered and sold to certain dealers (including dealers depositing Series 2016-2 Bonds into investment accounts) and to others at prices lower than the public offering price set forth on the cover page of this Official Statement. After the Series 2016-2 Bonds are released for sale to the public, the public offering price and other selling terms may from time to time be varied by the Underwriters. Bonneville has agreed to pay certain out-of-pocket expenses of the Underwriters, which are included in the discount set forth above.

The Underwriters have provided the following information for inclusion in this Official Statement.

Wells Fargo Securities is the trade name for certain securities-related capital markets and investment banking services of Wells Fargo & Company and its subsidiaries, including Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, which conducts its municipal securities sales, trading and underwriting operations through the Wells Fargo Bank, NA Municipal Products Group, a separately identifiable department of Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission as a municipal securities dealer pursuant to Section 15B(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, acting through its Municipal Products Group (“WFBNA”) one of the underwriters of the Series 2016-2 Bonds, has entered into an agreement (the “Distribution Agreement”) with its affiliate, Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC (“WFA”), for the distribution of certain municipal securities offerings, including the Series 2016-2 Bonds. Pursuant to the Distribution Agreement, WFBNA will share a portion of its underwriting or remarketing agent compensation, as applicable, with respect to the Series 2016-2 Bonds with WFA. WFBNA also utilizes the distribution capabilities of its affiliate, Wells Fargo Securities, LLC (“WFSLLC”), for the distribution of municipal securities offerings, including the Series 2016-2 Bonds. In connection with utilizing the distribution capabilities of WFSLLC, WFBNA pays a portion of WFSLLC’s expenses based on its municipal securities transactions. WFBNA, WFSLLC and WFA are each wholly-owned subsidiaries of Wells Fargo & Company. A portion of the proceeds of the 2016-2 Bonds will be used to pay off an extension of credit made to Port of Morrow by Wells Fargo Bank, National Association.

Citigroup Global Markets Inc. has informed the Issuer that it has entered into a retail distribution agreement with each of TMC Bonds L.L.C. (“TMC”) and UBS Financial Services Inc. (“UBSFS”). Under these distribution agreements, Citigroup Global Markets Inc. may distribute municipal securities to retail investors through the financial advisor network of UBSFS and the electronic primary offering platform of TMC. As part of this arrangement, Citigroup Global Markets Inc. may compensate TMC (and TMC may compensate its electronic platform member firms) and UBSFS for their selling efforts with respect to the Series 2016-2 Bonds.

TD Securities (USA) LLC has entered into a negotiated dealer agreement (the “TD Dealer Agreement”) with TD Ameritrade for the retail distribution of certain securities offerings, including the Series 2016-2 Bonds, at the original issue prices. Pursuant to the TD Dealer Agreement, TD Ameritrade may purchase Series 2016-2 Bonds from TD Securities (USA) LLC at the original issue prices less a negotiated portion of the selling concession applicable to any Series 2016-2 Bonds that TD Ameritrade sells.

The Underwriters and their affiliates are full service financial institutions engaged in various activities, which may include securities trading, commercial and investment banking, financial advisory, investment management, principal investment, hedging, financing and brokerage activities. See herein “CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS.” The Underwriters and their affiliates have, from time to time, performed, and may in the future perform, various investment banking services for Bonneville for which they received or will receive customary fees and expenses. In the ordinary course of their various business activities, the Underwriters and their affiliates may make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities) and financial instruments (which may include bank loans and or credit default swaps) for their own account and for the accounts of their customers and may at any time hold long and short positions in such securities and instruments. Such investment and securities activities may involve securities and instruments secured by payments from Bonneville.

#### **CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS**

WFBNA, an Underwriter of the Series 2016-2 Bonds, has extended credit in other transactions supported by obligations of Bonneville under related agreements.

Citigroup, an Underwriter of the Series 2016-2 Bonds, is an affiliate of Citigroup, N.A., which has extended credit in other transactions supported by obligations of Bonneville under related agreements. Citigroup Energy, Inc., an affiliate of Citigroup, Inc., has entered into a power sales contract with Bonneville.

Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, an Underwriter of the Series 2016-2 Bonds, is an affiliate of Bank of America, N.A., which has extended credit in other transactions supported by obligations of Bonneville under related agreements.

TD Securities (USA) LLC, an Underwriter of the Series 2016-2 Bonds, is an affiliate of TD Bank, N.A., which has extended credit in other transactions supported by obligations of Bonneville under related agreements.

#### **TAX MATTERS**

##### **Certain U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations**

At the closing, Special Tax Counsel is expected to deliver its opinion, based upon an analysis of existing laws, regulations, rulings and court decisions, that, interest on the Series 2016-2 Bonds is not excluded from gross income for U.S. federal income tax purposes pursuant to Section 103 of the Code. Special Tax Counsel is expected to express no opinion regarding any other federal tax consequences related to the ownership or disposition of, or the accrual or receipt of interest on, the Series 2016-2 Bonds.

If the Issuer defeases any Series 2016-2 Bond, such Series 2016-2 Bond may be deemed to be retired and “reissued” for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a result of the defeasance. In that event, the beneficial owner of the Series 2016-2 Bond will recognize taxable gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realized from the deemed sale, exchange or retirement (less any accrued qualified stated interest which will be taxable as such)

and the beneficial owner's adjusted U.S. federal income tax basis in the Series 2016-2 Bond. See "THE INDENTURE – Discharge of the Indenture."

#### **Certain State of Oregon Income Tax Considerations**

In the opinion of Special Counsel, interest on the Series 2016-2 Bonds is exempt from present State of Oregon personal income taxation.

#### **LEGAL MATTERS**

Legal matters incident to the authorization and issuance of the Series 2016-2 Bonds are subject to the unqualified approving opinion of Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the Issuer by Monahan, Grove & Tucker, Milton-Freewater, Oregon, and for Bonneville by its General Counsel and by its Special Counsel, Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP, New York, New York. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the Underwriters by Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP, New York, New York.

**(THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK)**

**APPENDIX A**

**BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
GENERAL.....	A-1
Regional Power Sales and Rates Background.....	A-3
CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO BONNEVILLE.....	A-4
Developments Relating to the Endangered Species Act.....	A-4
Bonneville Power and Transmission Rates Developments .....	A-6
Regional Cooperation Debt and Related Actions.....	A-7
Fiscal Year 2015 Financial Results.....	A-9
Fiscal Year 2016 Expectations and Related Information .....	A-10
Management.....	A-10
POWER SERVICES .....	A-11
Description of the Generation Resources of the Federal System .....	A-11
Bonneville’s Power Trading Floor Activities.....	A-16
Regional Customers and Other Power Contract Parties of Bonneville’s Power Services .....	A-16
Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville’s Power Services.....	A-20
TRANSMISSION SERVICES .....	A-36
Bonneville’s Federal Transmission System .....	A-36
FERC and Non-discriminatory Transmission Access and the Separation of Power Services and Transmission Services .....	A-38
General - Bonneville’s Transmission and Ancillary and Control Area Services Rates.....	A-39
Rates for Transmission and Ancillary and Control Area Services .....	A-39
Transmission Services’ Largest Customers .....	A-40
Bonneville’s Participation in Regional Transmission Planning .....	A-40
MATTERS RELATING TO POWER SERVICES AND TRANSMISSION SERVICES.....	A-41
Bonneville Ratemaking and Rates .....	A-41
Limitations on Suits against Bonneville.....	A-42
Laws Relating to Environmental Protection.....	A-43
Energy Policy Act of 2005.....	A-43
Other Applicable Laws .....	A-44
Columbia River Treaty.....	A-44
Proposals for Federal Legislation and Administrative Action Relating to Bonneville.....	A-45
Federal Debt Ceiling .....	A-45
Direction or Guidance from other Federal Agencies.....	A-45
Climate Change.....	A-45
Preparedness and Cyber Security .....	A-46
Renewable Generation Development and Integration into the Federal Transmission System .....	A-47
BONNEVILLE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS .....	A-48
The Bonneville Fund.....	A-48
The Federal System Investment .....	A-49
Bonneville’s Treasury Borrowing Authority.....	A-50
Banking Relationship between the United States Treasury and Bonneville.....	A-50
Bonneville’s Non-Federal Debt .....	A-51
Bonneville’s Capital Program .....	A-54
Direct Pay Agreements .....	A-58
Direct Funding of Federal System Operations and Maintenance Expense.....	A-58
Order in Which Bonneville’s Costs Are Met .....	A-59
Bonneville’s Use of Non-GAAP Financial Metrics .....	A-61
Position Management and Derivative Instrument Activities and Policies.....	A-63
Historical Federal System Operating Revenue and Operating Expense Compared to Historical Streamflow .....	A-63
Pension and Other Post-Retirement Benefits .....	A-65
Historical Federal System Financial Data .....	A-65
Management Discussion of Operating Results.....	A-69
Statement of Non-Federal Debt Service Coverage.....	A-73
Management Discussion of Unaudited Results for the Six Months ended March 31, 2016.....	A-76
BONNEVILLE LITIGATION .....	A-76
Columbia River ESA Litigation.....	A-76
DSI Service Litigation .....	A-78
Southern California Edison v. Bonneville Power Administration.....	A-79
Rates Litigation Generally .....	A-79
Litigation and Related Administrative Disputes in Connection with the West Coast Power Crisis in 1999-2001 .....	A-80
Oversupply Management Protocol and Related Rates Litigation.....	A-82
Miscellaneous Litigation.....	A-83

## APPENDIX A

### BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION

The information in this Appendix A has been furnished to the Port of Morrow, Oregon (the “Issuer” or the “Port of Morrow”) by Bonneville for use in the Official Statement, dated June 21, 2016, furnished by the Issuer (the “Official Statement”) with respect to its Transmission Facilities Revenue Bonds (Bonneville Cooperation Project No. 5), Series 2016-2 (Federally Taxable) (the “Series 2016-2 Bonds”). The Project is described in the Official Statement under “THE PROJECT.” Such information in this Appendix A is not to be construed as a representation by or on behalf of the Issuer or the Underwriters. The Issuer has not independently verified such information and is relying on Bonneville’s representation that such information is accurate and complete. At or prior to the time of delivery of the Series 2016-2 Bonds, Bonneville will certify to the Issuer that the information in this Appendix A, as well as information pertaining to Bonneville contained elsewhere in the Official Statement, is true and correct and does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state any material fact necessary in order to make the statements in this Appendix A and in the Official Statement pertaining to Bonneville, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.

This Appendix A contains statements which, to the extent they are not recitations of historical fact, constitute “forward-looking statements.” In this respect, the words “forecast,” “project,” “anticipate,” “expect,” “intend,” “believe” and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. A number of important factors affecting Bonneville’s business, operations, and financial results could cause actual results to differ materially from those stated in the forward-looking statements. Bonneville does not plan to issue updates or revisions to the forward-looking statements.

#### GENERAL

Bonneville was created by an act of Congress in 1937 to market electric power from the Bonneville Dam, which is located on the Columbia River, and to construct facilities necessary to transmit such power. Congress has since designated Bonneville to be the marketing agent for power from all of the federally-owned hydroelectric projects in the Pacific Northwest. Bonneville, whose headquarters are located in Portland, Oregon, is one of four regional federal power marketing agencies within the United States of America, Department of Energy (“DOE”). Many of Bonneville’s statutory authorities are vested in the Secretary of Energy, who appoints, and acts by and through, the Bonneville Power Administrator. Some other authorities are vested directly in the Bonneville Power Administrator.

Bonneville’s primary enabling legislation includes the following federal statutes: the Bonneville Project Act of 1937 (the “Project Act”); the Flood Control Act of 1944 (the “Flood Control Act”); Public Law 88-552 (the “Regional Preference Act”); the Federal Columbia River Transmission System Act of 1974 (the “Transmission System Act”); and the Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act of 1980 (the “Northwest Power Act”). Bonneville now markets electric power from 31 federal hydroelectric projects, most of which are located in the Columbia River basin and all of which are owned and operated either by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (“Corps”) or the United States Bureau of Reclamation (“Reclamation”). Bonneville also has acquired on a long-term basis and markets power from several non-federally-owned and -operated projects, including an operating nuclear generating station (the “Columbia Generating Station”) owned by Energy Northwest (a joint operating agency of Washington State) and having a rated capacity of approximately 1,190 megawatts. (Although the rated capacity of Columbia Generating Station is 1,190 megawatts, Bonneville assumes 1,120 megawatts for long-range planning purposes.) In addition, firm energy from transfers, exchanges, and purchases comprise the remaining portion of Bonneville’s electric power resources. Not taking into account estimated power lost through the transmission of electricity from generation sites to load sites (“transmission line losses”), Bonneville estimates that the foregoing projects and contracts have an expected aggregate energy output in Operating Year 2017 of approximately 10,309 annual average megawatts (defined below) under median water conditions and approximately 8,089 annual average megawatts, under low water conditions. (Bonneville’s “Operating Year” runs from August 1 through July 31. By contrast, its “Fiscal Year” runs from October 1 through September 30.) (Annual average megawatts are the number of megawatt-hours of electric energy used, transmitted, or produced over the course of one year and each annual average megawatt is equal to 8,760 megawatt-hours.)

Bonneville sells, purchases, and exchanges firm power, seasonal surplus energy (which is also referred to as “secondary” or “non-firm” energy), peaking capacity, and related power services. Bonneville also constructed, owns and/or possesses, operates, and maintains a high voltage transmission system (the “Federal Transmission System”) comprising approximately three-fourths of the bulk transmission capacity in the Pacific Northwest. Bonneville uses this transmission capacity to deliver power to its power customers and makes transmission capacity available to other utilities, owners of generation projects, and power marketers. Bonneville’s primary customer service area is the Pacific Northwest region of the United States, encompassing the states of Idaho, Oregon, and Washington, parts of western Montana, and small parts of western Wyoming, northern Nevada, northern Utah, and northern California (the “Pacific Northwest” or “Region”). Bonneville estimates that the population of the approximately 300,000 square-mile service area is approximately 12 million people. Electric power sold by Bonneville accounts for approximately one-third of the electric power consumed within the Region.

Bonneville markets a large portion of this power to over 125 publicly-owned and cooperatively-owned utilities (“Preference Customers”) at wholesale, meaning for resale by the utilities to end-use consumers in the Region. Bonneville also has contracts to sell power for direct consumption to several federal agencies and a small number of companies (“Direct Service Industries” or “DSIs”) located in the Region. Bonneville is also required by law to exchange power with qualifying utilities to meet their residential and small farm electric power loads within the Region. The operation of this program, referred to as the “Residential Exchange Program,” has resulted and is expected to continue to result in substantial payments by Bonneville to the exchanging utilities. The primary participants in the Residential Exchange Program have been and are investor-owned utilities in the Region (the “Regional IOUs”), of which there are six. See “POWER SERVICES—Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville’s Power Services—Residential Exchange Program.”

Proportionately, Preference Customers are the largest customer group to which Bonneville sells power. For example, Bonneville estimated in early Fiscal Year 2016 that, on a planning basis in Operating Year 2017, it will meet 7,833 annual average megawatts of loads, of which approximately 87 percent is forecast to be Preference Customer loads, approximately two percent is forecast to be Reclamation loads for irrigation pumping stations, approximately two percent is forecast to be non-Reclamation federal agency loads, approximately one percent is forecast to be DSI loads, and approximately eight percent is forecast to be contract deliveries inside and outside the Region. (Actual energy amounts may differ from planned amounts because of energy usage variations due to the weather, end-user behavior, economic activity and other factors.) See “POWER SERVICES—Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville’s Power Services—Bonneville’s Obligation to Meet Certain Firm Power Requirements in the Region—Federal System Load/Resource Balance.”

The Transmission System Act placed Bonneville on a self-financing basis, meaning that Bonneville pays its costs from revenues it receives from the sale of power and the provision of transmission and other services, which Bonneville provides at rates that seek to produce revenues that recover Bonneville’s costs, including certain payments to the United States of America, Department of Treasury (the “United States Treasury”). Bonneville’s rates for the foregoing services are subject to approval by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“FERC”) on the basis that, among other things, they recover Bonneville’s costs. See “MATTERS RELATING TO POWER SERVICES AND TRANSMISSION SERVICES—Bonneville Ratemaking and Rates.” Bonneville may also issue and sell bonds to the United States Treasury and use the proceeds thereof to fund certain activities established under federal law.

In conformity with certain national regulatory initiatives to promote competition in wholesale power markets, Bonneville has separated its power marketing function from its transmission system operation and electric system reliability functions. While Bonneville is a single legal entity, it conducts its business as two business units: “Power Services” and “Transmission Services.” See “TRANSMISSION SERVICES—FERC and Non-discriminatory Transmission Access and the Separation of Power Services and Transmission Services.”

Bonneville’s cash receipts from all sources, including from both Transmission Services operations and Power Services operations, must be deposited in the Bonneville Power Administration Fund (the “Bonneville Fund”), which is a separate fund within the United States Treasury and which is available to pay Bonneville’s costs. In accordance with the Transmission System Act, Bonneville must make expenditures from the Bonneville Fund as “shall have been included in annual budgets submitted to Congress, without further appropriation and without fiscal

year limitation, but within such specific directives or limitations as may be included in appropriation acts, for any purpose necessary or appropriate to carry out the duties imposed upon [Bonneville] pursuant to law.”

Bonneville makes certain payments to the United States Treasury. These payments are subject to the availability of net proceeds, which are gross cash receipts remaining in the Bonneville Fund after deducting all of the costs paid by Bonneville to operate and maintain the facilities of the Federal Columbia River Power System (“Federal System”) other than payments to the United States Treasury for: (i) the repayment of the federal investment in certain transmission facilities and the power generating facilities at federally-owned hydroelectric projects in the Pacific Northwest (the “Federal System Hydroelectric Projects”), (ii) debt service on bonds issued by Bonneville and sold to the United States Treasury, (iii) repayments of appropriated amounts to the Corps and Reclamation for certain costs allocated to power generation at Federal System Hydroelectric Projects, and (iv) costs allocated to irrigation projects as are required by law to be recovered from power sales. Bonneville met its scheduled payment responsibility to the United States Treasury of \$662 million in full and on time for Bonneville’s fiscal year ended September 30, 2015 (“Fiscal Year 2015”). Bonneville also prepaid an additional \$229 million principal amount of its federal appropriations repayment obligation. Bonneville has made all payments to the United States Treasury in full and on time since 1984.

For various reasons, Bonneville’s revenues from the sale of electric power and other services and its expenses may vary significantly from year to year. In order to accommodate such fluctuations in revenues and expenses and to assure that Bonneville has sufficient revenues to pay the costs necessary to maintain and operate the Federal System, all cash payment obligations of Bonneville, including rental payments for the Project under the Lease-Purchase Agreement, and other operating and maintenance expenses, have priority over payments by Bonneville to the United States Treasury. For a description of the Lease-Purchase Agreement, see the Official Statement under the heading “THE LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT.” In the opinion of Bonneville’s General Counsel, under federal statutes, Bonneville may make payments to the United States Treasury only from net proceeds; all other cash payments of Bonneville, including rental payments for the Project under the Lease-Purchase Agreement, and other operating and maintenance expenses, have priority over payments by Bonneville to the United States Treasury for the costs described in (i) through (iv) in the preceding paragraph. See the Official Statement under the heading “SOURCES OF PAYMENT AND SECURITY FOR THE SERIES 2016-2 BONDS” and “BONNEVILLE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS—Order in Which Bonneville’s Costs Are Met.”

The requirement to pay the United States Treasury exclusively from net proceeds would result in a deferral of United States Treasury payments if net proceeds were not sufficient for Bonneville to make its payments in full to the United States Treasury. Such deferrals could occur in the event that Bonneville were to receive less revenue or if Bonneville’s costs were higher than expected. In the event of such a deferral, Bonneville is required to take action, for example by increasing rates or reducing costs, to assure that it has sufficient funds to repay the deferred amounts, with interest, in future years.

### **Regional Power Sales and Rates Background**

Bonneville’s current power sales agreements with Preference Customers are in effect through Fiscal Year 2028 (“Long-Term Preference Contracts”). Virtually all such agreements were executed in 2008 and relate to power sales from Fiscal Year 2012 through Fiscal Year 2028. Under these contracts, Bonneville provides various electric power products primarily to meet the related Preference Customers’ own “net requirements” in the Region. Net requirements are the customers’ native loads (loads within their respective service territories) net of non-Federal System generating resources, if any, designated by a related customer as being used to serve its native loads. See “POWER SERVICES—Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville’s Power Services—Bonneville’s Obligation to Meet Certain Firm Power Requirements in the Region—Long-Term Preference Contracts and Power Products.”

Bonneville sells electric power for Regional load requirements at rates that are established to recover Bonneville’s cost of providing such service. Bonneville sells power to Preference Customers and federal agencies, in each case for their requirements, at periodically established “Priority Firm Preference Rates” (or “PF Preference Rates”) that are proposed in advance of the delivery of the power. The PF Preference Rate class is Bonneville’s lowest-cost, statutorily-designated, power rate class. PF Preference Rates include separate rate schedules for specific types of service provided to Preference Customers and federal agencies, and the related rate levels vary depending on the

costs of providing such services. Beginning in Fiscal Year 2012, PF Preference Rates have been established, and at least through the term of the Long-Term Preference Contracts will be established, on the basis of “Tiered Rates,” as discussed below. “Tier 1 PF Rates” apply to a very large portion of the power sales Bonneville makes to Preference Customers, and “Tier 2 PF Rates” apply to a small portion of the power sales Bonneville makes to Preference Customers, essentially for incremental loads above power sold at Tier 1 PF Rates. For a discussion of Tiered Rates, see “POWER SERVICES—Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville’s Power Services—Bonneville’s Obligation to Meet Certain Firm Power Requirements in the Region.” For a discussion of Bonneville’s currently applicable power rates, see “CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO BONNEVILLE—Bonneville Power and Transmission Rates Developments,” and “POWER SERVICES—Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville’s Power Services—Power Rates for Fiscal Years 2016-2017.” The rate for the power Bonneville sells to DSIs under most circumstances is the Industrial Firm Power Rate (“IP Rate”), which is based on the PF Preference Rate and certain adjustments required by federal law.

## **CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO BONNEVILLE**

### **Developments Relating to the Endangered Species Act**

The operation of the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects by the Corps, Reclamation and Bonneville (also referred to as “Action Agencies”) is subject to the Endangered Species Act (“ESA”). The listing under the ESA of certain anadromous fish species that inhabit the Columbia River and its tributaries has led to the preparation of a series of biological opinions for operation and maintenance of Federal System Hydroelectric Projects on the Columbia and Snake Rivers. A biological opinion evaluates the effects of a federal agency action on species and habitat protected under the ESA and, if necessary, recommends a “Reasonable and Prudent Alternative” (as defined in the ESA) to the proposed action, consisting of measures and actions that, if implemented, will ensure the federal action is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of listed species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat.

Beginning in the early 1990’s, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s National Marine Fisheries Service (“NOAA Fisheries”) has issued a succession of biological opinions relating to listed anadromous salmonid species of the Columbia and Snake Rivers. Each of the biological opinions from 1993 on has been the subject of litigation. On May 4, 2016, the United States District Court for the District of Oregon (the “Oregon Federal District Court”) issued an order to the effect that NOAA Fisheries’ most recent biological opinion evaluating the operation of the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects of the Columbia and Snake Rivers (referred to herein as the “2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion”) does not meet the requirements of the ESA. The 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion includes implementation of a wide range of measures (over 70 mitigation actions) including structural modifications to Federal System dams as well as spill and other operations that are intended to improve downstream juvenile fish passage and survival. It also includes a contingent action to study breaching one or more of the four lower Snake River dams of the Federal System if there is a significant decline in two listed Snake River fish species.

The Oregon Federal District Court identified a number of deficiencies with the 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion, including that the approach used by NOAA Fisheries to determine whether the listed species “are trending toward recovery” is arbitrary and capricious, that the 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion relies on habitat restoration benefits that “are too uncertain and do not allow any margin of error,” and that the 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion “fails to properly analyze the effects of climate change.” The 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion is described in general terms in “POWER SERVICES—Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville’s Power Services—Fish and Wildlife—The Endangered Species Act—The 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion.”

The Oregon Federal District Court remanded the 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion to NOAA Fisheries and ordered it to complete a new biological opinion by March 1, 2018. NOAA Fisheries had otherwise planned to issue a new biological opinion in 2019. The Oregon Federal District Court further ordered that the Corps and Reclamation continue to implement the 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion until the new biological opinion is prepared and filed. See “BONNEVILLE LITIGATION—Columbia River ESA Litigation.” (Bonneville is not a party to the litigation in the Oregon Federal District Court, but is a party

to the companion challenge to Bonneville’s decision to adopt and implement the 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion in the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit (“Ninth Circuit Court”), which has exclusive, direct review jurisdiction of many of Bonneville’s actions. The challenges in the Ninth Circuit Court have been stayed until August 10, 2016. See “BONNEVILLE LITIGATION—Columbia River ESA Opinion Litigation.”)

The U.S. Department of Justice, NOAA Fisheries, and the Action Agencies are now completing a thorough analysis of the Oregon Federal District Court’s lengthy opinion, including assessments of whether to appeal the decision to the Ninth Circuit Court.

Bonneville is unable to predict the long-term implications of the Oregon Federal District Court’s opinion, including the types of proposals and measures that NOAA Fisheries will include in the new biological opinion. Bonneville is also unable to predict whether and the extent to which the new biological opinion, any future court orders related to the litigation on the 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion, or any future litigation in connection with the ESA, will lead to increased costs to Bonneville or to the alteration of Federal System hydro-operations. In the opinion of General Counsel to Bonneville, breaching or other similar major structural changes eliminating one or more of the congressionally authorized purposes of any of the federally-owned dams of the Federal System would require Congressional enactment authorizing such action. Bonneville is unable to predict whether the current or future ESA litigation or the new biological opinion will change the prospects that such legislation will be proposed in Congress or enacted into law.

Bonneville expects that NOAA Fisheries will issue a draft biological opinion prior to issuing the final biological opinion. Bonneville is unable to predict when NOAA Fisheries will issue the draft biological opinion.

In addition to its findings under the ESA, the Oregon Federal District Court found the Corps and Reclamation did not comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (“NEPA”) when they adopted the 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion. See “BONNEVILLE LITIGATION—Columbia River ESA Litigation.” NEPA requires that federal agencies evaluate the environmental impacts of their proposed actions and make this analysis available to the public. NEPA is procedural in the sense that it does not require a particular outcome for a decision, but it does mandate a process for taking a “hard look” at environmental consequences of, and alternatives to, an agency’s proposal. The Oregon Federal District Court has directed that a new environmental impact statement under NEPA be prepared. The new environmental impact statement will present analysis and other information to federal decision makers to inform them of the effects on the environment of the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects and will also set forth reasonable alternatives for the operation of the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects.

On June 3, 2016, the federal government submitted to the Oregon Federal District Court a proposed schedule for preparing the environmental impact statement (the “June 3 filing”) and stated that “to complete a system-wide, comprehensive environmental impact statement . . . will require a minimum of five years.” The federal government’s June 3 filing also stated that the Corps and Reclamation, in conjunction with Bonneville, “are contemplating approaches for analyzing an array of alternatives for different system operations for all fourteen [Federal System] dams and structural modifications that have the potential to improve fish passage, including breaching one or more of the federal dams that currently provide for adult and juvenile passage. Further, non-operational measures such as habitat actions in the tributaries and estuary, predation management actions, and conservation and safety net hatcheries to offset or minimize environmental impacts may also be evaluated in the event the Action Agencies determine such action would serve as potential mitigation measures.”

With respect to the integration of the process of the new environmental impact statement and process of the new biological opinion, the June 3 filing stated that the “integration of these two independent yet parallel processes on actions of the scale and complexity of the [Federal System] will undoubtedly be complicated and the schedule for one process likely could affect the schedule for the other process. Accordingly, the Federal Defendants are not presently in a position to precisely delineate how the processes will be coordinated and sequenced.” The federal government’s proposed schedule is subject to further proceedings, and ultimately the Oregon Federal District Court will issue an order governing the timing of the new environmental impact statement. See “POWER SERVICES—Certain Statutes and other Matters Affecting Bonneville’s Power Services—Fish and Wildlife—The National

Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species Act,” and “BONNEVILLE LITIGATION—Columbia River ESA Litigation.”

Bonneville is unable to predict whether the new NEPA analysis and process will increase the prospects that legislation authorizing breaching or other similar major structural changes eliminating one or more of the congressionally authorized purposes of any of the federally-owned dams of the Federal System will be proposed in Congress or enacted into law.

### **Bonneville Power and Transmission Rates Developments**

After concluding formal administrative ratemaking processes, in July 2015, Bonneville filed proposed power and transmission rates of general applicability for Fiscal Years 2016 and 2017 (the “2016-2017 Rate Period”). Bonneville thereafter submitted the rate proposal together with a record of decision to FERC for its review in accordance with the Northwest Power Act and other law. On February 2, 2016, FERC granted final approval of such rates (the “Final 2016-2017 Rates”). Upon final FERC review, the rates may be challenged in the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit (“Ninth Circuit Court”), which has original jurisdiction over many Bonneville actions. No challenges have been filed and the period within which such challenges must be filed has ended.

Consistent with longstanding policy, the Final 2016-2017 Rates were prepared to assure at least a 95 percent probability over the two-year rate period that Bonneville will make its scheduled payments to the United States Treasury on time and in full. (Bonneville refers to this probability of cost recovery as “Treasury Payment Probability” or “TPP.”) In determining TPP, Bonneville relies on numerous factors including estimates and forecasts of costs, risks and revenues, the ability to increase rate levels on short notice under the Power CRAC described herein, the availability of short-term financial liquidity tools, and Reserves Available for Risk (“RAR”), which is a financial metric Bonneville uses as a measure of accumulated financial reserves derived from operations. See “BONNEVILLE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS—Bonneville’s Use of Non-GAAP Financial Metrics.” Bonneville’s United States Treasury payments are payable after Bonneville’s non-federal payment obligations such as the rental payments for the Project under the Lease-Purchase Agreement. Payments are made from cash available in the Bonneville Fund. See “BONNEVILLE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS—Order in Which Bonneville’s Costs Are Met.”

Bonneville’s revenues in cash (and the availability of cash to make rental payments from the Project under the Lease-Purchase Agreement) are reduced if and to the extent that Bonneville provides credits to customers’ bills, as arises under Net Billing Agreements and certain other agreements. See “BONNEVILLE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS—Bonneville’s Non-Federal Debt—Bonds for Energy Northwest’s Net Billed Projects,” “POWER SERVICES—Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville’s Power Services—Bonneville’s Obligation to Meet Certain Firm Power Requirements in the Region—Bonneville’s Resource Program and Bonneville’s Resource Strategies—Electric Power Conservation,” and BONNEVILLE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS—Bonneville’s Non-Federal Debt—Electric Power Prepayments.”

The Final 2016-2017 Rates reflect an increase in both power and transmission rates over rates in the immediately preceding two-year rate period (the “2014-2015 Rate Period”). Average Tier 1 PF Rates increased by 7.1 percent, to \$33.75 per megawatt hour; average Tier 2 PF Rates increased by 8.1 percent to approximately \$43.09 per megawatt hour; the IP Rate increased by 7.6 percent, to \$41.93 per megawatt hour; and average Transmission Services rates increased by approximately 4.4 percent. See “POWER SERVICES—Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville’s Power Services—Power Rates for Fiscal Years 2016-2017,” and “TRANSMISSION SERVICES—General—Bonneville’s Transmission and Ancillary and Control Area Services Rates.”

With regard to power rates, the Final 2016-2017 Rates include a rate level adjustment mechanism (the “Power Cost Recovery Adjustment Clause” or “Power CRAC”) under which, if certain financial indicators are met, Bonneville would be able to increase certain power and related rate levels to obtain up to \$300 million of additional revenue in each of the two fiscal years of the rate period without a time consuming rate proceeding. The conditions leading to an increase in rate levels under the Power CRAC are based on certain financial information indicating that Power Services’ expenses are higher and/or revenues are lower than anticipated. The Power CRAC did not trigger for application to Fiscal Year 2016 rate levels. Bonneville periodically reviews the probability that the Power CRAC will trigger and Bonneville’s most recent review, released in April 2016, projected that there is a near zero percent

chance that the Power CRAC will trigger for application to Fiscal Year 2017 rate levels. For more detail on the Power CRAC and other risk mitigation tools for power rates, see “POWER SERVICES—Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville’s Power Services—Power Rates for Fiscal Years 2016-2017.”

Two important factors leading to the increase in Power Services rates in the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Rate Period were (i) the anticipated increase in debt service associated with past capital spending and debt restructuring, and (ii) the completion of Fiscal Year 2014 and Fiscal Year 2015 debt management actions. Other factors contributing to the Power Services rate increase were steadily increasing program expenses reflecting the continuation of operations and maintenance expense (“O&M”) and non-routine extraordinary maintenance associated with aging Federal System infrastructure, increased costs related to the Residential Exchange Program benefits, and efforts to meet protection and mitigation commitments for fish affected by the operation of the Federal System. Some important factors leading to the increase in transmission and related rates were increased debt service associated with past and anticipated capital spending for replacement of aging Federal System infrastructure and for new infrastructure associated with increased transmission usage and demands, increased system reliability and security requirements, and the integration of renewable resources.

Bonneville began conducting workshops on June 16, 2016, related to developing rates for power and transmission and related services for Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019 (the “2018-2019 Rate Period”). Bonneville plans to begin the formal rate proceeding in November 2016 and to submit the final rate proposal to FERC by the end of July 2017.

### **Regional Cooperation Debt and Related Actions**

Bonneville manages its overall debt portfolio, which includes both debt that is issued by non-federal entities and secured by Bonneville’s financial commitments (“Non-Federal Debt”), and Bonneville’s repayment obligations to the United States Treasury, to meet the objectives of: (i) minimizing the cost to Bonneville’s ratepayers, (ii) maximizing Bonneville’s access to its lowest cost capital sources to meet future capital needs, and (iii) maintaining sufficient financial flexibility to meet Bonneville’s financial requirements. See “BONNEVILLE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS.”

Energy Northwest, a joint operating agency of the State of Washington, and Bonneville have worked together to refinance certain maturities of outstanding Energy Northwest bonds that are supported by Bonneville under certain Net Billing Agreements among Bonneville, Energy Northwest, and over 100 individual Participants. The bonds were issued by Energy Northwest in respect of three nuclear generating projects (the “Energy Northwest Net Billed Projects”), one of which is operating and two of which were terminated in the 1990’s prior to the completion of construction. See “BONNEVILLE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS—Bonneville’s Non-Federal Debt—Bonds for Energy Northwest’s Net Billed Projects.” Bonds and other debt instruments issued by Energy Northwest and secured by Net Billing Agreements are referred to herein as “Net Billed Bonds.” Since 2001, certain Net Billed Bond refinancings have increased the weighted average maturity of outstanding Net Billed Bonds to match more closely the originally expected useful lives of the related facilities. These refinancings are currently known as “Regional Cooperation Debt.”

An important component of Regional Cooperation Debt is the issuance of Net Billed Bonds by Energy Northwest to refund outstanding Net Billed Bonds before their maturities (when substantial principal repayments are due) in Fiscal Years 2014, 2015, and 2016. These refinancing Net Billed Bonds increased the weighted average maturities of outstanding Net Billed Bonds. These refinancings also had and have the effect of freeing up amounts in the Bonneville Fund which otherwise would have been used to fund the repayment of the principal of the refunded Net Billed Bonds. The freed up funds enable Bonneville (i) to repay, earlier than would otherwise occur, statutory repayment obligations that Bonneville has for amounts appropriated by Congress for federally-owned hydroelectric and transmission facilities of the Federal System (“Federal Appropriations Repayment Obligations”), (ii) to make payments to reduce the outstanding principal amount of bonds issued by Bonneville to the United States Treasury, and (iii) to achieve other debt management goals.

### *Prepayment of Federal Appropriations Repayment Obligations*

Under the Regional Cooperation Debt approach described above, Bonneville prepaid at the end of each of Fiscal Year 2014 and Fiscal Year 2015, \$321 million and \$229 million, respectively, of its Federal Appropriations Repayment Obligations. The amounts prepaid bore interest at a rate higher than the rates of interest on the refinancing Net Billed Bonds issued by Energy Northwest in Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015.

Bonneville expects that more recent and planned Regional Cooperation Debt actions will enable Bonneville to prepay additional relatively high interest Federal Appropriations Repayment Obligations. Bonneville expects that the aggregate effects of (i) Energy Northwest's issuance of refinancing Net Billed Bonds in October of 2015 and April 2016, (ii) the planned issuance by Energy Northwest of refinancing Net Billed Bonds in Fiscal Year 2017 (the "Planned 2017 Regional Cooperation Bonds"), and (iii) certain other coordinated cash management actions described below, will enable Bonneville to prepay additional comparatively high interest Federal Appropriations Repayment Obligations in the aggregate principal amount of approximately \$1.12 billion by the end of Fiscal Year 2017. When combined with the Federal Appropriations Repayment Obligations prepaid in Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015, the aggregate principal amount of prepaid Federal Appropriations Repayment Obligations is expected to reach approximately \$1.67 billion by the end of Fiscal Year 2017. By contrast, Bonneville expects that at the end of Fiscal Year 2017, the aggregate principal amount of refinancing Net Billed Bonds issued by Energy Northwest under the Regional Cooperation Debt initiative in Fiscal Years 2014-2017 (inclusive of the Planned 2017 Regional Cooperation Bonds) will be approximately \$1.98 billion.

The weighted average interest rate on the Federal Appropriations Repayment Obligations that have been and are planned to be prepaid in Fiscal Years 2014-2017 is approximately 7.15 percent. By contrast, the weighted average yields of refinancing Net Billed Bonds issued in Fiscal Years 2014, 2015, and 2016 is approximately 2.8 percent. It is difficult to forecast the expected weighted average yield on the Planned 2017 Regional Cooperation Bonds; however, Bonneville expects that the average weighted yield on such future refinancing Net Billed Bonds will be less than 7.15 percent.

### *Short-term Expense Borrowing by Energy Northwest and Cash Management to Enable Additional Interest Expense Savings*

In view of expected issuance by Energy Northwest of the Planned 2017 Regional Cooperation Bonds, Energy Northwest, with Bonneville's support, is undertaking additional debt management actions in Fiscal Year 2016. These actions will manage cash flows between Bonneville and Energy Northwest in order to enable Bonneville to advance by one year the prepayment of certain Federal Appropriations Repayment Obligations that were originally expected to be prepaid at the end of Fiscal Year 2017. In February 2016, Energy Northwest entered into a short-term borrowing arrangement with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., for an amount not to exceed \$300 million, to fund, through the remainder of Fiscal Year 2016, interest on Net Billed Bonds and operation and maintenance expense for Energy Northwest's operating nuclear generating project, the Columbia Generating Station. These actions will enable Bonneville to reduce payments to Energy Northwest in Fiscal Year 2016 and accumulate like amounts in the Bonneville Fund in the remainder of Fiscal Year 2016. Bonneville will use the accumulated cash to prepay at the end of Fiscal Year 2016 approximately \$300 million of comparatively higher interest Federal Appropriations Repayment Obligations that Bonneville had previously expected would be prepaid at the end of Fiscal Year 2017 following the expected issuance of the Planned 2017 Regional Cooperation Bonds. Bonneville estimates that the foregoing actions will reduce its interest expense in Fiscal Year 2017 by up to approximately \$14 million. Bonneville believes that Energy Northwest and Bonneville will undertake in future fiscal years short-term debt and cash management actions similar to those described in this paragraph. Bonneville believes that the maximum principal amount of short-term notes issued by Energy Northwest and outstanding at any one time is expected to be \$621 million, which would occur in Fiscal Year 2018.

The amounts borrowed by Energy Northwest under the short-term borrowing arrangement currently bear interest at variable rates that are under one percent per annum and are due to be repaid by Energy Northwest on or before June 30, 2017. Energy Northwest has committed to use its best efforts to issue the Planned 2017 Regional Cooperation Bonds, although the funding source of the repayment of the amounts borrowed under the short-term borrowing arrangement is expected to be accumulated balances in the Bonneville Fund.

### *Assistance in Reducing Certain Power Rate Impacts*

The issuance by Energy Northwest of refinancing Net Billed Bonds under the Regional Cooperation Debt initiative has also enabled Bonneville to reduce the effects of certain upward pressures on near-term Power Services rates. These pressures arise from a decision by Bonneville in Fiscal Year 2015 to pay future energy efficiency program costs as an item of current expense from and after Fiscal Year 2016. Bonneville's prior practice was to capitalize certain costs of its energy efficiency program and finance the costs over twelve-year periods through borrowings from the United States Treasury. In developing its proposal for the Final 2016-2017 Rates, Bonneville anticipated (i) the issuance of the refinancing Net Billed Bonds by Energy Northwest in April 2016, (ii) the issuance by Energy Northwest of the Planned 2017 Regional Cooperation Bonds, and (iii) the use of a portion of the resulting anticipated accumulation of balances in the Bonneville Fund as a source to offset some of the Power Services rate impacts of the transition of energy efficiency costs to expense. These actions are expected to enable Bonneville to accumulate additional cash balances in the Bonneville Fund to cover approximately \$71 million of energy efficiency program expense in Fiscal Year 2016 and approximately \$67 million in energy efficiency program expense in Fiscal Year 2017.

### *Bonneville Cash Management to Enable Additional Interest Expense Savings*

As part of its coordinated actions to prepay high interest Federal Appropriations Repayment Obligations, in Fiscal Year 2016, Bonneville also plans to use certain available financial reserves in the amount of \$82 million to advance by one year the prepayment of a like amount of high interest Federal Appropriations Repayment Obligations which prepayment would otherwise occur at the end of Fiscal Year 2017. The reserves are unexpended amounts that were derived from the power prepayment program. See "BONNEVILLE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS—Bonneville's Non-Federal Debt—Electric Power Prepayments." Bonneville estimates that the foregoing planned use of power prepayment balances in Fiscal Year 2016 will reduce interest expense in Fiscal Year 2017 by approximately \$5 million. This use of power prepayment balances could be repeated in future fiscal years depending on several factors, including the issuance by Energy Northwest of future refinancing Net Billed Bonds to be issued under the Regional Cooperation Debt initiative. Thus, it is possible that Bonneville may continue to defer, on an annual basis for several years, the expenditure of the power prepayments on Federal System hydropower capital investments.

### *Possible Future Issuances of Net Billed Bonds under the Regional Cooperation Debt Initiative*

Bonneville expects that Energy Northwest and Bonneville will continue to undertake Regional Cooperation Debt management actions similar to those described above. More particularly, Bonneville believes that there is potential, following the anticipated Regional Cooperation Debt management and related actions in Fiscal Year 2017, to undertake actions similar to those described immediately above. Bonneville believes that such actions, if undertaken, would enable both (i) the prepayment of additional comparatively high interest Federal Appropriations Repayment Obligations, and (ii) a reduction (from what otherwise would be the case) of the principal balance outstanding of bonds issued by Bonneville to the United States Treasury.

Bonneville estimates that the aggregate potential principal amount of refinancing Net Billed Bonds to be issued by Energy Northwest under the Regional Cooperation Debt initiative in Fiscal Years 2017 through Fiscal Year 2024 could exceed \$2.8 billion.

### **Fiscal Year 2015 Financial Results**

In Fiscal Year 2015, Bonneville made its scheduled United States Treasury payments on time and in full for the 32nd consecutive year. Bonneville finished the fiscal year with Total Financial Reserves of \$1.19 billion, which is a decline of approximately three percent from the prior fiscal year. Bonneville also finished the fiscal year with RAR of approximately \$845 million, a decline of approximately seven percent from the prior fiscal year end. Total Financial Reserves and RAR are unaudited financial metrics that are not in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP").

Bonneville had Adjusted Net Revenues (as hereinafter defined) of \$143 million in Fiscal Year 2015, which was a \$93 million decrease from Bonneville's Adjusted Net Revenues of \$236 million in Fiscal Year 2014. Adjusted Net Revenues is a non-GAAP financial metric and is unaudited. Nonetheless, Bonneville management believes the use

and reporting of Adjusted Net Revenues assists in reflecting Bonneville's financial performance for day-to-day operations in applicable fiscal years. The Adjusted Net Revenues metric is net revenues after removing the non-operating effects on Bonneville of certain debt management actions with respect to Net Billed Bonds, including under the Regional Cooperation Debt initiative. See "—Regional Cooperation Debt and Related Actions." In contrast to Adjusted Net Revenues, Net Revenues in Fiscal Year 2015 were \$405 million, a decrease of approximately eight percent from the prior fiscal year. For additional details related to Fiscal Year 2015 financial results, see "BONNEVILLE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS—Management Discussion of Operating Results—Fiscal Year 2015." For a discussion of Non-GAAP financial metrics used by Bonneville, see "BONNEVILLE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS—Bonneville's Use of Non-GAAP Financial Metrics."

### **Fiscal Year 2016 Expectations and Related Information**

As of April 29, 2016, Bonneville forecasts that Fiscal Year 2016 Adjusted Net Revenues will be negative \$43 million, or approximately \$195 million less than Bonneville forecasted in preparing the Final 2016-2017 Rates. The primary reasons for the decline in forecast Adjusted Net Revenues relates to reduced expectations of Power Services revenues in Fiscal Year 2016 due to: (i) lower short-term energy market prices that Bonneville can obtain for the sale of seasonal surplus (secondary) energy, and (ii) expectations of below-average hydro-generation power supply. Market prices are primarily influenced by the cost other producers incur to generate energy and the price of fuel (in particular, natural gas) used to generate the energy.

Runoff is the fuel supply for hydro-generation. See "POWER SERVICES—Description of the Generation Resources of the Federal System—Federal Hydro-Generation." Analyses as of June 7, 2016, prepared by an entity apart from Bonneville but relied on by Bonneville for planning purposes, indicate that the Fiscal Year 2016 water supply for the Columbia River basin will be approximately 99 percent of the 30-year historical average, as measured in terms of millions of acre feet of water (or "MAF") runoff at The Dalles Dam. Historically, runoff amounts are determined to a great degree by late fall, winter, and early spring precipitation conditions in the Pacific Northwest and southern British Columbia.

Despite near-average precipitation in the Columbia River basin in Fiscal Year 2016, Bonneville expects lower than average hydro-generation in part because of the effects of planned limitations on water releases from Canadian reservoirs of the upper Columbia River basin to restore reservoir levels, in accordance with the Columbia River Treaty and other arrangements. At the end of Fiscal Year 2015, the reservoir levels were lower than typically observed as water was released (in accordance with the Columbia River Treaty and other arrangements) for additional hydro-generation in response to the lower than average water conditions during Fiscal Year 2015. Lower-than-average hydro-generation supply in Fiscal Year 2016 has reduced the amount of seasonal surplus (net secondary) energy for sale by Bonneville and increased Bonneville's purchased power expense to meet contracted loads. See "BONNEVILLE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS—Management Discussion of Unaudited Results for the Six Months ended March 31, 2016." Bonneville expects that by the end of Operating Year 2016, upper Columbia River storage levels will return to levels observed at such time in a typical year.

Bonneville forecasts that it will finish the fiscal year with Total Financial Reserves of \$787 million and RAR of \$655 million. See "BONNEVILLE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS—Bonneville's Use of Non-GAAP Financial Metrics." Based on Total Financial Reserve levels, forecasts of revenues and expenses as of the end of the second quarter of Fiscal Year 2016, and other internal updates, Bonneville believes that it will meet its Fiscal Year 2016 United States Treasury payment responsibility on time and in full. Forecasts of fiscal year-end results are based on numerous uncertain variables, including but not limited to hydroelectric and water conditions and the level and volatility of market prices for electric power, and are subject to change.

### **Management**

With federal careers at Bonneville in excess of 25 years each, Claudia R. Andrews, Chief Operating Officer and Nancy M. Mitman, Chief Financial Officer, have announced plans to retire during Fiscal Year 2016. Ms. Mitman expects to retire on July 15, 2016, after 28 years of federal service. Ms. Andrews expects to retire at the end of September 2016 after 30 years of federal service. Bonneville has begun the selection process for a new Chief Financial Officer to facilitate an orderly transition prior to the retirement of Ms. Mitman. With ample advance

notice of the planned retirements, efforts are underway to hire a new Chief Operating Officer in time to allow for a reasonable transition period prior to the retirement of Ms. Andrews. Bonneville considers the foregoing retirements to be in the ordinary course of business.

## **POWER SERVICES**

Bonneville's Power Services is responsible for marketing the electric power of the Federal System, providing oversight to electric power resources of the Federal System, and purchasing and exchanging Federal System power. Power Services was responsible for approximately \$2.5 billion (excluding "bookouts" from settlements other than by the physical delivery of power) in revenues, or 73 percent, of Bonneville's total revenues from external customers (and excluding revenues otherwise arising from inter-functional transactions between Bonneville's Transmission Services and Power Services) in Fiscal Year 2015.

### **Description of the Generation Resources of the Federal System**

#### *Generation*

Bonneville has statutory obligations to meet certain electric power loads placed on it by certain Regional customers. See "—Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville's Power Services—Bonneville's Obligation to Meet Certain Firm Power Requirements in the Region." To meet these loads, Bonneville relies on an array of power resources and power purchases, which, together with the Federal Transmission System and certain other features, constitute the Federal System. The Federal System includes those portions of the federal investment in the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects that have been allocated by federal law or policy to power generation for repayment. The Federal System also includes power from non-federally-owned generating resources, including but not limited to the Columbia Generating Station, and contract purchases from and other arrangements with power suppliers.

Bonneville defines "firm power" as electric power that is continuously available from the Federal System during adverse water conditions to meet Federal System firm loads. The amount of firm power that can be produced by the Federal System and marketed by Bonneville is based on assumptions related to a low water period on record (which occurred in 1936-1937) for the Columbia River basin referred to herein as "Low Water Flows" (and is frequently referred to by Bonneville as "Critical Water"). Firm power can be relied on to be available when needed. Firm power has two components: peaking capacity (measured in megawatts) and firm energy (measured in annual average megawatts). Peaking capacity refers to the generating capability to serve particular loads at the time such power is demanded. This is distinguishable from firm energy, which refers to an amount of electric energy that is reliably generated over a period of time. Bonneville has estimated that in Operating Year 2017 (August 1, 2016 through July 31, 2017), the total Federal System would be capable of producing approximately 8,089 annual average megawatts of firm energy under Low Water Flows/Critical Water and not accounting for transmission line losses. This generation includes approximately 6,668 annual average megawatts from Reclamation and Corps hydro projects, approximately 1,019 annual average megawatts from Columbia Generating Station and other non-federally-owned resources (including hydropower and renewable generation projects), and approximately 402 annual average megawatts of firm energy from power purchases, exchanges, and other non-federal transactions. See the table entitled "Operating Federal System Projects for Operating Year 2017."

#### *Federal Hydro-Generation*

The share of hydropower from the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects and a small amount of power Bonneville has acquired from non-federally-owned hydroelectric projects for Operating Year 2017 is estimated to be approximately 83 percent of Bonneville's total firm power supply under Low Water Flows/Critical Water. See the table entitled "Operating Federal System Projects for Operating Year 2017." Bonneville's large resource base of hydropower results in operating and planning characteristics that differ from those of major utilities that lack a substantial hydropower base.

The amount and timing of electric power produced by a hydropower-based system such as the Federal System fluctuates with variations in annual precipitation and weather conditions. This variability has led Bonneville to

classify power it has available into two types, firm power, described above in “—Generation,” and seasonal surplus (secondary) energy, described below, that are based on certainty of occurrence.

The Federal System as primarily a hydropower system, with access to substantial reservoir storage, has peaking capacity that exceeds the Federal System peaking loads and power reserve requirements, in most months, and in most water years. Bonneville estimates that, in most months of an operating year and under most water and load conditions, its peaking capacity for long-term planning purposes will meet or exceed its requirements for the next ten years. Bonneville expects this excess of peaking capacity to persist, because, as Bonneville acquires new resources or augments the Federal System with energy purchases (or similar actions) in order to balance annual and seasonal firm energy needs, these additions contribute more peaking capacity.

At this time, Bonneville’s resource planning focuses primarily on the need to acquire sufficient firm energy resources to meet firm energy loads. In contrast, most utilities with coal, gas, oil, and nuclear based generating systems must also focus their resource planning and acquisition on having enough peaking capacity to meet peak loads. As additional non-power requirements are placed on the Federal System hydroelectric operations and as Bonneville’s peak load obligations grow, it may become necessary for Bonneville to plan for additional peaking capacity from resources or purchases to meet peak load obligations. See “—Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville’s Power Services—Bonneville’s Obligation to Meet Certain Firm Power Requirements in the Region—Bonneville’s Resource Program and Bonneville’s Resource Strategies.”

In general, for long-term planning purposes Bonneville estimates the amount of electric power it will need in order to meet loads above the expected Federal System firm power generated under Low Water Flows/Critical Water. Firm energy from hydro reflects generation under assumptions of low streamflow derived from Regional streamflow records. Thus, the fuel supply (streamflow) and generating capability for firm energy from hydro have a high probability of occurring from year to year.

For ratemaking and financial planning purposes, however, Bonneville takes into account the amount of electric power it expects to have available to market based on water conditions that reflect average circumstances. The amount of seasonal surplus (secondary) energy generated by the Federal System depends primarily on precipitation and reservoir storage levels, thermal plant performance (the Columbia Generating Station), and other factors. For Operating Year 2017, the Federal System is forecast to generate seasonal surplus (secondary) energy of 1,595 annual average megawatts, assuming average water conditions (median water flows). In years with high water conditions (high water flows) the amount of seasonal surplus (secondary) energy could be as much as 2,920 annual average megawatts. In years with Low Water Flows/Critical Water, the amount of seasonal surplus (secondary) energy generated by the Federal System could be quite small or not available at all.

Notwithstanding that the amount and timing of seasonal surplus (secondary) energy is subject to variability, Bonneville markets almost all seasonal surplus (secondary) energy on a contractual basis under which the commitment to provide energy is firm.

The Corps and Reclamation operate the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects to serve multiple statutory purposes. These purposes include flood control, irrigation, navigation, recreation, municipal and industrial water supply, fish and wildlife protection, as well as power generation. Non-power purposes have placed requirements on operation of the reservoirs and have thereby limited hydropower production. Bonneville takes into account the non-power requirements and other factors in assessing the marketable power from these projects.

These requirements change the shape, availability, and timeliness of federal hydropower to meet load. The information in the following table estimates the operation of the Federal System under the Pacific Northwest Coordination Agreement (“PNCA”). The PNCA defines the planning and operation of Bonneville, Pacific Northwest utilities, and other parties with generating facilities within the Region’s hydroelectric system. The hydro-regulation study incorporated measures, including but not limited to those: (i) in furtherance of the ESA as set forth by the NOAA Fisheries in biological opinions relating to the operation of the Federal System dams on the Columbia River and Snake River and tributaries and under related court-ordered operations; (ii) in furtherance of the ESA as set forth by the United States of America, Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service (“Fish and Wildlife Service”) in biological opinions relating to operation of certain Federal System dams on the Snake River, Columbia River, and tributaries; and (iii) operations described in the Northwest Power and Conservation Council’s Fish and

Wildlife Program (“Council’s Fish and Wildlife Program”). These measures include flow augmentation for juvenile fish migration in the Snake and Columbia Rivers in the spring and summer, mandatory spill requirements at the Lower Snake and Columbia River dams to provide for non-turbine passage routes for juvenile fish migrants, and additional flows for Kootenai River white sturgeon in the spring. As new biological opinions and similar non-power requirements are introduced to the hydropower system, those changes will be reflected, as and when appropriate, in estimates of the availability of federal hydropower under all water conditions. See “—Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville’s Power Services—Fish and Wildlife—The Endangered Species Act.”

#### *Other Power Resources and Contract Purchases*

The balance of the Federal System electric power resources, apart from the hydropower generating resources, includes power from the Columbia Generating Station, which has the largest capacity for energy production of the non-federal resources included in the Federal System. See Footnote 11 in the following table “Operating Federal System Projects for Operating Year 2017.” In addition, Bonneville has a number of power purchase and related contracts under which Bonneville receives electric power and which are not tied to specific generating resources (“Other Federal Contracts”). Bonneville projects that it will continue to have long-term contracts for power purchases, power or energy exchanges, power purchased or assigned under the Columbia River Treaty, transmission loss returns under the Slice contracts and similar non-federal transactions. In aggregate these arrangements will provide approximately 402 annual average megawatts of energy in Operating Year 2017. See Footnote 13 in the following table “Operating Federal System Projects for Operating Year 2017.”

#### *Operating Federal System Projects for Operating Year 2017*

In all years, the energy generating capability of the Federal System’s Hydroelectric Projects depends upon the amount of water flowing through such facilities, the physical capacity of the facilities, streamflow requirements pursuant to biological opinions, and other operating limitations. Bonneville utilizes an 80-year record of river flows based on the period from 1929-2008 for planning purposes. During this period, Low Water Flows occurred in 1936-1937, median water conditions (“Median Water Flows”) occurred in 1957-1958, and high water conditions (“High Water Flows”) occurred in 1973-1974. Bonneville estimates the energy generating capability of Federal System Hydroelectric Projects in a given operating year by assuming that these historical water conditions occur in that operating year and making adjustments in the expected generating capability to reflect the current physical capacity operating limitations and current streamflow requirements. Energy generation estimates are further refined to reflect factors unique to the subject operating year such as initial storage reservoir conditions.

The following table shows, for Operating Year 2017, the Federal System January 120-Hour peaking capacity (“Peak Megawatts” or “Peak MW”) and energy capability using (i) Low Water Flows (referred to as “Firm Energy”), (ii) Median Water Flows (referred to as “Median Energy”), and (iii) High Water Flows (referred to as “Maximum Energy”). The same forecasting procedures are also used for non-federally-owned hydroelectric projects. Thermal projects, the output of which does not vary with river flow conditions, are estimated using current generating capacity, plant capacity factors, and maintenance schedules.

(The remainder of this page is left blank intentionally)

**Operating Federal System Projects for Operating Year 2017<sup>(1)</sup>**

Project	Initial Service Year	Number of Units	January Capacity (120-Hour Peak MW) <sup>(2)</sup>	Maximum Energy (aMW) <sup>(3)</sup>	Median Energy (aMW) <sup>(4)</sup>	Firm Energy (aMW) <sup>(5)</sup>
<b><u>United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) Hydro Projects</u></b>						
Grand Coulee including Pump Turbine	1941	33	5,121	2,856	2,439	1,924
Hungry Horse	1952	4	319	123	89	76
Other Reclamation Projects <sup>(6)</sup>		<u>19</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>170</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>121</u>
<b>1. Total Reclamation Projects</b>		<b>56</b>	<b>5,472</b>	<b>3,149</b>	<b>2,678</b>	<b>2,121</b>
<b><u>United States Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) Hydro Projects</u></b>						
Chief Joseph	1955	27	2,374	1,561	1,361	1,101
John Day	1968	16	2,295	1,396	1,083	786
The Dalles w/o Fishway <sup>(7)</sup>	1957	24	1,830	1,031	823	601
Bonneville	1938	20	921	618	566	391
McNary	1953	14	1,036	617	594	478
Lower Granite	1975	6	737	419	288	174
Lower Monumental	1969	6	810	451	308	181
Little Goose	1970	6	859	420	283	179
Ice Harbor	1961	6	586	298	206	109
Libby	1975	5	483	258	231	192
Dworshak	1974	3	434	218	195	141
Other Corps Projects <sup>(8)</sup>		<u>20</u>	<u>204</u>	<u>279</u>	<u>257</u>	<u>214</u>
<b>2. Total Corps Projects</b>		<b>153</b>	<b>12,569</b>	<b>7,566</b>	<b>6,195</b>	<b>4,547</b>
<b>3. Idle Federal Capacity<sup>(9)</sup></b>			<b>(7,933)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>4. Total Reclamation and Corps Projects (line 1 + line 2 + line 3)</b>		<b>209</b>	<b>10,108</b>	<b>10,715</b>	<b>8,873</b>	<b>6,668</b>
<b><u>Non-Federally-Owned Projects</u></b>						
Other Non-Federal Hydro Projects <sup>(10)</sup>		8	37	62	47	43
Columbia Generating Station <sup>(11)</sup>	1984	1	1,120	916	916	916
Other Non-Federal Projects <sup>(12)</sup>		<u>8</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>60</u>
<b>5. Total Non-Federally-Owned Projects</b>		<b>17</b>	<b>1,157</b>	<b>1,038</b>	<b>1,023</b>	<b>1,019</b>
<b><u>Federal Contract Purchases</u></b>						
<b>6. Total Bonneville Contract Purchases<sup>(13)</sup></b>		<b>n/a</b>	<b>658</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>402</b>
<b><u>Total Federal System Resources</u></b>						
<b>7. Total Federal System Resources (line 4 + line 5 + line 6)</b>		<b>226</b>	<b>11,923</b>	<b>12,176</b>	<b>10,309</b>	<b>8,089</b>

Source: 2015 Pacific Northwest Loads and Resources Study, Bonneville, January 2016.

- 
- (1) Operating Year 2017 is August 1, 2016 through July 31, 2017. Any discrepancies in totals for figures portrayed in this table and the “2015 Pacific Northwest Loads and Resources Study” are due to rounding.
  - (2) January Capacity is megawatts of capacity (“MW”) and is measured by Bonneville as “January 120-Hour Peak MW Capacity,” which is the maximum generation to be produced under Low Water Flows in 20 six-hour periods (five days a week for four weeks) assuming a base case of high loads as experienced historically in the month of January. January is a benchmark month for the Federal System peaking capacity because of the potential for high peak loads during January due to cold winter weather. These January estimates are further reduced by Bonneville for estimated hydro maintenance and estimates of idle Federal System hydro capacity. See footnotes (3) and (9), below.
  - (3) Maximum energy capability is the estimated amount of hydroelectric energy to be produced using High Water Flows for energy in annual average megawatts (“aMW”). Bonneville’s hydro-regulation study incorporates measures prescribed by the NOAA Fisheries biological opinions relating to the Columbia River and tributaries and court-ordered operations; the Fish and Wildlife Service biological opinion for the Snake River and Columbia River dams; operations described in the Council’s Fish and Wildlife Program; and other fish mitigation measures. If and to the extent the effects of new biological opinions or other measures to protect fish and wildlife are different than those assumed in the 2015 Pacific Northwest Loads and Resources Study, such changes will be reflected in future hydro-regulation studies. See “—Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville’s Power Services—Fish and Wildlife—The Endangered Species Act.”
  - (4) Median energy capability is the estimated amount of hydro energy to be produced using Median Water Flows for energy, in aMW.
  - (5) Firm energy capability is the estimated amount of hydro energy to be produced using Low Water Flows/Critical Water for energy, in aMW.
  - (6) Other Reclamation Projects include: Anderson Ranch (1950), Black Canyon (1925), Boise Diversion (1908), Chandler (1956), Green Springs (1960), Minidoka (1909), Palisades (1957), and Roza (1958).
  - (7) The Dalles Dam complex also includes two units that generate energy in connection with a fishway at the dam. They produce approximately five megawatts of both peak capacity and energy. Bonneville does not receive the output of the fishway project and it is not included in this table.
  - (8) Other Corps Projects include: Albeni Falls (1955), Big Cliff (1954), Cougar (1964), Detroit (1953), Dexter (1955), Foster (1968), Green Peter (1967), Hills Creek (1962), Lookout Point (1954), and Lost Creek (1975). Some of these projects have less January capacity than annual energy due to the fact that they do not operate in January.
  - (9) The Federal System Hydroelectric Projects have more machine capacity from the generating units than fuel (river flows) available to operate all units on a continuous basis. “Idle Federal Capacity” is used for capacity only and estimates the amount by which the machine capacity exceeds the estimated capacity that would be available given the fuel availability (river flows) in a typical January.
  - (10) Other Non-Federal Hydro Projects include project capability from the following hydroelectric projects estimated by water conditions: Lewis County PUD’s Cowlitz Falls Project (1994), the Idaho Falls Power Bulb Turbine Projects (1982), the State of Idaho Department of Water Resources’ Clearwater Hydro (1998), Dworshak Small Hydro (2000), and Rocky Brook Hydro (1999) projects. Bonneville has acquired the output from the Idaho Falls Power Bulb Turbine Projects through September 30, 2021, and Bonneville has acquired the output from the Cowlitz Falls Project (1994) through June 30, 2032. If Bonneville’s contracts to purchase power from any of these projects are renewed, those projects will be included in future studies.
  - (11) Columbia Generating Station operates under a biennial maintenance and refueling schedule. Bonneville assumes that the Columbia Generating Station is expected to provide approximately 916 annual average megawatts in most refueling years and 1,075 annual average megawatts in non-refueling years. Columbia Generating Station is scheduled for refueling in Operating Year 2017 and, therefore, is expected to provide approximately 916 annual average megawatts in such operating year. This amount does not take into account any reductions in generation requested by Bonneville related to oversupply events. See “MATTERS RELATING TO POWER SERVICES AND TRANSMISSION SERVICES—Renewable Generation Development and Integration into the Federal Transmission System.”

- (12) Other Non-Federal Projects include project output from the following projects: shares of Foote Creek, LLC's Foote Creek I (1999), Foote Creek II (1999), and Foote Creek IV (2000) wind projects, a share of PacifiCorp Power Marketing/Florida Light and Power's Stateline wind project, Condon Wind Project, LLC's Condon wind project, NWW Wind Power's Klondike Phase I (2001) wind project, a share from NWW Wind Power's Klondike Phase III (2007), the output from the White Bluffs solar project (2002), and a share of the City of Ashland's solar project. Prior Pacific Northwest Loads and Resources Studies included a generation output purchase by Bonneville from the Wauna Cogeneration Project. The purchase expired March 31, 2016.
- (13) Federal Contract Purchases include contracts for power purchases, exchanges, and other non-federal transactions with entities (including from non-federal hydro projects) from both inside and outside the Region and from Canada. This also includes amounts of power returned from Slice customers for transmission line losses.

### **Bonneville's Power Trading Floor Activities**

Much of Bonneville's resource base is provided by hydroelectric facilities, the output of which is affected by weather conditions, streamflow, operating constraints, and other factors. In most years, Bonneville sells substantial amounts of seasonal surplus (secondary) energy in market-based transactions. In addition, other generation conditions and requirements generally may affect generation output. Thus, actual generation availability and output may vary hourly, daily, monthly, or seasonally. In addition, power loads fluctuate based on consumer usage, demands to maintain transmission system stability, and other factors. Loads and availability of generation from Bonneville's own resources can vary substantially and, on an operational basis during a year, actual power from Bonneville's own generating resources may not match its loads. In the near-term (prior to and during a fiscal year), Bonneville routinely produces probabilistic and discrete studies estimating potential surplus or deficits for specific future time periods. Based on these studies and specific marketing guidelines, Bonneville actively manages short-term surpluses and deficits through real-time and within-month forward sales and purchases and physical power options.

Bonneville believes that its revenues and expenses from market transactions are, and will be, subject to several key risks: (i) the availability of electric power supplies generally (including, among other sources, electricity supplied by natural-gas fired generators, wind generators, and other non-Federal System hydroelectric generators), (ii) the level and volatility of market prices for electric power in western North America, which affect the revenues Bonneville receives from discretionary sales of energy and the cost of necessary power purchases Bonneville may have to make to meet contracted loads, (iii) the level of Bonneville's load serving obligation, (iv) water conditions in the Columbia River basin, which determine the amount of hydroelectric power Bonneville has to sell and its economic value and the amount of power it has to purchase in order to meet its commitments, (v) changes in fish protection requirements, which could be the source of substantial additional expense to Bonneville and could further affect the amount and value of hydroelectric power from the Federal System, (vi) continued availability of the capability of existing generating resources, and (vii) operating costs, generally.

Bonneville has put in place risk management procedures, standards, and policies that it believes adequately mitigate risk from these activities. Nonetheless, Bonneville's exposure to operational variability means that Bonneville may in certain conditions have to incur substantial purchased power expense. See "BONNEVILLE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS—Position Management and Derivative Instrument Activities and Policies."

### **Regional Customers and Other Power Contract Parties of Bonneville's Power Services**

Bonneville's primary transacting counterparties are composed of several principal groups: Preference Customers, DSIs, Federal Agencies, Regional IOUs, and parties ("Market Counterparties") with which Bonneville has commercial power-related arrangements that are not derived or originally derived from Bonneville's statutory obligations. See "—Market Counterparties and Exports of Surplus Power to the Pacific Southwest." Under the Northwest Power Act, Bonneville has a statutory obligation to meet electric power loads in the Region that are placed on Bonneville by electric power utilities. See "—Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville's Power Services—Bonneville's Obligation to Meet Certain Firm Power Requirements in the Region."

### *Preference Customers*

Bonneville's primary customer base is composed of Preference Customers, which make long-term power purchases from Bonneville at cost-based rates to meet their native loads in the Region. Preference Customers are qualifying publicly-owned utilities and consumer-owned electric cooperatives within the Region, and they are entitled by law to a preference and priority ("Public Preference") in the purchase of available Federal System power for their load requirements in the Region. Such customers are eligible to purchase power at Bonneville's lowest cost rate, the PF Preference Rate, for most of their loads. Under Public Preference, Bonneville must meet a Preference Customer's request for available Federal System power in preference to a competing request from a non-Preference Customer. In the opinion of Bonneville's General Counsel, Public Preference does not compel Bonneville to lower the offered price of uncommitted surplus Bonneville power to Preference Customers before meeting a competing request at a higher price for such uncommitted power from a non-Preference Customer. Bonneville sells power to certain large Preference Customers under market-type contracts other than for their own load requirements.

For Operating Year 2017, Bonneville forecasts that it will meet approximately 6,816 annual average megawatts of Preference Customer loads.

### *Direct Service Industrial Customers*

Bonneville may sell, but is not required by federal law to sell, power to a limited number of DSIs within the Region for their direct consumption. Almost all of Bonneville's service to DSIs has been to aluminum smelting or processing facilities. Most of the aluminum industry in the Pacific Northwest has ceased to operate. Currently, Bonneville has long-term contracts to sell power at the IP Rate directly to two DSIs—Alcoa, Inc. "(Alcoa)" and Port Townsend Paper—in an aggregate amount of less than 100 annual average megawatts. For a 4½ month period that began in February 2016, Alcoa will reduce its purchases of power at the IP Rate from 75 average megawatts to ten average megawatts and will purchase 300 average megawatts of energy from Bonneville at a negotiated rate that is slightly higher than the spot market for energy. For the past several years the IP Rate has been, and Bonneville expects that it will continue to be, substantially higher than spot market prices for power.

In early May 2016, Bonneville and Alcoa entered into an additional amendment to the Alcoa power sales agreement. The amendment affects the terms of Bonneville's power sales to Alcoa from July 1, 2016 through February 14, 2018. Some of the features of the arrangement include: (i) a continuation of the reduced purchases of electric power by Alcoa at the IP Rate (Alcoa is currently purchasing 10 average annual megawatts at the IP Rate), (ii) the payment by Alcoa of \$1.5 million to Bonneville for the right to make direct market purchases of power other than from Bonneville in most months of the term of the amendment, and (iii) a commitment from Alcoa to purchase approximately 250 annual average megawatts of firm surplus power from Bonneville in certain spring months in Fiscal Year 2017 and to purchase 25 annual average megawatts of firm surplus power during all other months during which the amendment is in effect. These latter purchases will be at a negotiated rate that is slightly higher than the spot market for energy but would also enable Bonneville to interrupt service to Alcoa on short notice thereby providing system operating reserves to Bonneville.

### *Reclamation and Other Federal Agency Customers*

Bonneville is required by federal law to provide firm power to Reclamation for certain irrigation pumping stations. For Operating Year 2017, Bonneville forecasts that it will meet approximately 184 annual average megawatts of Reclamation loads. Bonneville is not required by federal law to meet the loads of other federal agencies but has long-term contracts to do so. For Operating Year 2017, Bonneville forecasts that it will meet approximately 118 annual average megawatts of the loads of federal agencies other than Reclamation. While Reclamation and the other federal agency customers do not qualify as Preference Customers, they are entitled to buy power from Bonneville at PF Preference Rates.

### *Regional Investor-Owned Utilities*

As required by the Northwest Power Act, Bonneville has offered, and four of the six Regional IOUs have agreed to, contracts under which Bonneville could serve Regional IOUs with electric power for their net requirements

(meaning a Regional IOU's loads in the Region which are not met by the Regional IOU with its own designated power supplies) beginning in Fiscal Year 2020 if such service is requested not later than the end of Fiscal Year 2016. At the end of Fiscal Year 2016, the Regional IOUs will elect whether or not to purchase requirements power for Fiscal Years 2020 through 2028. Any requirements power provided by Bonneville under these contracts would be priced at the "New Resources Rate." This rate would in effect reflect the marginal cost to Bonneville of acquiring power to meet the loads plus certain other costs. Bonneville believes that it is unlikely, unless circumstances change, that Regional IOUs will place substantial loads, if any, on Bonneville under the Regional IOU long-term requirements contracts because (i) there is no reason to expect that Bonneville's cost to meet such loads, as reflected in the New Resources Rate, would be significantly lower than the Regional IOUs' cost to meet such loads, (ii) the Regional IOUs are financially motivated to make investments in new generating facilities in order to obtain shareholder returns, (iii) most of the Regional IOUs have state-mandated renewable resource purchase obligations and would have to be assured that such obligations are addressed in any power purchases from Bonneville, (iv) the Regional IOUs would not be able to control directly the terms and costs of the new resources Bonneville would obtain to meet the loads, and (v) the New Resources Rate bears additional costs of statutory rate protection afforded to Preference Customers, thereby likely making the rate uneconomic compared to market alternatives.

Bonneville provides firm power to the Regional IOUs under contracts other than long-term firm requirements contracts. Bonneville also sells substantial amounts of peaking capacity to Regional IOUs. Power sales to Regional IOUs are distinct from Bonneville's contracts implementing the Residential Exchange Program, as provided by statute. The Residential Exchange Program obligations, described herein, result in payments by Bonneville to participating utilities. See "—Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville's Power Services—Residential Exchange Program."

#### *Market Counterparties and Exports of Surplus Power to the Pacific Southwest*

Bonneville has a large number of parties with which it has commercial power-related arrangements that are not based on Bonneville's statutory obligations (as in the case of statutory load-meeting obligations to Preference Customers and Regional IOUs, and payment obligations under the Residential Exchange Program) or on long-term relationships that are based on prior statutory obligations (as in the case of DSIs). These counterparties include utilities located outside the Region, power marketers, and independent power producers. Transactions with these counterparties include, but are not limited to, arrangements for the purchase, sale and/or exchange of power, transmission, and related services. Of the foregoing contracts, those that involve long-term commitments are referred to by Bonneville in its loads and resources forecasts as "Other Contract Deliveries." The commitments include power deliveries to entities outside the Region ("Exports") and to entities within the Region ("Intra-Regional Transfers (Out)"). The terms of these deliveries are specified by individual provisions and have various delivery arrangements and rate structures and Bonneville assumes in its load forecasts that such loads will be served by Federal System firm resources regardless of weather, water, or economic conditions. For Operating Year 2017, Bonneville forecasts that Other Contract Deliveries will be approximately 624 annual average megawatts.

Bonneville sells and exchanges power via the Pacific Northwest-Pacific Southwest Intertie (the "Southern Intertie") transmission lines to Pacific Southwest utilities, power marketers, the California Independent System Operator (CAISO), and other entities, which use most of such power to serve California loads. These sales and exchanges are composed of firm power and seasonal surplus (secondary) energy that are surplus to Bonneville's Regional requirements. Exports of Bonneville power for use outside the Pacific Northwest are subject to a statutory requirement that Bonneville offer such power for sale to Regional utilities to meet Regional loads before offering such power to a customer outside the Region. However, in the opinion of Bonneville's General Counsel, Bonneville is not required to reduce the rate of proposed export sales to meet a Regional customer's request if the proposed export sale is at a higher, FERC-approved rate than the Regional customer is willing to pay.

In addition, Bonneville's contracts for firm energy and peaking capacity sales outside the Region include, as required by the Regional Preference Act, recall provisions that enable Bonneville to terminate such sales, upon advance notice, if needed to meet Bonneville customers' power requirements in the Region. With certain limited exceptions, Bonneville's sales of Federal System power out of the Region are subject to termination on 60 days' notice in the case of energy and on 60 months' notice in the case of peaking capacity. These rights help Bonneville assure that the power needs of its Regional customers are met. Power exchange contracts are not required to contain the Regional recall provisions.

Pacific Southwest utilities typically account for a large share of purchases of seasonal surplus (secondary) energy from Bonneville and these transactions account for a large share of revenues from Bonneville’s Regional exports. The amount of seasonal surplus (secondary) energy that Bonneville has available to sell depends on precipitation and other power supply factors in the Northwest, the available transmission capacity of the Southern Intertie, the attributes of power markets across the Western Electricity Coordination Council (“WECC”), and other factors that may constrain exports notwithstanding the availability of power. There is ongoing litigation among Bonneville and parties from the Pacific Southwest arising out of the 1999-2001 West Coast power crisis. See “BONNEVILLE LITIGATION—Litigation and Related Administrative Disputes in Connection with the West Coast Power Crisis in 1999-2001.”

While Bonneville designs its power rates to recover its costs, it does so with an expectation that some revenue will be the result of surplus power sales at competitive pricing terms in the wholesale electricity marketplace. Revenues that Bonneville obtains from these surplus sales depend on market conditions and the resulting prices. These revenues are affected by the weather and other factors that affect demand in the Pacific Northwest and Southwest, and the cost and availability of alternatives to Bonneville’s power. The value of such surplus power sales is frequently dependent on other electric energy suppliers’ resource costs such as the cost of hydro-, coal-, oil- and natural gas-fired generation. Bonneville believes that if its power sales in the Region were to decline, any resulting surplus of power could be exported outside the Pacific Northwest. Such sales may be limited, however, by transmission capacity and other factors.

*Credit Risk*

Credit risk may be concentrated to the extent that one or more groups of counterparties, including purchasers and sellers, in power transactions with Bonneville have similar economic, industry, or other characteristics that would cause their ability to meet contractual obligations to be similarly affected by changes in market or other conditions. Credit risk includes not only the risk that a counterparty may default due to circumstances relating directly to it, but also the risk that a counterparty may default due to the circumstances that relate to other market participants that have a direct or indirect relationship with such a counterparty. Bonneville seeks to mitigate credit risk (and concentrations thereof) by applying specific eligibility criteria to prospective counterparties. Despite mitigation efforts, however, defaults by counterparties occur from time to time. To date, no such default has had a material adverse effect on Bonneville. Bonneville continues to actively monitor the creditworthiness of counterparties with whom it executes wholesale energy transactions and uses a variety of risk mitigation techniques to limit its exposure where it believes appropriate.

*Largest Power Services’ Customers*

The following table lists Power Services’ top ten largest customers in terms of their percentage contribution to Power Services’ overall sales revenue in Fiscal Year 2015. The table also reflects the applicable customer class of the related customer.

**Bonneville Power Services’ Ten Largest Customers By Sales<sup>(1)</sup>  
(Percentage of Aggregate Power Services’ Sales Revenue in Fiscal Year 2015)**

<b><u>Customer Name (Class)</u></b>	<b><u>Approximate % of Sales</u></b>
Snohomish County PUD No. 1 (Preference)	9%
Cowlitz County PUD No. 1 (Preference)	7%
City of Seattle, City Light Dep’t. (Preference)	7%
Pacific Northwest Generating Cooperative (Preference)	6%
Tacoma Power (Preference)	5%
Clark Public Utilities (Preference)	4%
Alcoa (DSI)	3%
Eugene Water & Electric Board (Preference)	3%
Benton County PUD No. 1 (Preference)	2%
Flathead Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Preference)	2%

- (1) Excludes inter-business line transactions between Power Services and Transmission Services. In support of its power marketing activities, Power Services obtains large amounts of transmission and related service from Transmission Services.

### **Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville's Power Services**

#### *Bonneville's Obligation to Meet Certain Firm Power Requirements in the Region*

The Northwest Power Act requires Bonneville to meet certain firm loads in the Region placed on Bonneville by contract by various Preference Customers and Regional IOUs. Bonneville believes it does not have a statutory obligation to meet all firm loads within the Region.

Under the Northwest Power Act, when requested, Bonneville must offer to sell to each eligible utility, which includes Preference Customers and Regional IOUs, sufficient power to meet that portion of the utility's Regional firm power loads that it requests Bonneville to meet. Bonneville refers to these loads as "net requirements." The extent of Bonneville's obligation to meet the firm loads of a requesting utility is determined by the amount by which the utility's firm power loads exceed (i) the capability of the utility's firm peaking capacity and energy resources used in Operating Year 1979 to serve its own loads, and (ii) such other resources as the utility determines, pursuant to its power sales contract with Bonneville, will be used to serve the utility's firm loads in the Region. If Bonneville has or expects to have inadequate power to meet all of its contractual obligations to its customers, certain statutory and contractual provisions allow for the allocation of available power.

As required by law, Bonneville's power sales contracts with Regional utilities contain provisions that require prior notice by the utility before it may use, or discontinue using, a generating resource to serve such utility's own firm loads in the Region. The amount of notice required depends on whether Bonneville has a firm power surplus and whether the Regional utility's generating resource is being added to serve or withdrawn from serving the utility's own firm load. These provisions are designed to give Bonneville advance notice of the need to obtain additional resources or take other steps to meet such load.

Some of Bonneville's Preference Customers and all of the Regional IOUs have generating resources, which they may use to meet their firm loads in the Region. Each of such customers has to identify the amount of its loads it would meet with its own resources, thereby providing Bonneville with advance notice of the need to add resources or take other steps to meet these loads. These provisions are included in the Long-Term Preference Contracts. The Long-Term Preference Contracts include provisions that enable Preference Customers to put additional net requirements load ("Tier 2 Loads") on Bonneville above a baseline level of loads ("Tier 1 Loads") reflective of loads placed on Bonneville prior to the commencement of power sales under Long-Term Preference Contracts.

Bonneville is also directed by federal law to provide electric power from the Federal System to Reclamation to operate 13 separate water pumping projects.

Bonneville provides firm power to two DSIs and to certain federal agencies (other than Reclamation) within the Region; however, Bonneville is not required by federal law to offer to meet these loads. Similarly, Bonneville provides, but is not required by federal law to provide, Federal System power to certain other customers under a variety of agreements that are not for such customers' requirements. These contracts are termed "Other Contract Deliveries" and they include power deliveries to entities outside the Region ("Exports") and to entities within the Region ("Intra-Regional Transfers (Out)").

Long-Term Preference Contracts, Federal Agency Sales, and Related Power Products. Bonneville currently provides two primary types of power service under the Long-Term Preference Contracts and its sales agreements with federal agencies: (i) Load Following service, and (ii) Slice/Block service, which is an integrated power product combining Slice of the System (or "Slice") and Block power. Under Load Following service, Bonneville provides the actual power requirements of the related customer (this is also known as "Full Requirements" product). Under Slice/Block, Bonneville commits to provide a Slice product under which the purchaser receives a proportionate share of the actual output of the Federal System as generated, and a "Block"

product under which the customer receives fixed amounts of power at designated times. (One Preference Customer purchases a Block-only product from Bonneville in the amount of approximately 23 annual average megawatts.)

Over 100 Preference Customers and all of Bonneville's nine federal agency customers purchase Load Following service and for Operating Year 2017 Bonneville forecasts that these loads will be approximately 3,460 annual average megawatts. By contrast, sixteen separate Preference Customers purchase on a Slice/Block basis. For Operating Year 2017, Bonneville forecasts that its Slice/Block loads will be approximately 3,635 annual average megawatts in total, approximately half of which is expected to be for the Block portion and approximately half of which is expected to be for the Slice portion. For reference, the Slice portion of Slice/Block service represents approximately 26.6 percent of a contractually-established measure of the output of the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects, the Columbia Generating Station, certain other non-federally-owned generation projects, and the electric power available to Bonneville after netting receipts and deliveries of power under certain long-term power transactions. The foregoing load forecasts reflect an attempt to predict actual loads that will be met under the specified type of service, which loads vary with weather, economic and other conditions.

Bonneville provides all of the foregoing power products at PF Preference Rates, although the particular rate features, levels and determinants vary depending on the power product. All of the Long-Term Preference Contracts and the federal agency power sales subject the customers to a payment commitment under which they are required to pay for power that is tendered by Bonneville in conformity with the applicable power sales contract. For Slice, the customers pay a fixed percentage of the costs of the Federal System generation without regard to the amount of power actually generated. In either case, if a customer's net requirements decline, the customer's purchase obligation from Bonneville is reduced commensurately. For Slice/Block, the customers' obligations and rights to purchase power are similarly capped by their net requirements. If their net requirements decline, the Block portion is reduced first.

On May 31, 2016, four Preference Customers notified Bonneville of their intent to exercise certain rights to change the type of power product they will purchase from Bonneville under their Long-Term Preference Contracts in the eight fiscal years beginning with Fiscal Year 2020. All four customers intend to cease purchasing the Slice product and purchase other power products: two intend to begin purchasing a Block product, one intends to begin purchasing a Block product with certain load shaping features, and one intends to begin purchasing a Load Following product.

The net effect of these expected changes is that by Fiscal Year 2020: (i) the aggregate amount of Slice that Bonneville will sell will decline to 21.8 percent of the system (currently the amount is 26.6 percent), (ii) Block sales will increase by approximately 565 annual average megawatts, and (iii) Load Following sales will increase by 115 annual average megawatts. Bonneville has concluded that there will be no adverse financial impact to it from the proposed changes.

On June 15, 2016, Bonneville informed the four customers if any charge would be made to them for the proposed product change. The customers have until mid-July to make a final determination whether to change power products. Two of the customers have also requested that Bonneville consider a proposal to allow them to convert early beginning in Fiscal Year 2018 instead of Fiscal Year 2020. Bonneville will conduct a public process this summer to evaluate the requests for accelerated conversion.

Tiered Rates for Long-Term Preference Contracts. Prior to Fiscal Year 2012, when Bonneville augmented Federal System resources with market purchases or other generating resources, the costs of these typically more expensive purchases were, in general, melded with the Federal System's low, embedded-cost power, creating integrated power rates that masked both the real value of then-existing Federal System power and the incremental costs of meeting load growth. This cost-melding effect created incentives for Preference Customers to place incremental load growth on Bonneville and exposed Bonneville to certain associated risks relating to obtaining electric power to meet the incremental loads. Under the Long-Term Preference Contracts, Bonneville employs PF Preference Rates that are "tiered" so that power that Bonneville sells to meet the incremental Preference Customer loads above a baseline level of loads is provided at rates that directly and exclusively recover the associated costs that Bonneville bears in meeting such incremental loads. The Long-Term Preference Contracts involve two tiers of power rates, which Bonneville expects to establish biennially in all but the final three years of Long-Term Preference Contracts: "Tier 1 PF Rates" and "Tier 2 PF Rates."

Tier 1 PF Loads and Tier 1 PF Rates. Preference Customers (and federal agencies) purchase a limited amount of power at Tier 1 PF Rates, which rates in general reflect the historically embedded costs of power from the Federal System. A customer's right to purchase power at Tier 1 PF Rates is capped in general at an amount equal to the net requirement loads it placed on Bonneville in Operating Year 2010 (with certain possible adjustments) ("Tier 1 Loads"), thus, the aggregate amount of power that can be purchased at Tier 1 PF Rates in general reflects the generating output of the Federal System in Fiscal Year 2010 (updated with each rate period to reflect changed Federal System generation expectations). The aggregate amount of power loads to be served at Tier 1 PF Rates has been estimated at 6,886 annual average megawatts for Fiscal Year 2017.

If and to the extent that the existing Federal System resources (including the Columbia Generating Station) whose costs are allocated for recovery in Tier 1 PF Rates were to decline in capability, Tier 1 PF Rates would nonetheless continue to recover the costs of the related resources. The amount of power that Bonneville would be obligated to sell at Tier 1 PF Rates would also decline commensurate with the reduction in resource capability although the reduction in obligation to sell at Tier 1 PF Rates would not occur until the rate period following the rate period in which the resource capability reduction occurred.

The aggregate amount of power available to be purchased at Tier 1 PF Rates may also be expanded in certain limited circumstances: (i) up to 70 annual average megawatts for a potential sale to DOE, and (ii) up to 250 annual average megawatts in aggregate, if necessary, for new Preference Customers and load growth of certain Indian tribe customers. Bonneville has had inquiries from some interested parties about becoming new Preference Customers; however, Bonneville cannot predict whether potential qualifying utilities will form, commence operation, or become Preference Customers, or the amount of power they will purchase from Bonneville at Tier 1 PF Rates.

Bonneville has adopted a "Tiered Rates Methodology" that defines the costs that are and will be allocated to Tier 1 PF Rates, including but not limited to: the costs assigned to power rates for the Net Billed Projects (some Net Billed Project debt service costs are assigned to be recovered in Transmission Services rates), Federal System fish and wildlife costs, electric power conservation programs, power benefits (if any) to be provided to DSIs, and Residential Exchange Program benefits. Under the Tiered Rates Methodology, most of the benefits of seasonal surplus (secondary) energy from the Federal System are provided to Preference Customers in Tier 1 PF Rates. In the case of Slice, the related customers receive a proportionate share of Federal System seasonal surplus (secondary) to use for native loads (or to market in the case of a small portion of Slice which is a non-requirements product). The revenue benefits that Bonneville receives from its own marketing of seasonal surplus (secondary) are allocated to non-Slice Tier 1 PF Rates (primarily, to rates for Block and Load Following power products).

Tier 2 PF Rates and Tier 2 Loads. In contrast to Tier 1, "Tier 2 Loads" are loads that a customer places on Bonneville that are incremental to the customer's right to purchase at Tier 1 PF Rates. Under the Tiered Rates Methodology, Tier 2 PF Rates recover only the cost to Bonneville of meeting Tier 2 Loads for Preference Customers that elect to purchase power from Bonneville to meet Tier 2 Loads. Such purchases are integrated with purchases of power for Tier 1 Loads into a single power purchase, although the purchase of power from Bonneville for Tier 2 Loads is made on a take-or-pay basis for the specified amount of power.

Bonneville provides several approaches for Preference Customers to define the extent, if any, to which Bonneville will meet their Tier 2 Loads. Bonneville provides the customers the ability to rely entirely on Bonneville to meet all such loads throughout the entire term of the contracts. Bonneville also allows the customers to rely on Bonneville, with specified notice to Bonneville, to meet all or a portion of their Tier 2 Loads for defined multi-year periods through the term of the agreements. Under this approach, a participating Preference Customer may require Bonneville to meet none, all, or designated portions of the customer's Tier 2 Loads. In addition, Bonneville allows customers to make all or portions of their Tier 2 purchases from specified resources or resource pools obtained by Bonneville. This is expected to assist such customers in meeting renewable resource or other requirements or goals.

Bonneville is obligated to meet approximately 65 annual average megawatts of Tier 2 Loads in Fiscal Year 2016 and 72 annual average megawatts in Fiscal Year 2017. In Fiscal Year 2014 and Fiscal Year 2015, Tier 2 Loads were 18 annual average megawatts and 75 annual average megawatts, respectively. As required under the Long-Term Preference Contracts, those customers requesting that Bonneville meet their Tier 2 Loads through Fiscal Year 2019 have made their elections. However, the aggregate amount of Tier 2 Loads that Bonneville will be obligated to meet in Fiscal Years 2018 through 2019 will not be finally determined until just prior to the beginning of the power

rate proceeding for those years. Similar Tier 2 elections and advance notice to Bonneville are required in the five fiscal years beginning with Fiscal Year 2020, and the four fiscal years beginning with Fiscal Year 2025.

Comparison of Tier 1 PF Rates and Tier 2 PF Rates. Through the 2018-2019 Rate Period, Bonneville expects that Tier 1 PF Rates will be lower than Tier 2 PF Rates because the embedded cost structure for power from the existing Federal System (in general, as of the time of the commencement of power sales under the Long-Term Preference Contracts, which costs are and will be allocated for recovery in Tier 1 PF Rates) will likely be lower than the cost of new resources obtained to meet Tier 2 Loads and allocated for recovery in Tier 2 PF Rates. However, given low market prices for electric power and potential Tier 2 Load growth, it is possible that Tier 2 PF Rates could be lower than Tier 1 PF Rates starting in Fiscal Year 2020. During the 2014-2015 Rate Period, average Tier 2 PF Rates were \$39.86 per megawatt hour and average Tier 1 PF Rates were \$31.50 per megawatt hour. Under the Final 2016-2017 Rates, average Tier 2 PF Rates are approximately \$43.09 per megawatt hour and average Tier 1 PF Rates are approximately \$33.75 per megawatt hour.

Federal System Load/Resource Balance. In order to determine whether Bonneville will have to obtain additional electric power resources on a planning basis, and to determine the amount of firm power that Bonneville may have to market apart from committed loads, Bonneville periodically estimates the amount of load that it will be required to meet under its contracts and compares that to expected generating resources and other supply arrangements.

With the adoption in early calendar year 2016 of Bonneville's 2015 Loads and Resources Study, Bonneville projected that it would have small planning energy surpluses of approximately 16 annual average megawatts in Operating Year 2017, 102 annual average megawatts in Operating Year 2018, and seven annual average megawatts in Operating Year 2020, assuming Low Water Flows/Critical Water and transmission line losses. Under similar assumptions, the long-term Bonneville surplus/deficit forecast shows an energy deficit of approximately 93 annual average megawatts in Operating Year 2019. Between Operating Years 2021 and 2026, Bonneville forecasts annual planning deficits that vary between 116 annual average megawatts (in Operating Year 2022) and 298 annual average megawatts (in Operating Year 2025). In Bonneville's opinion, the foregoing deficits do not present significant planning deficits given the size of the Federal System and the availability of various measures to meet such a planning deficit. Bonneville expects that it would be able to meet such a planning deficit with seasonal surplus (secondary) energy from the Federal System, market purchases, and/or other actions. The foregoing load/resource balance forecast takes into account, among other items (i) forecasts of Federal System generation together with power from purchases, exchanges and other agreements, (ii) forecasts of savings from electric power conservation measures, and (iii) forecasts of the loads of Preference Customers, DSIs, Reclamation, federal agencies other than Reclamation, and contract commitments arising under Other Contract Deliveries.

Bonneville's loads and resources are subject to a number of uncertainties over the coming years. Among these uncertainties are (i) the level of loads and types of loads placed on Bonneville under the provisions of the Northwest Power Act, (ii) the amount of power purchases, resource acquisitions, and other arrangements that Bonneville will have to make to meet contracted loads, (iii) future non-power operating requirements from future biological opinions or amendments to biological opinions, (iv) the availability of existing generation resources, (v) the availability of new generation resources or contract purchases available in the Pacific Northwest to meet future Regional loads, (vi) changes in the regulation of power markets at the wholesale and retail level, (vii) the overall load growth from population changes and economic activity within the Region, and (viii) evolving transmission system needs to provide ancillary services.

Bonneville's Authority to Add Resources. In order to meet load obligations, Bonneville may have to obtain electric power from sources in addition to the existing Federal System Hydroelectric Projects and existing non-federally-owned generating projects, the output of which Bonneville has acquired by contract. By law, Bonneville may not own or construct generating facilities. However, the Northwest Power Act authorizes Bonneville to acquire "resources" to serve firm loads pursuant to certain procedures and standards set forth in the Northwest Power Act. "Resources" are defined in the Northwest Power Act to mean: (i) electric power, including the actual or planned electric power capability of generating facilities; or (ii) the actual or planned load reduction resulting from direct application of a renewable resource by a consumer, or from conservation measures. "Conservation" is defined in the Northwest Power Act to mean measures to reduce electric power consumption as a result of increased efficiency of energy use, production, or distribution.

Bonneville's statutory responsibility to meet its firm power contractual obligations has led and is expected to lead Bonneville to acquire conservation resources and has led and may in the future lead Bonneville to acquire generation resources. The extent to which Bonneville does so will depend on the effects of electric power markets, power sales contract terms, load growth, and other factors.

The acquisition of resources under the standards and procedures of the Northwest Power Act, however, is not the sole method by which Bonneville may meet its power requirements. Other methods are available. These include, but are not limited to: (i) exchange of surplus Bonneville peaking capacity for firm energy; (ii) receipt of additional power from improvements at federally- and non-federally-owned generating facilities; and (iii) purchase of power under the Transmission System Act for periods of less than five years.

Bonneville's resource acquisitions under the Northwest Power Act are guided by a Regional conservation and electric power plan (the "Power Plan") prepared by the Northwest Power and Conservation Council (the "Council"). The governors of the states of Washington, Oregon, Montana, and Idaho each appoint two members to the Council, which is charged under the Northwest Power Act with developing and periodically amending a long range power plan to help guide energy and conservation development in the Region. The Power Plan sets forth guidance for Bonneville regarding conservation and developing generating resources to meet Bonneville's Regional load obligations. It addresses risks and uncertainties for the Region's electricity future and seeks a resource strategy that minimizes the expected cost of the Regional power system over the ensuing 20 years. The Power Plan is revised by the Council approximately every five years. The Council also develops and periodically amends the Council's Fish and Wildlife Program for the Region. See "—Fish and Wildlife—Council's Fish and Wildlife Program."

In early calendar year 2016, the Council released its Seventh Northwest Conservation and Electric Power Plan (the "Seventh Power Plan"), which looks forward over a 20-year horizon and includes a six-year action plan for utilities and other parties in the Region, including Bonneville. In general, the Seventh Power Plan maintains an emphasis on relying on energy efficiency as the highest priority for meeting future Regional power needs. Over the term of the six-year action plan, the Council indicated that the acquisition of energy efficiency will be sufficient to meet Regional power demands in more than 90 percent of the scenarios the Council employed in preparing the Seventh Power Plan. The Seventh Power Plan's second priority is to develop the capability to deploy demand response resources or rely on increased market imports to meet future system capacity needs under critical water and weather conditions. Demand response resources are equipment, techniques and arrangements that reduce consumer demand during times of peak loads. The Council believes that these resources "are best-suited to meet" system capacity needs. After energy efficiency and demand response, the Seventh Power Plan identifies new natural gas-fired generation as the most cost-effective resource option for the Region in the near-term. The Seventh Power Plan does not foresee renewable resource development as necessary beyond the approximately 100 to 150 annual average megawatts of energy expected to be achieved through existing state resource portfolio standards.

Bonneville has historically used public power's share of the Council's Regional energy efficiency goal as the basis for Bonneville energy efficiency program. The Seventh Power Plan includes a Regional goal of 1,400 annual average megawatts of energy savings through 2021. Bonneville will adopt a significant share of the Regional goal following a public process with Preference Customers and other interested parties, including the Council. For reference, the public power share of the Council's Sixth Power Plan's energy savings target was 504 annual average megawatts over five years. Bonneville and the Preference Customers exceeded this goal by almost 100 annual average megawatts. Consistent with the Council's analysis, achieving the Council's energy efficiency goal helps Bonneville and other utilities in the Region manage future Regional load-growth, minimizes reliance on development of other carbon-emitting resources to meet future demand, and will help address future Regional peaking capacity needs. See "—Bonneville's Resource Program and Bonneville's Resource Strategies."

Bonneville's Resource Program and Bonneville's Resource Strategies. Bonneville's long-range resource planning involves the evaluation of whether Bonneville may need to acquire resources to meet its power supply obligations and the best means by which to meet those needs. Bonneville periodically analyzes its needs for annual energy as well as monthly/seasonal heavy load hour energy, capacity in extreme weather events, and hourly balancing reserves which inform Bonneville's Resource Program. Bonneville expects to update the Resource Program roughly every two to three years.

Bonneville's most recent Resource Program, which was published in Fiscal Year 2013 (the "2013 Resource Program"), concluded that Bonneville can satisfy much of its expected supply obligations with electric power conservation and short-term power purchases from wholesale power markets.

Bonneville began preparing a new Resource Program (the "2016 Resource Program") to determine how Bonneville will approach meeting its expected supply obligations for Fiscal Year 2016 through Fiscal Year 2024 to be based on a recently completed ten-year needs assessment study included as part of Bonneville's 2015 Loads and Resources Study. The assessment focused specifically on expected supply obligation needs and indicates that there has been a reduction in the winter peaking capacity needs that Bonneville identified in connection with the 2013 Resource Program. Work on the 2016 Resource Program has been delayed indefinitely until at least following the conclusion of an ongoing public process with Preference Customers and other interested parties, including the Council.

*Short-Term Power Purchases.* Under the Long-Term Preference Contracts, customers may meet their own incremental loads or turn to Bonneville to meet such loads. To meet potential new loads, and consistent with the Resource Program, Bonneville believes that, in general, new sources of power should have fixed costs that can be recovered over a shorter period, should provide power in the times of the year when power is required, should be capable of being displaced when hydroelectric power is available, and should have costs that can be offset when hydroelectric power is available. Short-term purchases are the one type of resource that meets incremental load obligations without incurring long-term fixed costs.

One risk associated with a short-term purchase strategy is the potential for high spot market prices. In general, spot market prices are high when energy demand is strong and coal and natural gas prices are high, although such prices can also rise in low water years when there is comparatively little hydroelectric power available. Since Bonneville's resources are predominantly hydro-based while most other West Coast producers are coal- or natural gas-based, Bonneville in general is at a competitive advantage when coal and gas prices are high.

A short-term purchase strategy can lead to fluctuating revenues and/or revenue requirements. In low water years, Bonneville's revenue requirements could increase as it could be forced to spend a significant amount of money for short-term purchases to meet loads, to the extent that Bonneville had not previously purchased power. In high water years, purchase requirements can be significantly reduced as Bonneville would be able to meet more of its loads with seasonal surplus (secondary) hydroelectric power.

In contrast to a reliance on long-term generating resource acquisitions, a short-term purchase strategy should reduce the possibility that Bonneville would over-commit to long-term purchases and be forced to sell consequent surpluses at low prices in the market. Nonetheless, it is still possible, even with a short-term purchase strategy, that Bonneville could purchase more energy than needed and have to sell consequent surpluses at low prices. Dependence on short-term purchases also may make access to transmission a more important issue than reliability of generation. Bonneville uses a short-term energy purchase approach in meeting Tier 2 Loads.

*Electric Power Conservation.* Bonneville has conservation programs intended to encourage the development of electric power conservation measures in the Region. Electric power conservation can reduce the demand for Bonneville to meet electric power loads.

*Renewable Energy.* Bonneville presently purchases a total of approximately 60 annual average megawatts from various wind energy projects in Wyoming, Oregon, and Washington and small amounts of power from a solar photovoltaic project. Bonneville also has contracted to purchase 49.9 megawatts from a geothermal project. This project has not been built. It was originally scheduled to become operational in December 2005, but it is not clear yet whether the site is a viable geothermal resource and the project site is the subject of on-going environmental litigation. Bonneville's expectation of the earliest date for commercial operation has been extended beyond October 1, 2018.

#### *Residential Exchange Program*

The Northwest Power Act created the Residential Exchange Program to extend the benefits of low-cost federal power to certain residential and farm power users in the Region. In effect, the program results in cash payments by

Bonneville to exchanging utilities, which are required to pass the benefit of the cash payments through, in their entirety, to eligible residential and farm customers.

Under the Residential Exchange Program, Bonneville is to “purchase” power offered by an exchanging utility at its “average system cost,” which is determined by Bonneville through the application of a methodology defining the costs that may be included in an exchanging utility’s average system cost as the production, transmission, and general costs that an exchanging utility incurs for power. Bonneville is then to offer an identical amount of power for “sale” to the utility for the purpose of “resale” to the exchanging utility’s residential users. In reality, no power changes hands. Rather, Bonneville makes cash payments to each exchanging utility in an amount determined by multiplying the utility’s eligible residential load by the difference between the utility’s average system cost and Bonneville’s applicable Priority Firm Exchange Rate (which is a version of the PF Preference Rate adjusted for the costs of statutory rate protection afforded to Preference Customers), if such rate is lower.

Bonneville’s Preference Customers and all six Regional IOUs currently operate under the “2012 Residential Exchange Program Settlement.” The settlement fixes the amount of aggregate program benefits for the Regional IOUs from Fiscal Year 2012 through Fiscal Year 2028. As part of the settlement, the schedule of aggregate program benefits for the Regional IOUs began at \$259 million in each of Fiscal Years 2012 and 2013, and increases over time to \$286 million in Fiscal Year 2028.

The settlement also provides remuneration to Preference Customers for past adverse power rate effects caused by the past overpayments of Residential Exchange benefits to the Regional IOUs. Bonneville recoups the value of the past overpayments from the Regional IOUs by deducting from their calculated Residential Exchange Program benefits approximately \$77 million in aggregate per fiscal year. These offsetting reductions (in effect since Fiscal Year 2012 and continuing through Fiscal Year 2019) are referred to by Bonneville as “Refund Amounts.” Under the settlement, actual aggregate cash payments to the Regional IOUs are set at approximately \$214.5 million per year in aggregate during the 2016-2017 Rate Period (current-year Residential Exchange Program benefits of approximately \$291.5 million less deductions for annual Refund Amounts in the amount of approximately \$77 million). Bonneville provides the value of the annual Refund Amounts directly to Preference Customers in the form of cash payments or credits on their power bills from Bonneville. As of the end of Fiscal Year 2015, the aggregate overpayment of Residential Exchange Program benefits that have not yet been recouped by Bonneville (and conveyed to Preference Customers) was approximately \$306 million.

#### *Fish and Wildlife*

General. The Northwest Power Act directs Bonneville to protect, mitigate, and enhance fish and wildlife resources to the extent they are affected by the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects which are located on the Columbia River and its tributaries. Bonneville makes expenditures and incurs other costs for fish and wildlife in a manner consistent with the Northwest Power Act and the Council’s Fish and Wildlife Program. See “—Council’s Fish and Wildlife Program.” In addition, in the wake of certain listings of fish species under the ESA as threatened or endangered, Bonneville is financially responsible for expenditures and other costs arising from compliance with the ESA and certain biological opinions prepared by NOAA Fisheries and the Fish and Wildlife Service in furtherance of the ESA.

Bonneville typically funds fish and wildlife mitigation through several mechanisms. Since the creation of the Federal System, Bonneville has repaid the United States Treasury the share of the costs of mitigation by the Corps and Reclamation that is allocated by law or pursuant to policies, promulgated by FERC’s predecessor, to the Federal System projects’ power purpose (as opposed to other project purposes such as irrigation, navigation, and flood control).

Bonneville also funds measures recommended by the Council to implement the Council’s Fish and Wildlife Program. The Council’s Fish and Wildlife Program calls for a variety of mitigation measures from habitat protection to main-stem Columbia River and Snake River operations for fish. When such measures require Bonneville to purchase power to fulfill contractual demands or to spill water and thereby forgo generation of electricity, for instance, those financial losses are counted as a cost of the measures borne by Bonneville. While many of the measures in the Council’s Fish and Wildlife Program are integrated with and form a substantial portion of the measures undertaken by Bonneville in connection with the ESA, the Council’s Fish and Wildlife Program

measures, especially those designed to benefit species not listed under the ESA, are in addition to ESA-directed measures. See “—Council’s Fish and Wildlife Program.”

Bonneville’s fish and wildlife costs fall into two main categories, “Direct Costs” and “Operational Impacts.” Direct Costs include: (i) “Integrated Program Costs,” which are the costs to Bonneville of implementing projects in support of the Council’s Fish and Wildlife Program, and which include expenses for ESA-related and some non-ESA-related measures that are located at sites away from the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects; (ii) “Expenses for Recovery of Capital,” which include depreciation, amortization and interest expenses for fish and wildlife capital investments by the Corps (Columbia River Fish Mitigation), Reclamation, and Bonneville; and (iii) “Other Entities’ O&M,” which include fish and wildlife O&M costs of the Fish and Wildlife Service for certain fish hatcheries and of the Corps and Reclamation for Federal System projects. Columbia River Fish Mitigation is described in “—The Endangered Species Act.”

“Operational Impacts” include “Replacement Power Purchase Costs” and “Foregone Power Revenues.” Replacement Power Purchase Costs are the costs of certain power purchases made by Bonneville that are attributable to river operations in aid of fish and wildlife. To determine these costs in a given year, Bonneville compares the actual hydroelectric generation in such year against the hydroelectric generation that would have been produced had the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects been operated without any operating constraints due to fish and wildlife protection. To the extent that this comparison indicates that Bonneville made a power purchase to meet load, which purchase Bonneville would not have had to make had the river been operated without the constraints identified for fish, Bonneville accounts for such value as a fish and wildlife cost. “Foregone Power Revenues” are revenues that would have been earned absent changes in hydroelectric system operations attributable to fish and wildlife measures. The following table shows Bonneville’s Fish and Wildlife costs by category for Fiscal Years 2013 through 2015.

**Fish and Wildlife Financial Impacts by Type  
(Fiscal Years 2013-2015, dollars in millions)**

	2015	2014	2013
<b>Direct Costs</b>	\$ 494	\$ 464	\$ 461
<b>Estimated Operational Impacts<sup>1</sup>:</b>			
<b>Replacement Power purchases</b>	67	196	86
<b>Foregone Power Revenues</b>	196	123	135
<b>Total Fish and Wildlife</b>	<b>\$ 757</b>	<b>\$ 783</b>	<b>\$ 682</b>

(1) Unaudited metric that is not in accordance with GAAP.

The variations in Direct Costs from year to year are the result of changes in reimbursable/direct-funded projects and fixed expenses. The variations in Replacement Power and Foregone Power Revenues are the result of changes in prices due to energy market conditions and differences in monthly hydro generation shape.

The Endangered Species Act. Operation of the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects by the Action Agencies is subject to the ESA. To a great extent, compliance with the ESA determines how the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects are operated for fish and drives much of the fish planning and activities. The ESA listings and resulting biological opinions have resulted in major changes in the operation of the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects, including a substantial loss of flexibility to operate the Federal System for power generation. Apart from changes in Federal System Hydroelectric Project operations that affect power generation, compliance with the ESA has also resulted in additional costs borne by Bonneville in the form of non-operational measures funded from Bonneville revenues.

Among other things, the ESA requires that federal agencies such as the Action Agencies ensure their actions are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of listed species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat. Since 1991, over a dozen anadromous and other marine species (including multiple

stocks of salmon and steelhead, southern resident killer whales, North American green sturgeon, and eulachon) and two species of resident fish (bull trout and Kootenai River white sturgeon) that are affected by operation of the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects have been listed as threatened or endangered under the ESA. It is possible that other species may be listed or proposed for listing in the future. In general, the effect of the listing of the fish species under the ESA, and certain other operating requirements resulting from Bonneville's fish and wildlife obligations under the Northwest Power Act, is that, except in emergencies, the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects on the Columbia and Snake Rivers are now operated for power production only after meeting needs for flood control and the protection of ESA-listed fish.

In connection with the listing of these species, NOAA Fisheries has prepared certain "biological opinions" addressing Federal System Hydroelectric Project operations with respect to the listed anadromous salmonid species, and the Fish and Wildlife Service has developed biological opinions with respect to the listed resident fish species. These biological opinions provide information that the Action Agencies use to ensure that their actions with respect to the operation of the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects comply with the ESA. By operating the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects consistently with the biological opinions, the Action Agencies demonstrate that operation of the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects is not likely to jeopardize listed species or destroy or adversely modify designated critical habitat.

As described herein, the Action Agencies' compliance with the ESA in operating the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects has been the subject of litigation and judicial review and has resulted in court orders remanding biological opinions, including NOAA Fisheries' most recent biological opinion for the Columbia and Snake Rivers, the 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion. See "CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO BONNEVILLE—Developments Relating to the Endangered Species Act."

Operation of the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects consistent with the ESA has resulted in two principal changes in power generation. First, depending on water conditions, water that would otherwise run through turbines to generate electricity may be spilled to aid in downstream fish migration. Second, less water may be stored in the upstream reservoirs for fall and winter electric generation because more water is committed to use in the spring and summer to increase flows to aid downstream fish migration. Consequently, there is relatively less water available for hydroelectric generation in the fall and winter and more water available in the spring and summer. Because of these limitations, under certain water conditions, Bonneville has purchased and will purchase additional energy for the fall and winter to meet load commitments that would otherwise have been met with electric power from the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects. In addition, the flow changes have reduced the surplus energy Bonneville has available to market in the spring and summer. Bonneville estimates that the impact of operating the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects in conformance with the biological opinions and the Council's Fish and Wildlife Program, as in effect as of the beginning of Fiscal Year 2000, decreased Federal System hydroelectric generation capability by approximately 1,000 annual average megawatts, assuming average water conditions, from levels immediately preceding the issuance of the NOAA Fisheries biological opinion in 1995. The consequences of this and similar ESA-related decrements in generation are reflected in the Replacement Power Purchase Costs and Foregone Power Revenues. See "—Fish and Wildlife—General" immediately above.

These ESA listings and related actions to protect listed species and their habitat have resulted in substantial cost increases to Bonneville. Prior to the initial ESA listings, Bonneville's annual fish and wildlife mitigation costs increased from approximately \$20 million in Fiscal Year 1981 to \$150 million in Fiscal Year 1991. After the issuance of the first biological opinion affecting operations of the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects, Bonneville's fish and wildlife costs, inclusive of Direct Costs and Operational Impacts, rose to \$399 million in Fiscal Year 1995. Annual fish and wildlife costs borne by Bonneville in recent fiscal years are described immediately above in "—Fish and Wildlife—General." Actions under the ESA affect other costs that Bonneville bears, including mitigation activities such as hatchery programs, which costs are included in the Council's Fish and Wildlife Program, are discussed below. Bonneville is also providing funding under the Columbia Basin Fish Accords agreements entered into with certain tribes and the states of Idaho, Montana, and Washington. See "—the Columbia Basin Fish Accords," below.

*Description of the 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion.* As noted herein, litigation challenging the 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion has resulted in a determination by the Oregon Federal District Court that it does not meet the requirements of the ESA. See

“CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO BONNEVILLE—Developments Relating to the Endangered Species Act.” The Oregon Federal District Court has directed that the Corps and Reclamation continue to implement the 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion until a new biological opinion is issued.

The 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion reviewed the status of the related species and new science on topics related to the biological opinion, scrutinized the detail provided by the Action Agencies on specific mitigation measures and analyzed the scientific support for those measures, and evaluated whether more aggressive actions were necessary to meet the standards under the ESA.

The 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion also includes continued implementation of a wide range of measures (over 70 mitigation actions), initially included in the 2008 Columbia River System Biological Opinion. These measures include improvements in downstream juvenile passage survival to achieve performance standards, including structural modifications to Federal System dams as well as spill and other operations that are timed to the needs of individual listed fish species, an expanded habitat program, an expanded predation-management program, a timetable for site-specific fish hatchery consultations and reforms, and extensive research, monitoring, and evaluation to support adaptive management.

The 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion also identifies contingent actions that would be implemented, as appropriate, in the event of the occurrence of certain triggering events evidencing biological decline of the ESA-listed species. These contingent actions include actions that could be implemented in less than a year. These short-term contingent actions include hydro-operations actions such as spill beyond that required to meet hydro-system dam fish passage survival performance standards, fish transportation modifications, fish hatchery operations, fish predator management and fish harvest restrictions.

The potential longer-term contingent actions that would take more than one year to implement include such actions as alterations to fish predation management approaches, harvest practices, hatchery practices, and study plans for hydro-system modifications, and, as carried forward from preceding biological opinions, an approach to long-term contingency actions in the event there is a significant decline in the status of either of two listed Snake River species. For a decline in the two Snake River species, one contingent action in the 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion is the preparation of a study of breaching one or more of the four lower Snake River hydroelectric dams of the Federal System. Breaching these dams would interfere substantially with hydroelectric generation of the Federal System. See “CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO BONNEVILLE—Developments Relating to the Endangered Species Act.”

As noted above, in the opinion of General Counsel to Bonneville, dam breaching or other similar major structural changes eliminating one or more of the congressionally authorized purposes of any of the federally-owned dams of the Federal System would require Congressional enactment authorizing such action. See “CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO BONNEVILLE—Developments Relating to the Endangered Species Act.”

*The National Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species Act.* NEPA requires that federal agencies evaluate the environmental impacts of their proposed actions and make this analysis available to the public. NEPA is procedural in the sense that it does not require a particular outcome for a decision, but it does mandate a process for taking a “hard look” at environmental consequences of, and alternatives to, an agency’s proposal. Depending on the circumstances, NEPA may require that the federal government prepare an environmental impact statement prior to making a decision to undertake an action. Preparation of an environmental impact statement can be time consuming and the associated analysis can be extensive, depending on the complexity of the proposed actions and the potential effects on the environment.

Among the issues raised by the plaintiffs in the litigation challenging the 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion was whether in adopting and implementing the biological opinion and related mitigation actions the Action Agencies should have completed a new environmental impact statement rather than relying on existing NEPA documents, including the Columbia River System Operation Review Environmental Impact Statement. In its opinion dated May 4, 2016 remanding the 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion, the Oregon Federal District Court ruled that the Corps and Reclamation violated NEPA. See CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO BONNEVILLE—Developments Relating to the Endangered Species Act,” and “BONNEVILLE LITIGATION—Columbia River ESA Litigation.”

*Impacts on Bonneville's Rates.* Bonneville is required by federal law to establish rates that are sufficient to recover all of its costs. In developing the 2016-2017 Final Rates, Bonneville made assumptions of the possible range of expected incremental costs that could arise under the 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion and the possible cost exposure to Bonneville of the 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion. As the possible range of expected incremental costs that could arise under the new biological opinion ordered by the Oregon Federal District Court becomes clearer Bonneville similarly will make assumptions of cost estimates and other impacts of the new biological opinion for recovery in future rates. The final new biological opinion is not currently due to be completed until the middle of Fiscal Year 2018, after the preparation by Bonneville of final proposed rates and the beginning of the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Rate Period. Nonetheless, as Bonneville's rates process unfolds, Bonneville expects to make certain assumptions of the potential costs and other effects of the new biological opinion to assure full cost recovery in Bonneville's rates. Bonneville's current power rates include, and its power rates for the past several rate periods have included, certain rate level adjustment provisions that enable Bonneville to increase rate levels within a rate period in response to increased costs arising from actions under the ESA. See "POWER SERVICES—Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville's Power Services—Power Rates for Fiscal Years 2016-2017." The final determination by Bonneville to include similar rate mechanisms in future rates will be made at the time Bonneville makes the final proposals for such rates.

The costs to Bonneville in preparing the new environmental impact statement that the Oregon Federal District Court has ordered the federal government to prepare will also be included for recovery in Bonneville's rates. Bonneville is not able to predict the costs it will bear from the preparation of the new environmental impact statement. Bonneville will have a better estimate of the costs and schedule for the environmental impact statement when a plan for preparing the environmental impact statement is approved or otherwise ordered by the Oregon Federal District Court.

*The Columbia River Fish Mitigation Program.* As noted above, the Oregon Federal District Court has directed the Corps and Reclamation to continue to comply with the 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion. The 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion carries forward from prior biological opinions plans for completion of structural modifications to Federal System hydroelectric dams. These modifications have been and are expected to be funded by specific federal appropriations, primarily to the Corps under the "Columbia River Fish Mitigation" program. Bonneville expects that it will be responsible for recovering in its power rates as a repayment to the United States Treasury approximately 80 percent of the costs of the modifications on the Columbia River and Snake River dams, which is the estimated portion of such costs assigned by law or administrative practice to be recovered in Bonneville's power rates. Bonneville does not expect that the modifications will be financed with Bonneville's statutory borrowing authority with the United States Treasury. As with other appropriated investments in the Federal System, Bonneville depreciates the portion of the costs to be recovered in power rates from the dates the related capital facilities are placed in service through their expected useful lives. These modifications have been implemented over many years; thus, their costs have been and will be gradually added to Bonneville's rates and appropriated repayment responsibility as they are placed in service.

As of the end of Fiscal Year 2015, Bonneville was responsible for \$1.39 billion of repayable appropriations for Columbia River Fish Mitigation, as allocated to the power purpose of the Corps' Federal System Hydroelectric Projects. Under the Corps' current plan covering five years, the Columbia River Fish Mitigation program would obtain additional appropriations for continued funding of modifications and increase the amount expected to eventually be assumed by Bonneville as repayable appropriations obligations for Columbia River Fish Mitigation by approximately \$355 million through Fiscal Year 2021. This would bring the total amount of Bonneville's repayable appropriations obligations for Columbia River Fish Mitigation to approximately \$1.75 billion by the end of Fiscal Year 2021. The amounts ultimately appropriated under the Columbia River Fish Mitigation program (through Fiscal Year 2021 and in future years) may be greater depending on possible changes to the Corps' current five year plan, the Corps' plans for years beyond Fiscal 2021, requests for appropriations by the Corps and congressional enactments of appropriations. The expected costs associated with such additional repayable appropriations obligations for Columbia River Fish Mitigation will begin to be recovered in Bonneville's power rates when the related investments are placed in service, which depends on the timing and amounts of appropriations and the time required by the Corps to bring multi-year projects to completion. Other federally appropriated amounts may be added to Bonneville's federal appropriations repayment responsibility from time to time depending on specific project appropriations received by the Corps and Reclamation for Federal System investments. See "BONNEVILLE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS—The Federal System Investment."

Bonneville is unable to predict the effects, if any, that the new biological opinion will have on the types and timing of Federal System investments (including but not limited to investments under the Columbia River Fish Mitigation program) for which Congressional appropriations will be requested and enacted, the amounts appropriated therefor, and the amounts that would be included for recovery in Bonneville's rates for power. See "BONNEVILLE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS—The Federal System Investment."

*The Columbia Basin Fish Accords.* Bonneville, the Corps, and Reclamation, and a number of Regional interests including six tribes, an inter-tribal association, and the states of Washington, Montana and Idaho signed seven separate agreements to assure long-term mitigation funding to address Federal System Hydroelectric Projects' responsibilities to fish and wildlife. The foregoing agreements, collectively known as the Columbia Basin Fish Accords, have helped the Action Agencies protect, mitigate, and enhance fish populations and fish habitat in the Columbia River basin over the ten years from Fiscal Year 2009 through Fiscal Year 2018.

Under the Columbia Basin Fish Accords, Bonneville committed to make available approximately \$995 million over the ten-year funding period. Bonneville estimates that most of its funding commitments have been and will be for work necessary to implement biological opinions affecting the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects and for work otherwise agreed to in furtherance of federal statutory fish and wildlife purposes such as the Northwest Power Act. The Columbia Basin Fish Accords were intended to provide a high level of assured long-term funding for biological opinion implementation and other mitigation actions.

Under certain of the agreements, the participating tribes and states agree that the federal government's requirements under the ESA, the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, and the Northwest Power Act are satisfied as to the identified Federal System Hydroelectric Projects in the Snake River and Columbia River drainages. Under its accord, the State of Washington agreed, among other things, to support the federal government's position in the ESA litigation.

The Columbia Basin Fish Accords expire beginning on October 1, 2018. In 2016, the Action Agencies began discussions whether to pursue successor agreements with interested states and tribes. Bonneville is unable to predict whether these Accords will be continued.

Bonneville is unable to provide any certainty regarding the costs it may incur, including from possible future changes in Federal System dams or dam operations, under the ESA or other environmental laws.

*Willamette River Basin Flood Control Project Biological Opinion.* The Corps owns and operates 13 dams in the Willamette River Basin (the "Willamette Project") for the primary purpose of flood risk reduction, and also for power, recreation, and water supply purposes. The Willamette Project is included in the Federal System and Bonneville markets the power from the Willamette Project and funds the Corps for the power purpose share of both capital and operation and maintenance costs at the facilities of the Willamette Project. Bonneville estimates that approximately 180 megawatts of power are produced by the Willamette Project under average water conditions.

NOAA Fisheries issued its Willamette River Basin Flood Control Project Biological Opinion (the "Willamette BiOp") in 2008. The Willamette BiOp evaluated the impact of ongoing operations of the Willamette Project on fish species that are listed under the ESA as threatened or endangered, and concluded that certain species were in jeopardy and their critical habitat was likely to be adversely modified or destroyed. The Willamette BiOp was also adopted in a separate biological opinion by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

To fulfill the requirements of the Willamette BiOp, the Corps is expected to seek approval from Congress to undertake structural modifications to certain Willamette Project dams to provide downstream passage for juvenile salmon and to improve downstream water temperatures. The precise modifications that will be proposed and implemented, and the timing of their construction, will depend on congressional appropriation enactments and future public processes; however, the general plan outlined by the Corps involves the installation of fish collection facilities to assist downstream migrating juvenile fish and a temperature control facility which assists in preventing over-cold water conditions during upstream fish migration and over-warm water conditions during fish incubation. Starting in calendar year 2009, these modifications were and are expected to be funded by specific federal appropriations, primarily to the Corps under the Columbia River Fish Mitigation program. See "—The 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion." According to the current general plan, the

modifications would be designed, installed, tested and placed in service over a multi-year period, with the first of the major structural components expected to be placed in service during Fiscal Year 2022, and the last of the major structural components expected to be placed in service during Fiscal Year 2027.

Using Bonneville's existing appropriations repayment criteria, after the modifications are funded (receive appropriations) and placed in service, it is expected that Bonneville will be required to repay approximately 42 percent of the associated costs of the modifications, which is the proportion of the overall Willamette Project's costs that are assigned to be recovered in Bonneville's power rates. Under the repayment criteria, the costs would be recovered in Bonneville's rates over a period of up to 75 years from the dates that related modifications are placed in service.

The structural modifications are not expected to materially decrease the amount of generated electricity at Willamette Project dams. However, Bonneville expects power-production costs for the Willamette Project will gradually increase, particularly beginning in Fiscal Year 2022 as the first of the major structural modifications are expected to be placed in service and the costs of other measures, such as streamflow enhancements and fish habitat/hatchery improvements, are realized. Given the relatively small percentage of the Willamette Project's costs that are allocated for recovery in Bonneville's rates, and because these potential costs would be only a part of the many financial obligations that Bonneville recovers in its rates, Bonneville does not anticipate that these possible future modifications to the Willamette Project would have a significant effect on Bonneville's overall power rate levels.

Bonneville and the State of Oregon have signed an agreement that, upon successful completion, permanently fulfills Bonneville's longstanding wildlife mitigation obligations associated with the Willamette River dams. Bonneville's total commitment under the agreement is \$144.1 million (including inflation) through Fiscal Year 2025. In addition, Bonneville will continue to fund the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's operation and maintenance costs with respect to the Willamette Project for Fiscal Year 2026 through Fiscal Year 2043. Bonneville will negotiate its funding obligations based on historical funding levels and contemporaneous needs and conditions.

Federal Repayment Offsets For Certain Fish and Wildlife Costs Borne by Bonneville. In 1995, the United States Treasury, the Office of Management and Budget, DOE, and other agencies agreed to provide for certain federal repayment credits to offset some of Bonneville's fish and wildlife costs. The foregoing agencies agreed that Bonneville would implement a previously unused provision of the Northwest Power Act, section 4(h)(10)(C). This provision authorizes Bonneville to exercise its Northwest Power Act authority to implement fish and wildlife mitigation on behalf of all of a Federal System Hydroelectric Project's authorized purposes under federal law; not just those relating to the delivery of generation and transmission services to customers, but also non-power purposes such as irrigation, navigation, and flood control. At the end of the fiscal year, Bonneville is required to recoup (i.e., take a credit for) the portion allocated to non-power purposes. Included in this credit are Direct Costs and estimated Replacement Power Purchase Costs. The amount of such recoupments (also referred to as "4(h)(10)(C) credits") was approximately \$84 million, \$104 million, and \$78 million in Fiscal Years 2013, 2014, and 2015, respectively. Forecasts of these 4(h)(10)(C) credits are treated as revenues in Bonneville's ratemaking process. At the close of each fiscal year, they are applied against Bonneville's payments to the United States Treasury. The 4(h)(10)(C) credits are initially taken based on estimates and are subsequently modified to reflect actual data. An important cost that may be recouped under section 4(h)(10)(C) is that of Replacement Power Purchases necessitated by the loss of generation arising from certain changes to hydroelectric system operations for the benefit of fish and wildlife. These costs occur annually and are highest in low water years when, historically, the output of the hydro-system is lower and market prices for power may be comparatively high. In such years, 4(h)(10)(C) credits are correspondingly higher.

Council's Fish and Wildlife Program. In 2015, the Council amended the Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program (the "Council's Fish and Wildlife Program-2015") to recommend actions to mitigate the impacts of the operation of the hydroelectric dams of the Federal System on fish and wildlife in the Region, as provided under the Northwest Power Act. In general, Bonneville is charged with protecting, mitigating, and enhancing fish and wildlife affected by the Federal System in a manner consistent with the Council's Fish and Wildlife Program, the Council's power plan, and the other purposes of the Northwest Power Act. The Council's Northwest Power Act mitigation recommendations include the actions in the Accords and biological opinions as well as other measures to protect fish and wildlife.

In view of the increasing number of actions under the ESA in connection with listed fish populations affected by the Federal System, and in view of the potential for overlap or conflict of ESA-related actions with recommendations under the Council's Fish and Wildlife Program, beginning in the late 1990's, the Council began integrating ESA and Clean Water Act compliance actions into the Council's Fish and Wildlife Program. The costs of this "Integrated Program" are included in the Direct Costs to Bonneville of its fish and wildlife obligations. See "—Fish and Wildlife—General." In Fiscal Year 2015, Integrated Program expense was \$258 million, and Federal System capital investment was \$21 million. Bonneville forecasts that in Fiscal Year 2016, expenses and capital program investments will be \$267 million and \$40 million, respectively.

Bonneville believes its current levels of funding fulfill all of its statutory responsibilities related to fish and wildlife; however, Bonneville cannot provide assurance as to the scope or cost of future measures to protect fish and wildlife affected by the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects (and other components of the Federal System), including measures resulting from current and future listings under the ESA, current and future biological opinions or amendments thereto, future Council Programs or amendments thereto, or litigation relating to the foregoing.

#### *Power Rates for Fiscal Years 2016-2017*

In February 2016, FERC granted final approval of Bonneville's 2016-2017 Final Rate Proposal for power and transmission rates of general applicability. The final rates for the 2016-2017 Rate Period for power sold to Preference Customers for their loads vary depending on the particular power product provided by Bonneville. Average PF Preference Rates (inclusive of the Slice, Block and Full Requirements products) increased by 7.1 percent over the prior average rates, to \$33.75 per megawatt hour. Under the Final 2016-2017 Rates, average Tier 2 PF Rates are 8.1 percent higher than in the prior rate period, increasing to \$43.09 per megawatt hour. Tier 2 PF Rates apply to certain incremental loads that Preference Customers require Bonneville to meet. Bonneville currently sells less than 100 annual average megawatts of power at Tier 2 PF Rates. For a discussion of Tier 1 PF Rates and Tier 2 PF Rates, see "—Bonneville's Obligation to Meet Certain Firm Power Requirements in the Region—Long-Term Preference Contracts and Power Products."

The Final 2016-2017 Rates continue the use of certain features (in some cases slightly modified) from prior final power rates. For instance, the power rates continue the use of (i) "base rates" for Regional power sales that are set at levels Bonneville believes to be sufficient to yield a reasonably high probability of sufficient net revenue, and (ii) a "cost recovery adjustment clause" (or "Power CRAC") that can increase certain power (and certain ancillary services) rate levels during the rate period. The Power CRAC allows PF Preference Rates and the IP Rate levels to be increased at the beginning of each fiscal year of the rate period, according to certain financial metrics.

The Power CRAC is designed to enable Bonneville to increase Power Revenues, primarily from the sale of Block and Load Following power products under the Long-Term Preference Contracts, by up to \$300 million per fiscal year without a formal and time consuming rate proceeding. The Power CRAC is designed to trigger if certain financial performance measures reflective of Power Services' performance decline to a threshold level ("Power CRAC Threshold"). More particularly if Power Services' RAR (measured in terms of "Accumulated Calibrated Net Revenue") are forecast to be below a specified threshold, as determined shortly before the beginning of the fiscal year at issue, then the Power CRAC can take effect at the beginning of such fiscal year. The Power CRAC is based on an adjustable calibration between net revenue and reserves, intended to be more reflective of Power Services' cash position and needs than prior Power CRACs. The Power CRAC Threshold was not crossed to raise rate levels in Fiscal Year 2016. As of April 29, 2016, Bonneville believes that the Power CRAC Threshold will not be crossed to raise rate levels in Fiscal Year 2017. While the amount of additional recoveries under the Power CRAC is capped at \$300 million in a fiscal year, Bonneville nonetheless reserved the ability to institute another full rate proceeding and increase rates or rate levels in the rate period. Bonneville believes it would be able to complete within six months an expedited rate case to propose increased rates to recover costs.

The Final 2016-2017 Rates include updated versions of the National Marine Fisheries Service Federal Columbia River Power System Biological Opinion Adjustment ("NFB Adjustment") and Emergency National Marine Fisheries Service Federal Columbia River Power System Biological Opinion Surcharge ("Emergency NFB Surcharge"). These rate adjustment features enable Bonneville to recover additional amounts or accelerate cost recovery during the 2016-2017 Rate Period, without a formal and time consuming rate proceeding. These rate adjustment mechanisms would address unexpected costs or decreases in revenue ("NFB Financial Effects") in a

fiscal year arising from ESA litigation relating to the Federal System (“NFB Trigger Event”). See “—Fish and Wildlife—The Endangered Species Act.”

The NFB Adjustment would increase the \$300 million Power CRAC limit by an amount equal to forecast NFB Financial Effects. Under the NFB Adjustment Bonneville would increase certain power and related rate levels so that the NFB Financial Effects are recovered in the fiscal year following the fiscal year in which an NFB Trigger Event occurs.

The Emergency NFB Surcharge would enable Bonneville to increase certain power and related rate levels within the fiscal year in which an NFB Trigger Event occurs to recover NFB Financial Effects expected to occur in such fiscal year. The Emergency NFB Surcharge would take effect only within a fiscal year and only if the TPP for such fiscal year is forecast to be below 80 percent. TPP is described in “CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO BONNEVILLE—Bonneville Power and Transmission Rate Developments.”

Neither the NFB Adjustment nor the Emergency NFB Surcharge applies to rates for the Slice product. Bonneville has included similar provisions in its rates since Fiscal Year 2008; however, the NFB Adjustment and the Emergency NFB Surcharge have not been triggered.

The risk mitigation tools underlying the power rates also include relying on certain RAR derived from Power Services operations and relying on the availability of funds, if needed during the rate period, under Bonneville’s \$750 million short-term credit facility with the United States Treasury, to cover certain operating expenses. See “BONNEVILLE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS—Management Discussion of Operating Results—Fiscal Year 2015,” “—Bonneville’s Use of Non-GAAP Financial Metrics,” and “—Banking Relationship between the United States Treasury and Bonneville.”

The Final 2016-2017 Rates for power continued the availability of a feature parallel to, but the reverse of, the Power CRAC, referred to as the Dividend Distribution Clause (“Power DDC”). A Power DDC could have decreased certain power and ancillary services rate levels in either year of the rate period, also based on financial results. The Power DDC did not trigger for application to Fiscal Year 2016 rates. As of April 29, 2016, Bonneville believes that the DDC will not trigger for application to Fiscal Year 2017 rates.

#### *Historical PF Preference Rate Levels*

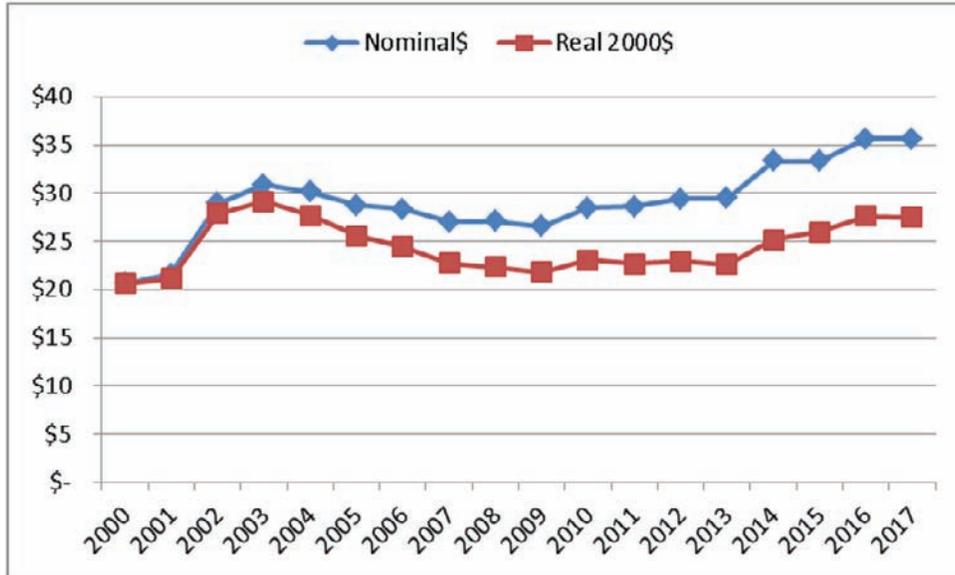
As shown in the following table, Bonneville’s average PF Preference Rates have remained between \$20 per megawatt hour and \$36 per megawatt hour in nominal (actual) dollars, and between \$20 per megawatt hour and \$30 per megawatt hour in inflation-adjusted (real) dollars (2000), from Fiscal Year 2000 to Fiscal Year 2017. These estimates include average PF Preference Rates expressed on a dollar-per-megawatt-hour basis, exclusive of Slice rates. While most PF Preference Rates are established on a dollar-per-megawatt hour basis, Slice rates are set on the basis of dollars-per-percentage-point of Slice. The data also exclude PF Exchange Rates which are used in determining Residential Exchange benefits, and Tier 2 PF Rates, which Bonneville instituted in Fiscal Year 2012 to recover the cost of meeting certain incremental loads.

Bonneville’s average PF Preference Rates increased substantially in Fiscal Year 2002 to recover from the effects of the West Coast Power Crisis in 1999-2001. See “BONNEVILLE LITIGATION—Litigation and Related Administrative Disputes in Connection with the West Coast Power Crisis in 1999-2001.” Since then, such rates have been stable, especially when viewed from an inflation-adjusted perspective, as shown in the following chart.

(The remainder of this page is left blank intentionally)

### Historical Average PF Preference Rates

Nominal (Actual) and Real (Inflation-Adjusted) Average PF Preference Rate Levels, Per Megawatt Hour, Fiscal Years 2000—2017



#### *Recovery of Stranded Power Function Costs*

As a consequence of regulatory and economic changes in electric power markets, many utilities see potential for certain of their costs, in particular power system costs, to become unrecoverable or “stranded.” Stranded costs may arise where power customers are able, pursuant to open transmission access rules, to reach new sources of supply, leaving behind unamortized power system costs incurred on their behalf. Bonneville could also face this concern. While Bonneville has separate statutory authority requiring it to assure that its revenues are sufficient to recover all of its costs, additional authority may be required to assure that such costs, including Bonneville’s payments to the United States Treasury, are made on time and in full. Depending on the exact nature of wholesale and retail transmission access, it is possible that Bonneville’s power marketing function may not be able to recover all of its costs in the event that Bonneville’s cost of power exceeds market prices. Nonetheless, Bonneville cannot predict with certainty its cost of power or market prices.

FERC’s 1996 order, “Order 888,” to promote competition in wholesale power markets, established standards that a public utility under the Federal Power Act (“FPA”) must satisfy to recover stranded wholesale power costs. The standards contain limitations and restrictions, which, if applied to Bonneville, could affect Bonneville’s ability to recover stranded costs in certain circumstances. However, Bonneville’s General Counsel interprets FERC Order 888 as not addressing stranded cost recovery by Bonneville under either the Northwest Power Act or sections 211 and 212 of the FPA. For a discussion of Order 888 and sections 211 and 212 of the FPA, as amended by Energy Policy Act of 1992 (“EPA-1992”), see “TRANSMISSION SERVICES—FERC and Non-discriminatory Transmission Access and the Separation of Power Services and Transmission Services.”

Bonneville’s rates for any FERC-ordered transmission service pursuant to sections 211 and 212 of the FPA are governed only by Bonneville’s applicable law, except that no such rate shall be unjust, unreasonable, or unduly discriminatory or preferential, as determined by FERC. In the opinion of Bonneville’s General Counsel, provisions of the Northwest Power Act directing Bonneville to recover its total cost would be applicable to any stranded cost to be recovered by Bonneville were Bonneville ordered by FERC to provide transmission under FPA sections 211 and 212.

Shortly after the issuance of Order 888-A, Bonneville requested clarification of the application of FERC’s stranded cost rule to Bonneville in the context of an order for transmission service under sections 211 and 212. In FERC

Order 888-A, modifying original FERC Order 888, FERC addressed Bonneville's request by stating: "We clarify that our review of stranded cost recovery by [Bonneville] would take into account the statutory requirements of the Northwest Power Act and the other authorities under which we regulate [Bonneville] . . . and/or section 212(i), as appropriate." Therefore, it remains unclear how FERC would intend to balance Bonneville's Northwest Power Act cost recovery standards with the stranded cost rule as enunciated in FERC Order 888 in the context of FERC ordered transmission service pursuant to sections 211 and 212. Contrary to the opinion of Bonneville's General Counsel, several of Bonneville's transmission customers have taken the position that transmission rates may not be set to recover stranded power costs as Bonneville envisions under the Northwest Power Act.

Under the Energy Policy Act of 2005 ("EPA-2005"), FERC was granted authority to require that the rates for transmission service that Bonneville provides to itself be comparable to the rates it charges others. The foregoing provisions in EPA-2005 do not amend Bonneville's existing statutory provisions under the Northwest Power Act but must be balanced with them. In the opinion of Bonneville's General Counsel, provisions of the Northwest Power Act directing Bonneville to recover its total cost would be applicable to any stranded cost to be recovered by Bonneville, notwithstanding the enactment of EPA-2005. See "MATTERS RELATING TO POWER SERVICES AND TRANSMISSION SERVICES—Energy Policy Act of 2005."

## **TRANSMISSION SERVICES**

Bonneville provides a number of different types of transmission services to Preference Customers, Regional IOUs, DSIs, other privately and publicly owned utilities, power marketers, power generators, and others. Transmission Services earned approximately \$937 million in revenues from the sale of transmission and related services, or approximately 27 percent of Bonneville's total revenues from external customers (and excluding revenues otherwise arising from inter-functional transactions between Bonneville's Transmission Services and Power Services) in Fiscal Year 2015.

Bonneville's Transmission Services provides transmission service under its Open Access Transmission Tariff ("Tariff"). Two transmission services are offered under the Tariff: Point-to-Point and Network Integration. These services are available to all customers regardless of whether they are transmitting federal power (in effect, power from the Federal System) or non-federal power. Network Integration service is used by many Preference Customers, (as well as others), for delivery of federal and non-federal power to their loads. Point-to-Point service is typically taken by power marketers, independent power producers, and certain large utility customers. Finally, Bonneville, as a partial owner of the northern portions of the Southern Intertie and southern portion of certain transmission lines connecting areas of western Canada with the Region, provides Point-to-Point service to power marketers, including Bonneville's Power Services, which use Bonneville transmission service to support power sales and related transactions inside and outside the Region. Bonneville's Transmission Services also provides reservation-based service under "legacy contracts"; that is, those that were in effect when Bonneville adopted open access in the mid-1990s. As these contracts expire, the service converts to Tariff services.

It is difficult to generalize as to a Preference Customer's cost of Network Integration service needed to effect various power transactions because the charge is based on actual usage and thus can vary from month to month and customer to customer. Nonetheless, a useful point of reference for the proportion that power rates bear to transmission and ancillary services rates may be the cost borne by certain Preference Customers that purchase Full Requirements power from Bonneville. For example, in the current rate period (Fiscal Years 2016-2017), a large Preference Customer that purchases very little transmission for its own generating resources pays Bonneville approximately \$4.28 per megawatt hour for transmission service and approximately \$33.75 per megawatt hour for electric power.

### **Bonneville's Federal Transmission System**

The Federal System includes the Federal Transmission System, which is operated and maintained by Bonneville and owned or leased by Bonneville, as well as the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects, and certain non-federal power resources. The Federal Transmission System is composed of approximately 15,000 circuit miles of high voltage transmission lines, and approximately 261 substations and other transmission facilities that are located in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and portions of Montana, Wyoming, and northern California. The Federal Transmission System includes a main-grid network for service within the Pacific Northwest, and approximately 80

percent of the northern portion (north of California and Nevada) of the combined Southern Intertie, the primary bulk transmission link between the Pacific Northwest and the Pacific Southwest. The Southern Intertie consists of three high voltage Alternating Current (“AC”) transmission lines and one Direct Current (“DC”) transmission line and associated facilities that interconnect the electric systems of the two regions. The rated transfer capability of the Southern Intertie AC in the north to south direction is 4,800 megawatts of capacity, and in the south to north direction is 3,675 megawatts of capacity. The rated transfer capability of the DC line in both directions is currently 3,100 megawatts. However, upon completion of improvements to the DC transmission line (expected to be completed in November 2016), Bonneville expects that the rated transfer capacity of the DC transmission line in the north to south direction will increase to 3,220 megawatts.

The Federal Transmission System is used to deliver federal and non-federal power between resources and loads within the network, and to import and export power from and to adjacent regions. Bonneville’s Transmission Services provides transmission services and transmission reliability (ancillary) services to many customers. These customers include Bonneville’s Power Services; entities that buy and sell non-federal power in the Region such as Regional IOUs, Preference Customers, extra Regional IOUs, independent power producers, aggregators, and power marketers; in-Region purchasers of Federal System power such as Preference Customers and DSIs; generators, power marketers, and utilities that seek to transmit power into, out of, or through the Region.

Bonneville constructed the Federal Transmission System and is responsible for its operation, maintenance, and expansion to maintain electrical stability and reliability. As a matter of policy, Bonneville’s transmission planning and operation decisions are guided by internal, Regional, and national reliability practices. See “MATTERS RELATING TO POWER SERVICES AND TRANSMISSION SERVICES—Energy Policy Act of 2005” for a discussion of statutory provisions relating to reliability. Bonneville continually monitors the system and evaluates cost-effective reinforcements needed to maintain electrical stability and reliability of the system on a long-term planning basis. A number of conditions, actions, and events could affect the operating transfer capability and diminish the capacity of the system. For example, operating conditions such as weather, system outages, and changes in generation and load patterns may reduce the reliability transfer capability of the transmission system in some locations and limit the capacity of the system to meet the needs of the system’s users, including Bonneville’s Power Services. To assure that the system is adequate to meet transmission needs, Transmission Services evaluates system performance to determine whether or not to make transmission infrastructure investments.

Bonneville focuses its transmission infrastructure efforts on transmission projects, such as the Project, needed to maintain reliability and new transmission projects that will provide additional, long-term firm transmission service for entities seeking new transmission service in the Region. In recent years, many of the requests for new transmission service have been submitted by customers developing new power generation projects, primarily wind generation, both inside and outside the Region. As reflected in the 2016-2017 Final Rate Proposal, Bonneville expects to make transmission system investments in Fiscal Years 2016 through 2023 averaging approximately \$377 million annually. See “BONNEVILLE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS—Bonneville’s Capital Program” and “—Bonneville’s Non-Federal Debt.”

If a customer requests to interconnect a new power generation project to the Federal Transmission System and Bonneville determines that additional facilities need to be constructed to accommodate the request, Bonneville may seek advance funding of its transmission costs for the necessary investments from the customer seeking the interconnection. If the necessary facilities are integrated into Bonneville’s network, Bonneville returns to the customer the amounts it advanced for construction of the new facilities in the form of (i) credits against the customer’s monthly bills for firm transmission service, or (ii) in some cases, cash payments to the generator or its assigns. The transmission service credit offsets for amounts advanced to Bonneville for new transmission integration investments were \$37 million in Fiscal Year 2015. Bonneville estimates that the transmission service credit offsets for amounts advanced to Bonneville for new transmission integration investments will be \$39 million in Fiscal Year 2016, approximately \$28 million in Fiscal Year 2017, and approximately \$20 million in Fiscal Year 2018. While Bonneville expects the transmission service credit offsets to begin to decrease in Fiscal Year 2017, it is possible that the amount of such credits could increase in future years depending on the development of new generation projects (particularly wind projects) that interconnect to the Federal Transmission System.

Where applicable and in a manner consistent with Bonneville’s Tariff, Bonneville may apply the “or” test to recover new transmission facility costs. Under the “or” test, Bonneville compares the “incremental cost” rate for

transmission service to Bonneville's embedded cost rate, and charges the requesting customer the higher of the two rates. The application of the "or" test generally protects all other customers from costs they would otherwise bear due to the integration costs of the new facilities.

Bonneville studies and upgrades the Federal Transmission System to meet the Region's emerging commercial needs for expanded transmission service under its Tariff. For Network Integration service requests, Bonneville generally employs a cluster approach wherein it aggregates pending requests for transmission service in order to study and otherwise evaluate the new transmission facilities that it would have to construct to provide that service. Bonneville employs this process to help ensure that it would accurately identify plans of service for serving new requests, recover the costs of any new transmission facilities that are constructed, and avoid stranded transmission investments. Bonneville is reviewing its expansion process and may implement changes to enhance the process in the future.

Bonneville's transmission system investment plan is subject to change. Bonneville is unable to predict the cost of new investments for the integration of new generation or to meet customers' new transmission service requests, the amount of transmission that customers will actually commit to, or the extent to which Bonneville will fund such investments through customer advances of funds, borrowing from the United States Treasury, or Non-Federal Debt, such as lease-purchases. For a discussion of the applicability of FERC's cost allocation methodology under Order 1000 (as hereinafter defined), see "—Bonneville's Participation in Regional Transmission Planning."

#### **FERC and Non-discriminatory Transmission Access and the Separation of Power Services and Transmission Services**

In general, the thrust of regulatory changes in the 1990s, both by Congress and FERC, has been to require transmission owners to provide open transmission access to their transmission systems on terms that do not discriminate in favor of the transmission owner's own power marketing function. EPA-1992 amended sections 211 and 212 of the FPA to authorize FERC to order a "transmitting utility" to provide access to its transmission system at rates and upon terms and conditions that are just and reasonable, and not unduly discriminatory or preferential.

While Bonneville is not generally subject to the FPA, Bonneville is a "transmitting utility" under EPA-1992. Therefore, FERC may order Bonneville to provide others with transmission access over the Federal Transmission System facilities. FERC also may set the terms and conditions for such FERC-ordered transmission service. However, the transmission rates for FERC-ordered transmission under EPA-1992 are governed only by Bonneville's other applicable laws, except that no such rate shall be unjust, unreasonable, or unduly discriminatory or preferential, as determined by FERC. Based on the legislative history of the provisions of EPA-1992 applicable to Bonneville, Bonneville's General Counsel is of the opinion that Bonneville's rates for FERC-ordered transmission services under sections 211 and 212 are to be established by Bonneville, rather than by FERC, and are reviewed by FERC through the same process and using the same statutory requirements of the Northwest Power Act as are otherwise applicable to Bonneville's transmission rates. In addition, with respect to Bonneville's ability to recover its transmission costs through its transmission rates, it is the opinion of Bonneville's General Counsel that the EPA-2005 provisions relating to Bonneville's transmission rates would not adversely affect Bonneville's authority and obligation to recover in full the costs of providing transmission service through its transmission rates. See "MATTERS RELATING TO POWER SERVICES AND TRANSMISSION SERVICES—Energy Policy Act of 2005."

In 1996, FERC issued Order 888 to promote competition in wholesale power markets. Among other things, Order 888 established a *pro forma* tariff providing the terms and conditions for non-discriminatory open access transmission service, and required all public utilities (the utilities subject to FERC regulation, which does not include government entities such as Bonneville) to adopt the tariff. Order 888 also included a reciprocity provision under which jurisdictional utilities must grant open access transmission services to non-jurisdictional (i.e., unregulated) utilities if the non-jurisdictional utility offers open access in return, either through bilateral contracts or by (i) submitting to FERC for its approval an open access transmission tariff that substantially conforms or is superior to the *pro forma* tariff, and (ii) adopting transmission rates for third parties that are comparable to the rates the non-jurisdictional utility applies to itself. FERC issued "Order 890" in February 2007, which further supported Order 888's aims, emphasizing increased transmission access and transparency and promotion of transmission utilization. Bonneville is a non-jurisdictional utility.

EPA-2005 authorizes FERC to require an “unregulated transmitting utility” (a term that includes Bonneville), to provide transmission services to others (i) at rates that are comparable to those that the utility charges itself, and (ii) on terms and conditions that are comparable to those the utility offers itself and that are not unduly discriminatory or preferential. See “MATTERS RELATING TO POWER SERVICES AND TRANSMISSION SERVICES—Energy Policy Act of 2005.”

Because Bonneville is a non-jurisdictional utility, FERC Orders 888 and 890 have limited applicability to it. However, since 1996, Bonneville has adopted terms and conditions for a non-discriminatory open access transmission tariff and has voluntarily filed its tariff with FERC to obtain reciprocity status. Bonneville filed an Order 890 tariff on October 3, 2008. FERC approved most of Bonneville’s tariff in an order issued July 15, 2009, but denied reciprocity pending resolution of certain limited issues. Bonneville’s subsequent request for rehearing was denied. After seeking public review and comment, Bonneville voluntarily filed a new Order 890 tariff with FERC in 2012 seeking reciprocity approval. Several parties filed protests to certain aspects of Bonneville’s new Order 890 tariff and FERC issued an order denying Bonneville reciprocity. Bonneville did not file for rehearing. Bonneville’s Order 890 tariff includes certain features that seek to address Oversupply Management in times of high renewable energy generation and low energy loads. See “MATTERS RELATING TO POWER SERVICES AND TRANSMISSION SERVICES—Renewable Generation Development and Integration into the Federal Transmission System.”

FERC issued “Order 889” in 1996 and “Order 717” in 2008. Each sets forth “standards of conduct” for jurisdictional transmission providers that have a power marketing affiliate or function. In general, these standards of conduct are intended to assure that wholesale power marketers that are affiliated with a transmission provider do not obtain unfair market advantage by having preferential access to information regarding the transmission provider’s transmission operations. Although Bonneville is not subject to Orders 889 and 717, non-jurisdictional utilities must adhere to them in order to obtain reciprocity. In the 1990s, Bonneville separated its transmission and power functions into separate business units. Bonneville continues to voluntarily adapt its operations to comply with FERC’s standards of conduct provisions. It currently operates in accordance with the standards of conduct set forth in Order 717.

### **General - Bonneville’s Transmission and Ancillary and Control Area Services Rates**

Under the Northwest Power Act, Bonneville’s transmission rates are set in accordance with sound business principles to recover the costs associated with the transmission of electric power over the Federal System transmission facilities, including amortization of the federal investment in the Federal Transmission System over a reasonable number of years, and other costs and expenses during the rate period. FERC approves and confirms Bonneville’s transmission rates after a finding that such rates recover Bonneville’s costs during the rate period, and are sufficient to make full and timely payments to the United States Treasury, and, as to transmission rates, equitably allocate the costs of the Federal Transmission System between federal and non-federal power. The rental payments for the Project under the Lease-Purchase Agreement will be recovered by Bonneville in Transmission Services’ rates.

### **Rates for Transmission and Ancillary and Control Area Services**

Bonneville’s Fiscal Years 2016-2017 transmission rates, which FERC approved on February 2, 2016, reflect an average increase of approximately 4.4 percent over Fiscal Years 2014-2015 rate levels. Construction of new lines and replacements to maintain reliability and facilitate the integration of renewable resources, such as wind, accounted for a large portion of the transmission rate increase. Increased compliance requirements and additional cyber and physical security requirements and other operational and maintenance expenses also contributed to the transmission rate increase.

Bonneville’s Fiscal Years 2016-2017 transmission rate schedules also include rates for a number of ancillary and control area services. Power Services provides generation inputs, a portion of the available capacity and energy from the Federal Columbia River Power System to enable Transmission Services to provide ancillary and control area services. Transmission Services, which purchases generation inputs from Power Services, sets ancillary and control area service rates that recover the generation inputs costs.

## Transmission Services' Largest Customers

The following table lists Transmission Services' ten largest customers in terms of their percentage contribution to Transmission Services' overall sales revenue in Fiscal Year 2015. The table also notes the type of entity for each customer.

### Transmission Services' Ten Largest Customers By Sales<sup>(1)</sup> (Percentage of Transmission Services' Sales Revenue in Fiscal Year 2015)

<u>Customer Name (Class)</u>	<u>Approximate % of Sales</u>
PacifiCorp (IOU)	12%
Puget Sound Energy Inc. (IOU)	12%
Portland General Electric Company (IOU)	9%
Powerex Corp. (Power Marketer)	6%
City of Seattle, City Light Dep't. (Preference)	5%
Iberdrola Renewables Inc. (Wind Developer)	4%
Snohomish County PUD No. 1 (Preference)	4%
Pacific Northwest Generating Cooperative (Preference)	2%
Clark Public Utilities (Preference)	2%
Hermiston Power LLC (Power Marketer)	2%

- <sup>(1)</sup> Excludes inter-business line transactions between Power Services and Transmission Services. Transmission Services obtains electric power from Power Services to enable Transmission Services to provide transmission related products, particularly ancillary services.

## Bonneville's Participation in Regional Transmission Planning

Bonneville is currently a member of "ColumbiaGrid," a regional transmission planning organization of eight Pacific Northwest utilities. ColumbiaGrid is not a Regional Transmission Organization ("RTO") under FERC policies.

FERC has provided transmission planning direction in its "Order 1000," dated July 21, 2011, and subsequent orders. Order 1000 requires jurisdictional utilities to participate in certain Regional transmission planning processes and in regional and interregional cost allocation methodologies for transmission projects. Cost allocation involves the mandatory (non-voluntary) contribution by utilities to the cost of the related transmission projects. Although Order 1000 does not apply to non-jurisdictional utilities such as Bonneville, FERC encourages non-jurisdictional utilities to comply by requiring compliance in order to obtain reciprocity and by indicating that it might exercise its authority under Federal Power Act section 211A to require such utilities to comply if they do not do so voluntarily.

Bonneville supports Regional transmission planning and increased interregional coordination as demonstrated by its participation in ColumbiaGrid. Bonneville believes, however, that certain provisions of Order 1000, mainly its mandatory cost allocation provisions, may conflict with Bonneville's statutory obligations and authority with respect to the Federal Transmission System.

On September 18, 2014, FERC issued an initial order in response to certain requests for compliance filings related to the Order 1000 requirements and rehearing. FERC ruled that Bonneville and other Regional non-jurisdictional utilities (i) could participate in Regional planning with other Northwest utilities, (ii) in participating in Regional planning, could choose not to be subject to mandatory cost allocation provisions and could either accept or reject a cost allocation for other utilities' proposed projects, and (iii) in participating in Regional planning on the basis of not being subject to mandatory cost allocation, would not be able to impose mandatory cost allocation of their proposed projects on other participating utilities. FERC issued additional orders in May 2015, October 2015, and March 2016 conditionally accepting the Northwest utilities' compliance filings, subject to certain additional changes. The Northwest jurisdictional utilities continued to make compliance filings through April 2016 to seek clarification regarding certain aspects of the FERC orders, including clarifying how the Order 1000 planning agreement would operate for Bonneville and other non-jurisdictional participants. On May 12, 2016 FERC issued a final order regarding specifics related to implementation of Order 1000. Bonneville continues to evaluate its expected level of

participation in ColumbiaGrid and future involvement in the possible development of other regional planning organizations.

## **MATTERS RELATING TO POWER SERVICES AND TRANSMISSION SERVICES**

### **Bonneville Ratemaking and Rates**

#### *Bonneville Ratemaking Standards*

Bonneville is required to periodically review and, as needed, to revise rates for power sold and transmission services provided in order to produce revenues that recover Bonneville's costs, including its payments to the United States Treasury. The Northwest Power Act contains numerous ratemaking directives and incorporates the provisions of other Bonneville organic statutes, including the Transmission System Act and the Flood Control Act of 1944. The Transmission System Act requires, among other things, that Bonneville establish its rates "with a view to encouraging the widest possible diversified use of electric power at the lowest possible rates to consumers consistent with sound business principles," while having regard to recovery of costs and repayment to the United States Treasury. Substantially the same requirements are set forth in the Flood Control Act.

#### *Bonneville Ratemaking Procedures*

The Northwest Power Act contains specific ratemaking procedures used to develop a full and complete record supporting a proposal for revised rates. The procedures include publication of the proposed rate(s), together with a statement of justification and reasons in support of such rate(s), in the Federal Register and a hearing before a hearing officer. The hearing provides an opportunity for parties to present material and to refute or rebut material submitted by Bonneville or other parties and also provides a reasonable opportunity for cross-examination, as permitted by the hearing officer. Upon the conclusion of the hearing, the hearing officer certifies a formal hearing record (including hearing transcripts, exhibits, and such other materials and information as have been submitted during the hearing) to the Bonneville Administrator. This record provides the basis for the Administrator's final decision, which must include a full and complete justification in support of the proposed rate(s).

#### *Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Review of Rates Established by Bonneville*

Rates established by Bonneville under the Northwest Power Act may become effective only upon confirmation and approval by FERC, although FERC may grant interim approval of Bonneville's proposed rates pending FERC's final confirmation and approval.

Under the Northwest Power Act, FERC's review of Bonneville's power and transmission rates involves three standards. These standards require FERC to confirm and approve the rates based on findings that such rates: (i) are sufficient to assure repayment of the federal investment in the Federal System over a reasonable number of years after first meeting Bonneville's other costs; (ii) are based on Bonneville's total system costs; and (iii) insofar as transmission rates are concerned, equitably allocate the costs of the Federal Transmission System between federal and non-federal power utilizing such system. FERC does not, however, review Bonneville's rate design or cost allocation for purposes other than equitable allocation of transmission costs.

FERC may either confirm or reject a rate proposed by Bonneville. FERC lacks the authority to establish a rate in lieu of a proposed rate that FERC finds does not meet the applicable standards. In the opinion of Bonneville's General Counsel, if FERC were to reject a proposed Bonneville rate, FERC would be limited to remanding the proposed rate to Bonneville for further proceedings as Bonneville deems appropriate. On remand, Bonneville would reformulate the proposed rate to comply with the FERC order. If FERC has previously given the rate interim approval, Bonneville may be required to refund the difference between the interim rate charged and any final FERC-approved rate. However, Bonneville is required by law to set rates to meet all its costs; thus, it is the opinion of Bonneville's General Counsel that Bonneville may be required to increase its rates to seek to recover the amount of any such refunds, if needed.

For a discussion of FERC's rate review and regulation related to transmission access and rates, see "TRANSMISSION SERVICES—FERC and Non-discriminatory Transmission Access and the Separation of Power Services and Transmission Services," and "—Energy Policy Act of 2005."

#### *Judicial Review of Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Final Decisions*

FERC's final approval of a proposed Bonneville rate under the Northwest Power Act is a final action subject to direct, exclusive review by the Ninth Circuit Court, if challenged. Suits challenging final actions must be filed within 90 days of the time such action is deemed final. The record upon review by the court is limited to the administrative record compiled in accordance with the Northwest Power Act.

Unlike FERC, the court reviews all of Bonneville's ratemaking for conformance with all Northwest Power Act standards, including those ratemaking standards incorporated by reference in the Northwest Power Act. In the opinion of Bonneville's General Counsel, the court lacks the authority to establish a Bonneville rate. Upon review, the court may either affirm or remand a rate to FERC or Bonneville, as appropriate. On remand, Bonneville would reformulate the remanded rate. Bonneville's flexibility in establishing rates could be restricted by the rejection of a Bonneville rate, depending on the grounds for the rejection. Bonneville may be subject to refund obligations if the reformulated rate were lower than the remanded rate. However, Bonneville is required by law to set rates to meet all its costs; thus, it is the opinion of Bonneville's General Counsel that Bonneville may be required to increase its rates to seek to recover the amount of any such refunds, if needed.

#### *Power Customer Classes*

The Northwest Power Act, as well as other Bonneville organic statutes, provides for the sale of power: (i) to Preference Customers and certain federal agency customers; (ii) to DSIs; (iii) for those portions of loads which qualify as "residential," to investor-owned and public utilities participating in the Residential Exchange Program; and (iv) as requested, to meet the net requirements of investor-owned utilities. See "POWER SERVICES—Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville's Power Services—Residential Exchange Program." The rates for power sold to these respective customer classes are based on allocation of the costs of the various resources available to Bonneville, consistent with the various statutory directives contained in Bonneville's organic statutes.

#### *Other Firm Power Rates*

Bonneville's rates for other firm power sales within the Region are based on the cost of such resources as Bonneville determines are applicable to such sales. Bonneville also sells surplus firm power outside the Pacific Northwest, primarily to California, under short-term power sales that allow for flexible prices, or under long-term contract rates.

#### *Surplus Energy*

Energy that is surplus to the contracted-for requirements of Bonneville's Regional customers is priced in accordance with the statutory standards (contained in the Northwest Power Act) applicable to such sales, as discussed above. Such energy is available within and without the Pacific Northwest, with most sales being made to California markets.

### **Limitations on Suits against Bonneville**

Suits challenging Bonneville's actions or inaction may only be brought pursuant to certain federal statutes that waive sovereign immunity. These statutes limit the types of actions, remedies available, procedures to be followed, and the proper forum. In the opinion of Bonneville's General Counsel, the exclusive remedy available for a breach of contract by Bonneville is a judgment for money damages. See "BONNEVILLE LITIGATION" for information regarding pending litigation seeking to compel or restrain action by Bonneville.

## **Laws Relating to Environmental Protection**

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) will periodically identify Bonneville as one of multiple potentially responsible parties for costs associated with the investigation and remediation of “Superfund” sites pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (“CERCLA”). In addition, state environmental agencies within Bonneville’s service territory may also identify Bonneville as liable for contamination on its own or other third-party sites.

Currently, there are six sites (four CERCLA and two state-regulated sites) where Bonneville is either alleged to have been the source of the contamination, or where the contamination is on current Bonneville property but was caused by third parties or predates Bonneville’s ownership. Bonneville’s liability and costs are uncertain and speculative because of ongoing investigations into the extent of the contamination and subsequent apportionment of liability among multiple potentially responsible parties. However, based upon Bonneville’s experience with other remediation actions, the total cost associated with these six sites is expected to be less than \$10 million.

## **Energy Policy Act of 2005**

EPA-2005 was enacted by Congress in July 2005. Among other things, EPA-2005 amended the FPA by including new provisions applicable to unregulated utilities’ power and transmission marketing. Provisions in EPA-2005 that could have the greatest impact on Bonneville’s operations include the following:

(i) EPA-2005 amends the FPA to authorize FERC to require an unregulated transmitting utility (a term that includes Bonneville) to provide transmission services at rates comparable to those the utility charges itself, and on terms and conditions that are comparable to those the utility offers itself and that are not unduly discriminatory or preferential. See “—Renewable Generation Development and Integration into the Federal Transmission System” for discussion of FERC exercising its authority under this provision in response to a complaint filed by certain customers against Bonneville.

(ii) EPA-2005 authorizes the Secretary of Energy or, upon designation by the Secretary, the administrator of a power marketing administration (“PMA”) including Bonneville, to transfer control and use of the PMA’s transmission system to certain defined entities, including an RTO, independent system operator, or any other transmission organization approved by FERC for operation of transmission facilities. The section further provides that the contract, agreement, or arrangement by which control and use is transferred must include provisions that ensure recovery of all of the costs and expenses of the PMA related to the transmission facilities subject to the transfer, consistency with existing contracts and third-party financing arrangements, and consistency with the statutory authorities, obligations, and limitations of the PMA. See “TRANSMISSION SERVICES—Bonneville’s Participation in Regional Transmission Planning.”

(iii) EPA-2005 grants FERC limited authority to order refunds in the case of certain energy sales by non-jurisdictional utilities such as Bonneville. The refund authority is limited to sales of 31 days or less made through an organized market in which the rates for the sale are established by a FERC-approved tariff. The refund authority applies to Bonneville only if the rate for the sale by Bonneville is unjust and unreasonable and is higher than the highest just and reasonable rate charged by any other entity for a sale in the same geographic market for the same or most nearly comparable time period.

(iv) EPA-2005 authorizes FERC to certify and oversee an Electric Reliability Organization (“ERO”) that will be authorized to issue mandatory reliability standards that cover all users, owners, and operators of the bulk power system. The mandatory reliability standards apply to Bonneville, but EPA-2005 expressly states that neither the ERO nor FERC is authorized to order the construction of additional generation or transmission capacity or to set and enforce compliance with standards for adequacy or safety of electric facilities or services. Monetary penalties for violation of the standards may be assessed by the ERO and approved by FERC, or assessed by FERC itself. However, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia has ruled that neither the ERO nor FERC has jurisdiction to assess a monetary penalty against the United States, including Bonneville. Bonneville has received notices of alleged violations of certain mandatory reliability standards from WECC. WECC acts for the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (“NERC”), which is the ERO established by FERC. Bonneville is currently discussing the processing of these alleged violations with WECC.

## **Other Applicable Laws**

Many statutes, regulations, and policies are or may become applicable to Bonneville, several of which could affect Bonneville's operations and finances. Bonneville cannot predict with certainty the ultimate effect such statutes, regulations or policies could have on its finances.

## **Columbia River Treaty**

Bonneville and the Corps have been designated by executive order to act as the "United States Entity," which, in conjunction with a Canadian counterpart, the "Canadian Entity," formulates and carries out operating arrangements necessary to implement the 1964 Columbia River Treaty (the "Treaty"). The United States and Canada entered into the Treaty to increase reservoir capacity in the Canadian reaches of the Columbia River basin for the purposes of power generation and flood control. Pursuant to the Treaty, Canada constructed the Mica, Arrow and Duncan hydroelectric projects in Canada to provide 15.5 MAF of storage that allows for regulation of streamflow, which in turn increases power production and provides flood risk management for both the United States and Canada.

For power production, regulation of streamflow by the Canadian reservoirs enables certain hydroelectric projects, some of which are part of the Federal System, that are located in the United States on or near the Columbia River to produce more usable energy than otherwise would occur in the absence of Canadian storage. This increase in usable energy is termed the "downstream power benefits." The Treaty specifies that the downstream power benefits be shared equally between the two countries. Canada's portion of the downstream power benefits is known as the "Canadian Entitlement."

The Treaty specifies that the Canadian Entitlement be delivered to Canada at a point along the United States-Canada border near Oliver, British Columbia unless the United States Entity and the Canadian Entity agree to other arrangements. In the late 1990s, the United States Entity and Canadian Entity reached such an agreement through 2024, and as a result the United States Entity does not have to build a transmission line to assure delivery to the point referred to in the Treaty during the term of the agreement.

The United States Entity and Canadian Entity have previously consulted on terms for possible disposal of portions of the Canadian Entitlement in the United States. Direct disposal of the Canadian Entitlement in the United States was authorized through 2024 by the executive branches of the United States and Canadian governments through an exchange of diplomatic notes, which occurred in 1999.

Under the Treaty, Canadian Storage operates to meet planned Regional firm loads during low water conditions providing additional water downstream for hydro-generation to help meet the loads of Bonneville and certain other Regional utilities. This Treaty operation is incorporated into Bonneville's estimate of the firm power of the Federal System under Low Water Flows/Critical Water. See "—Description of the Generation Resources of the Federal System."

For flood risk management, the storage in Canada is generally drafted through the fall and winter to create storage space and refilled during the spring/summer runoff to manage floods. The Treaty provides for assured flood risk management operations in Canadian reservoirs until September 2024 to reduce flood impacts to communities in both Canada and the United States. In September 2024, the Treaty shifts to certain modified procedures for flood risk management operations. The Entities and their governments will be discussing how to coordinate and implement this change.

The Treaty has no expiration date and thus could continue indefinitely. The Treaty does, however, allow either the United States or Canada to elect to terminate the Treaty (except for primarily its flood risk management provisions) at any time after September 2024, but only if at least ten years' written notice has been provided. No such notice has been issued by either country.

On December 13, 2013, the United States Entity sent a final Regional Recommendation concerning the post-2024 future of the Treaty to the United States Department of State. In general, the Regional Recommendation proposes to modernize the Treaty to more fairly reflect the distribution of operational benefits between the United States and

Canada; to ensure that flood risk management, an economical and reliable power supply, and other key river uses are preserved; and to address key ecosystem functions in a way that complements the significant investments made to protect fish and wildlife over the past three decades. The final recommendation submits that the Pacific Northwest Region and the United States would benefit from modernization of the Treaty post-2024. The United States government is in the process of formally taking up the question of the post-2024 future of the Treaty. As part of that process, a federal interagency review is being conducted under the general direction of the National Security Council on behalf of the President of the United States. The Department of State has been designated to coordinate and oversee this process on behalf of the National Security Council.

### **Proposals for Federal Legislation and Administrative Action Relating to Bonneville**

Congress from time to time considers legislative changes that could affect electric power markets generally and Bonneville specifically. For example, several bills have proposed, among other things, granting buyers and sellers of power access to Bonneville's transmission under a form of regulatory oversight comparable to that currently applicable to privately-owned transmission and subjecting Bonneville's transmission operations and assets to FERC regulation. Under this type of regulation, in general, a transmission owner may not use its transmission system to recover costs of its power function. This type of regulation would be at odds with Bonneville's General Counsel's legal opinion of Bonneville's current transmission rate authority under which Bonneville would, if necessary, be required to use transmission rates to recover its power function costs. Other proposals advanced in or submitted to Congress have included privatizing the federal power marketing agencies, including Bonneville, privatizing new and replacement capital facilities at federal hydroelectric projects, studying the removal of certain federally-owned dams of the Federal System, placing caps on Bonneville's authority to incur certain types of capitalized costs, requiring that Bonneville sell its power at auctioned market prices rather than under cost-based rates, and limiting Bonneville's ability to incur new Non-Federal Debt.

### **Federal Debt Ceiling**

In order to fund its general operations, the United States relies on current receipts and the proceeds of debt obligations issued by the United States Treasury. In the past, the United States has narrowly avoided a situation where it would be unable to fund all of its operations because it reached the Congressionally-established debt ceiling. A future failure to raise the United States Treasury debt ceiling could result in default by the United States and have adverse implications on all funds held by the United States Treasury, including the Bonneville Fund. It is possible that actions taken or not taken by the United States Treasury or others at such times could materially affect Bonneville's operations and financial condition, including, among other things, restricting Bonneville's ability to borrow either short- or long-term from the United States Treasury and Bonneville's access to the Bonneville Fund to meet its cash payment obligations, including rental payments for the Project under the Lease-Purchase Agreement. In March 2015, the United States Treasury reached the debt ceiling but the United States Treasury had indicated that by utilizing various measures, the funding of the federal government's operations could continue without disruption absent an increase in the debt ceiling. On November 2, 2015, the President signed the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015, suspending the statutory debt limit through March 15, 2017. Bonneville is unable to predict whether or when the Congress will enact an increase in the United States Treasury debt ceiling or the impacts that the failure to enact such an increase could have on Bonneville's financial operations.

### **Direction or Guidance from other Federal Agencies**

Bonneville is part of the federal government. It is subject to direction or guidance in a number of respects from the United States Office of Management and Budget, DOE, FERC, the United States Treasury and other federal agencies. Bonneville is frequently the subject of, or would otherwise be affected by, various executive and administrative proposals. Bonneville is unable to predict the content of future proposals; however, it is possible that such proposals could materially affect Bonneville's operations and financial condition.

### **Climate Change**

Federal, regional, state, and international initiatives have been proposed or adopted to address global climate change by controlling or monitoring greenhouse gas emissions, by encouraging renewable energy development, and by

implementing other measures. Bonneville cannot predict whether or when new laws and regulations or proposed initiatives would take effect in a manner that would affect Bonneville, and, if so, how they would affect Bonneville.

The EPA established a rule (the “Clean Power Plan”), under section 111(d) of the Federal Clean Air Act, which would regulate carbon emissions in the electricity industry by setting “state-specific rate-based goals for carbon dioxide emissions from the power sector.” However, the Clean Power Plan is being challenged in court, and the Supreme Court has placed a stay on the Clean Power Plan which prevents implementation until the legal challenge is complete. The State of California initiated a cap and trade platform that became active in 2013.

Bonneville believes that direct effects on Bonneville of the foregoing initiatives will or would be limited because the Federal System’s generating projects are not greenhouse gas emitting generators: the Federal System’s resources are either hydro- or nuclear-based generation, with a small amount of wind-based purchases. Given the predominance of non-carbon-based generation in the Federal System, to the extent that global warming initiatives impose controls or costs on carbon generation, it is unlikely that they will or would directly affect the cost of the output of the Federal System. In addition, Bonneville believes that it is likely that carbon-limiting actions will or would have the effect of increasing prices for electric power generally so the aggregate relative economic value of Bonneville’s electric power probably would not decline as a result of such actions, all else being equal. Finally, there may also be pressure to retire certain high carbon intensity resources early, particularly coal-fired generation. Given the resource profile of the Federal System, it is unlikely that the resources that produce power marketed by Bonneville will be closed early as a result of climate change policy.

In addition, Bonneville believes that the Clean Power Plan, if implemented, or other carbon limiting proposals could result in more renewable resource development, with accompanying generation integration issues similar to those that Bonneville has seen in the integration of wind generation. To the extent that new regulations and incentives for non-carbon based generation increase the development of new generation facilities, Bonneville could face increased costs for integrating such facilities into the Federal Transmission System. However, Bonneville would be required by law to recover the costs in transmission and related rates. See “—Renewable Generation Development and Integration into the Federal Transmission System.”

The physical effects of climate change could affect the generation capability of the Federal System to meet loads. Given the Federal System’s reliance on precipitation and snow pack, climate change could affect the amount, timing, and availability of hydroelectric generation. In addition, climate change could affect load patterns if space-heating and -cooling demands change, and if heat waves become more frequent and severe. Climate change may also affect the timing and type of seasonal precipitation, which may affect how the Federal System is operated. Finally, changes in climate could adversely affect fish and wildlife populations affected by the Federal System, possibly resulting in additional costs. See “POWER SERVICES—Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville’s Power Services—Fish and Wildlife—The Endangered Species Act.”

### **Preparedness and Cyber Security**

Two areas of increased attention in the electric power industry are managing risks to assure operational continuity and to assure cyber security. In addition to normal storm and wildfire response procedures to maintain the integrity of the Federal Transmission System, Bonneville has a Continuity of Operations program that has coordinated the development of plans, systems and facilities to continue to operate through, or quickly recover from, a major disruption such as a Regional earthquake. In October 2014, Bonneville completed modifications to a redundant system control center (to incorporate an adjoining emergency scheduling center) that is geographically separated from the existing control center, one east and one west of the Cascade Mountains, in areas not subject to the same vulnerabilities. In a major disruptive event, either control center will be capable of managing transmission capacity and power sales as well as coordinating power generation operations.

New technical cyber vulnerabilities are discovered in the United States daily. In addition, cyber attacks have become more sophisticated and increasingly are capable of impacting industrial control systems and components. To face these and other challenges of cyber security, Bonneville has taken several key steps and has expanded its cyber security capabilities. Bonneville has added permanent, full-time staff to its Office of Cyber Security with certified and trained professionals organized into cyber security teams to perform offensive cyber security research and penetration testing, to gather and analyze intelligence threat information to stay abreast of new vulnerabilities,

and to assess exposure and respond accordingly to mitigate threats and share information. Bonneville has also developed alliances within the federal government to deploy intelligent devices to monitor external threats from the Internet, and implemented a Cyber Security Operations and Analysis Center to improve Bonneville's capability and situational awareness.

Bonneville continues to enhance its operational security through the implementation and monitoring of a prioritization of real time cyber security controls in pursuit of anomalous activity and offensive cyber security research on operational technology. Bonneville believes that these changes will help it face the challenge of increasing use of digital devices and increasing threats.

### **Renewable Generation Development and Integration into the Federal Transmission System**

As the owner/operator of the Federal Transmission System, the largest bulk transmission system in the Region, Bonneville is responsible for transmitting electric power from and integrating most of the new wind generation projects that are located in the Region or that are transmitted into or through the Region. Bonneville estimates that 5,082 megawatts of wind generation facilities are now interconnected to the Federal Transmission System and approximately 4,782 megawatts are currently in Bonneville's balancing authority area. Certain wind generators in Bonneville's balancing authority area have requested permission to join other existing or new balancing areas. Although a reduction in the amount of wind generation within Bonneville's balancing authority area would improve Bonneville's operational flexibilities, it may have the effect of reducing Bonneville's revenues from wind developers for ancillary services. This may cause small upward rate pressures on Power Services rates. The possible loss of revenue would occur starting in Fiscal Year 2018, at the earliest, which would give Bonneville adequate time to include the expected impacts in developing rates for the 2018-2019 Rate Period.

The rate of growth of wind energy development in the Region has slowed and no new wind generation is expected to be integrated into the Federal Transmission System during calendar year 2016. Nonetheless, Bonneville expects that additional wind generation investments will continue to be made in the Region for the foreseeable future, in part because of state laws in the western United States which now set forth renewable energy portfolio requirements applicable to electric power utilities. In addition, Bonneville expects that the growing interest in solar energy will result in an increase in future solar energy development in the Region (primarily in eastern and southern Oregon). Currently Bonneville forecasts that the amount of solar resources it will integrate will be approximately 100 annual average megawatts by Fiscal Year 2020. Although the integration of solar energy could pose some operational complexities on the Federal Transmission System (solar energy generation can fluctuate during the day with variances in cloud cover), Bonneville believes that integrating solar energy will be substantially less difficult than the integration of wind generation. Bonneville has assembled a solar energy task force to address solar energy policy and impacts as part of development of rates for the 2018-2019 Rate Period.

From a power marketing perspective, the development of large amounts of wind generation in the Pacific Northwest has also affected power market prices and the revenue Bonneville obtains for its surplus power sales, in particular sale of seasonal surplus (secondary energy). It has also resulted in the provision by Power Services of generation and supporting power services to support ancillary services needed for wind energy integration.

Integrating new resources (wind, solar, or otherwise) has required and may continue to require additional transmission facility investments, such as new transmission lines and substations or improvements to existing facilities, in order to transmit the additional electric power. In addition, integration of renewable resources can pose operational challenges to assure system-wide reliability and the efficient and effective transmission of renewable generation to loads. From an electric power system perspective, wind and solar energy is intermittent and may not be available to be called on when needed. Average generation over a year for all wind generation in the Region is approximately 30 percent of the installed capacity of the wind generation facilities. Average generation over a year for all solar generation in the Region ranges approximately from 20 percent to 35 percent of the installed capacity of the solar generation facilities. Furthermore actual output can vary substantially in relatively short time frames. This means that other generating resources must be available to increase generation to meet sudden declines in wind and solar generation and to be scaled back to accommodate upsurges in wind and solar generation.

Finally, in spring and summer months, in certain circumstances of high streamflow and high turbulence, water must run through hydroelectric turbines (this unavoidably creates electric power that must be consumed) to suppress the

amount of dissolved gases in the river system to be within limits established under the ESA and the Federal Clean Water Act (the “CWA”). The gases can be harmful to fish, including fish species listed under the ESA. The resulting hydroelectric energy has to be used (taken to load). Bonneville refers to this as “oversupply” or “over-generation.” Oversupply can be resolved operationally by the substitution (“displacement”) of non-federal generation with Federal System hydropower. Historically, Bonneville has resolved oversupply problems by offering to displace non-federal generation with low-cost or free Federal System hydropower. Wind and solar generators, however, receive financial incentives, such as federal and state tax credits, based on actual electric power generation. Thus, renewable generators do not have an incentive to accept displacement with low-cost or free Federal System hydropower.

Large amounts of wind generation and hydroelectric generation (usually in the spring and summer) at times of low demand (usually at nighttime) can lead to situations in which Bonneville must displace renewable generators in order to mitigate excess gas levels in the river for purposes of fish survival.

### *Bonneville’s Oversupply Management*

Bonneville’s approach to managing oversupply to assure compliance with its environmental responsibilities has evolved. A central feature of Bonneville’s oversupply management is to displace wind generation at times when (i) aggregate electric generation exceeds electric system demand, (ii) increased hydroelectric generation is necessary to keep dissolved gas concentrations within acceptable limits, and (iii) displacement of non-federal generation with low-cost or free Federal System hydroelectric power is inadequate to mitigate excess gas levels. Bonneville’s implementation of oversupply management and the recovery by Bonneville in its rates of the costs thereof have been the subject of litigation. See “BONNEVILLE LITIGATION—Oversupply Management Protocol and Related Rates Litigation.”

As a result of its oversupply management actions in Fiscal Year 2012, Bonneville displaced 49,654 megawatt hours of generation resulting in eligible displacement costs of approximately \$2.7 million. Bonneville has recovered these costs in accordance with a final rate approved by FERC.

Bonneville estimates that, on an expected value basis under oversupply management, it will compensate wind generators an average of approximately \$10 million per fiscal year. Under extreme conditions of very high streamflow, high wind generation and low power loads, compensation could exceed \$50 million in a given fiscal year. These costs would be recovered in Bonneville’s rates.

Bonneville’s oversupply management has not resulted in compensable amounts to wind generators or others from the beginning of Fiscal Year 2013 through the date hereof.

## **BONNEVILLE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS**

### **The Bonneville Fund**

Prior to 1974, Congress annually appropriated funds for the payment of Bonneville’s obligations, including working capital expenditures. Under the Transmission System Act, Congress created the Bonneville Fund, a continuing appropriation available to meet all of Bonneville’s cash obligations.

All receipts, collections, and recoveries of Bonneville in cash from all sources are now deposited in the Bonneville Fund. These include revenues from the sale of power and other services, trust funds, proceeds from the sale of bonds by Bonneville to the United States Treasury, any appropriations by Congress for the Bonneville Fund, and any other Bonneville cash receipts.

Bonneville is authorized to make expenditures from the Bonneville Fund without further appropriation and without fiscal year limitation if such expenditures have been included in Bonneville’s annual budget to Congress. However, Bonneville’s expenditures from the Bonneville Fund are subject to such directives or limitations as may be included in an appropriations act. Bonneville’s annual budgets are reviewed and may be changed by the DOE and subsequently by the United States Office of Management and Budget. The Office of Management and Budget, after

providing opportunity for Bonneville to respond to proposed changes, includes Bonneville's budget in the President's budget submitted to Congress.

The existence of the Bonneville Fund also enables Bonneville to enter into contractual obligations requiring cash payments that exceed, at the time the obligation is created, the sum of the amount of cash in the Bonneville Fund and available borrowing authority. Pursuant to the Project Act and other law, Bonneville has broad authority to enter into contracts and make expenditures to accomplish its objectives.

No prior budget submittal, appropriation, or any prior Congressional action is required to create such obligations except in certain specified instances. These include construction of transmission facilities outside the Region, construction of major transmission facilities within the Region, construction of certain fish and wildlife facilities, condemnation of operating transmission facilities, and acquisition of certain major generating or conservation resources.

### **The Federal System Investment**

The total cost of the multipurpose Federal System Hydroelectric Projects that are part of the Federal System is allocated among the purposes served by the projects, which may include flood control, navigation, irrigation, municipal and industrial water supply, recreation, the protection, mitigation, and enhancement of fish and wildlife, and the generation of power. The costs allocated to power generation from the Corps and Reclamation projects as well as the cost of the transmission system prior to 1974 have been funded through appropriations. The capital costs of the transmission system since 1974 and certain capital conservation and fish and wildlife costs since 1980 have been funded in great part through the use of Bonneville's borrowing authority with the United States Treasury.

Bonneville is required by statute to establish rates that are sufficient to repay the appropriated federal investment in the power facilities of the Federal System within a reasonable period of years. The statutes, however, are not specific with regard to directives for the repayment of the Federal System investment, including what constitutes a reasonable period of years. Consequently, the details of the repayment policy have been established through administrative interpretation of the basic statutory requirements. The current administrative interpretation is embodied in the United States Secretary of Energy's directive RA 6120.2. The directive provides that Bonneville must establish rates that are sufficient to repay the federal investments within the average expected service life of the facility or 50 years, whichever is less. Bonneville develops a repayment schedule both to comply with investment due dates and to minimize costs over the repayment period. Costs are minimized, in accordance with the United States Secretary of Energy's directive RA 6120.2, by repaying the highest interest bearing investments first, to the extent possible. This method of determining the repayment schedule would result in some investments being repaid before their due dates, while assuring that all investments will be repaid by their due dates. As of September 30, 2015, Bonneville had repaid \$12.0 billion of principal of the Federal System investment and had approximately \$4.0 billion principal amount outstanding with regard to such appropriated investments and \$4.6 billion principal amount outstanding in bonds issued by Bonneville to the United States Treasury. Congress has continued to, and is expected to continue to, appropriate amounts for certain fish and wildlife investments in the Federal System. See the discussion of the Columbia River Fish Mitigation in "POWER SERVICES—Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville's Power Services—Fish and Wildlife—The Endangered Species Act."

Bonneville's repayment obligations include the payment of "irrigation assistance," which relates to appropriations provided to Reclamation to construct irrigation facilities associated with its Federal System projects. Bonneville's irrigation assistance obligation is limited to an amount of appropriations that is deemed under Reclamation policy to be beyond the ability of irrigators to pay. Examples of appropriated irrigation investments include water pumps, reservoir facilities and canals within the authorizations for the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects owned by Reclamation. These repayment obligations do not incur interest. In keeping with the principle (as embodied in DOE Order RA 6120.2) of scheduling repayments on the basis of highest interest repayment obligations first, payments for irrigation assistance are typically scheduled for recovery in Bonneville power rates in the year in which the expected life of the related facility (as determined near the time of construction) is reached. Bonneville expects that these payments will range between \$12 million and \$61 million per year over the next ten years.

### **Bonneville's Treasury Borrowing Authority**

Bonneville is authorized to issue and sell to the United States Treasury, and to have outstanding at any one time, up to \$7.7 billion aggregate principal amount of bonds. Of the \$7.7 billion in borrowing authority that Bonneville has with the United States Treasury, bonds in the principal amount of \$4.6 billion were outstanding as of the end of Fiscal Year 2015. Under current law, none of this borrowing authority may be used to acquire electric power from a generating facility having a planned capability of more than 50 annual average megawatts. Of the \$7.7 billion in United States Treasury borrowing authority, \$1.25 billion is available for electric power conservation and renewable resources, including capital investment at the Federal System hydroelectric facilities owned by the Corps and Reclamation, and \$6.45 billion is available for Bonneville's transmission capital program and to implement Bonneville's authorities under the Northwest Power Act.

The interest on Bonneville's outstanding bonds is set at rates comparable to rates on debt issued by other comparable federal government institutions at the time of issuance. As of the end of Fiscal Year 2015, the interest rates on the outstanding bonds ranged from 0.2 percent to 5.9 percent with a weighted average interest rate of approximately 3.0 percent. The original terms of the outstanding bonds vary from one to 30 years. As of the end of Fiscal Year 2015, Bonneville's outstanding bonds issued to the United States Treasury included \$700 million in variable rate bonds at an average interest rate of 0.2 percent at such time. The term of the bonds is limited by the average expected service life or the maximum repayment period, which ever is shorter, of the associated investment: 35 years for transmission facilities, 50 years for Corps and Reclamation capital investments, up to 20 years for conservation investments, and 15 years for fish and wildlife projects. Bonds can be issued with call options.

### **Banking Relationship between the United States Treasury and Bonneville**

Effective April 30, 2008, Bonneville entered into an Obligation Purchase Memorandum of Understanding ("Obligation Purchase MOU") governing the terms by which Bonneville borrows from the United States Treasury. The banking arrangement enables Bonneville to borrow for long- and short-term capital needs and to borrow for operating expenses, an ability that Bonneville had lacked previously. Under the short-term expense borrowing arrangement, Bonneville may borrow and have outstanding at any one time up to \$750 million in aggregate. The short-term operating advances can be made available on as short as one day's notice and have a maximum repayment period of one year, although Bonneville may extend the maturities an additional year by exercising certain rights that would re-establish applicable interest rates. Nothing in the banking arrangement increases the statutory limit on the \$7.7 billion aggregate principal amount of debt that Bonneville may issue to the United States Treasury and have outstanding at any one time. In recent years, Bonneville has made draws on the short-term expense note but has repaid such draws prior to the end of the fiscal year in which the draws were made. In Fiscal Year 2016, Bonneville expects to draw up to \$200 million on the short-term expense borrowing arrangement, to be repaid prior to the end of Fiscal Year 2016.

Coincident with the entry into the Obligation Purchase MOU, Bonneville and the United States Treasury entered into an Investment Memorandum of Understanding ("Investment MOU") that governs investments in the Bonneville Fund beginning October 1, 2008. Under prior practice, Bonneville earned interest credits on all cash balances in the Bonneville Fund, which credits were to be applied to interest due on Bonneville's outstanding United States Treasury bonds. The interest credits were earned, and will continue to be earned to the extent applicable, at the weighted average interest rate of all outstanding bonds issued by Bonneville to the United States Treasury. Under the Investment MOU, Bonneville's ability to earn interest credits is established by formula and phases out gradually, ending no later than September 30, 2018. Under the formula, it is possible that Bonneville's ability to earn such interest credits may expire prior to September 30, 2018. Under the Investment MOU, in lieu of earning interest credits, Bonneville invests the applicable cash reserves in the Bonneville Fund in certain interest bearing securities ("market-based special securities") issued by the United States Treasury. In general, the market-based special securities bear interest by reference to the published yield curve, at the time of the investment, for United States Treasury debt. Interest earnings on balances in the Bonneville Fund under the Investment MOU have been and are expected by Bonneville to be lower than would have occurred under the interest credit practice in effect prior to the effective date of the Investment MOU.

## **Bonneville's Non-Federal Debt**

To meet its capital program, Bonneville has relied on the Congressionally-enacted authority to borrow from the United States Treasury; however, Bonneville has also entered into various arrangements to meet its capital program which involve debt issued by third parties, the repayment of which is secured by Bonneville financial commitments. Bonneville has also employed electric power prepayments as a funding source. Bonneville refers to these commitments as “Non-Federal Debt.” As of September 30, 2015, aggregate Non-Federal Debt outstanding was approximately \$7.5 billion. By way of comparison, as of September 30, 2015, the principal amount of unrepaid appropriations for Federal System investments was approximately \$3.9 billion, and the outstanding principal amount of bonds issued by Bonneville to the United States Treasury was \$4.6 billion. Described below are the currently outstanding forms of Non-Federal Debt. For a description of possible Non-Federal Debt transactions in the near future, see “—Bonneville’s Capital Program—Possible Non-Federal Debt Activities in the Near Future.”

### *Bonds for Energy Northwest’s Net Billed Projects*

Bonds issued by Energy Northwest for its Net Billed Projects (“Net Billed Bonds”) represent the largest single component of Non-Federal Debt: \$5.5 billion out of a total of \$7.5 billion aggregate Non-Federal Debt, as of September 30, 2015. Bonneville works with Energy Northwest on debt management actions relating to the Net Billed Bonds. See “CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS AFFECTING BONNEVILLE—Regional Cooperation Debt and Related Actions.”

As described in this section, under certain Net Billing Agreements, Bonneville has acquired indirectly from Energy Northwest the electric power capability of three large nuclear generating projects (“Energy Northwest Net Billed Projects”). Two of the projects (“Project 1” and “Project 3”) were partially constructed before being terminated in the 1990s. The third project, the Columbia Generating Station, was completed and is operating. In May 2012, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission granted an operating license extension for Columbia Generating Station through calendar year 2043.

Energy Northwest sold the entire capability of Project 1 to 104 publicly-owned utilities and rural electric cooperatives (the “Project 1 Participants”) under net billing agreements (as amended, the “Project 1 Net Billing Agreements”). Energy Northwest sold the entire capability of the Columbia Generating Station to 94 publicly-owned utilities and rural electric cooperatives (the “Columbia Participants”) under net billing agreements (as amended, the “Columbia Net Billing Agreements”). Energy Northwest sold the entire capability of its ownership share of Project 3 to 103 publicly-owned utilities and rural electric cooperatives (the “Project 3 Participants,” and collectively with the Project 1 Participants and the Columbia Participants, the “Participants”) under net billing agreements (as amended, the “Project 3 Net Billing Agreements,” which, together with the Project 1 Net Billing Agreements and the Columbia Net Billing Agreements, are collectively referred to as the “Net Billing Agreements”). Under the Net Billing Agreements, each Participant assigned its share of the capability of the related Net Billed Project to Bonneville. Each of the Participants is a customer of Bonneville. Many of the Participants are Participants in more than one Net Billed Project.

Under the Net Billing Agreements, in payment for the share of the capability of each Energy Northwest Net Billed Project purchased by each Participant, such Participant is obligated to pay Energy Northwest an amount equal to its share of Energy Northwest’s costs for such Energy Northwest Net Billed Project, less amounts payable from sources other than the related Net Billing Agreements, all as shown on the Participant’s billing statement. Bonneville is obligated to pay this amount to such Participant by providing net billing credits against the amounts such Participant owes Bonneville under the Participant’s power sales and other contracts with Bonneville and by making the cash payments described below. Each Participant is obligated to pay Energy Northwest an amount equal to the amount of such credits and cash payments as payment on account of its obligations to pay for its share of the Net Billed Project capability.

The Net Billing Agreements provide for cash payments and the provision of credits by Bonneville and payments by Participants whether or not the related Energy Northwest Net Billed Project is completed, operable or operating and notwithstanding the suspension, interruption, interference, reduction or curtailment of the Energy Northwest Net Billed Project output or termination of the related Energy Northwest Net Billed Project, and such payments or credits are not subject to any reduction, whether by offset or otherwise, and are not conditioned upon the

performance or nonperformance by Energy Northwest, Bonneville or any Participant under the Net Billing Agreements or any other agreement or instrument.

The Net Billing Agreements require each Participant to pay Energy Northwest the amount set forth in its Billing Statement or accounting statement. Each Participant is required to make payments to Energy Northwest only from revenues derived by the Participant from the ownership and operation of its electric utility properties and from payments made by Bonneville under the Net Billing Agreements. Each Participant has covenanted that it will establish, maintain and collect rates or charges for power and energy and other services furnished through its electric utility properties which shall be adequate to provide revenues sufficient to make required payments to Energy Northwest under the Net Billing Agreements and to pay all other charges and obligations payable from or constituting a charge and lien upon such revenues.

The amounts potentially subject to net billing are substantial. The debt service on the Net Billed Bonds in Fiscal Year 2015 was \$219 million. In addition, Energy Northwest also incurs substantial operating expense for the Columbia Generating Station. See “BONNEVILLE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS—Management Discussion of Operating Results,” and “POWER SERVICES—Description of the Generation Resources of the Federal System—Other Power Resources and Contract Purchases.”

#### *Bonneville’s Transmission Facility Lease-Purchase Program*

One type of Non-Federal Debt involves the entry by Bonneville into lease-purchase agreements to acquire the use of transmission assets owned by a third party. Bonneville’s lease-purchase payments are pledged by the related project owner to the payment of certain short-term bank loans that the owner incurs or long-term bonds that the owner issues to the public. The proceeds of the bank loans or bonds are used to fund the acquisition of and or construction, installation, and equipping of, the related facilities. Under these transactions, the related bonds and bank loans are secured solely by Bonneville’s payments under the related lease-purchase agreement; furthermore, Bonneville’s related rental payments are not conditioned on the completion, suspension, or termination of the related facilities. Bonneville currently has outstanding short-term and long-term lease-purchase arrangements with Northwest Infrastructure Financing Corporation and one affiliate corporation (collectively, the “NIFCs”), the Issuer and the Idaho Energy Resources Authority (the “IERA”). The Series 2016-2 Bonds when issued will be included in Non-Federal Debt under the Lease-Purchase Program.

As of September 30, 2015, the Issuer had outstanding approximately \$376 million in long-term, lease-purchase bonds, the proceeds of which were used to acquire certain lease-purchased transmission facilities from certain of the NIFCs, which were the prior owners of the facilities. Such NIFCs then repaid in full short-term bank loans that they had incurred to finance construction of the facilities. Bonneville expects to continue to participate in similar financings where short-term lease-purchases secure construction loans that are repaid with the proceeds of long-term bonds secured by subsequent long-term lease-purchases. See “—Bonneville’s Capital Program—Possible Non-Federal Debt Activities in the Near Future.” In connection with the issuance of the Series 2016-2 Bonds, the Issuer will use most of the proceeds thereof to acquire the Project from Northwest Infrastructure Financing Corporation V (“NIFC V”).

The aggregate principal amount of outstanding bank loans and publicly-issued bonds associated with Bonneville’s lease-purchase agreements, together with the principal amount associated with certain pre-existing capital leases, was \$1.65 billion as of September 30, 2015. Of the foregoing amount, the aggregate outstanding principal amount of publicly-issued lease-purchase bonds was approximately \$495 million.

#### *Electric Power Prepayments*

In Fiscal Year 2013, Bonneville and four Preference Customers agreed to separate electricity prepayment arrangements in which the Preference Customers provided lump-sum payments to Bonneville as prepayments of a portion of their power purchases through September 30, 2028, the termination date of the Long-Term Preference Contracts. The participating customers are entitled to future deliveries of a portion of the electricity pursuant to such Long-Term Preference Contracts without additional payments. The right to future deliveries of that portion of electricity without additional payments is and will be reflected as fixed equal monthly credits to the participating customers’ power bills from Bonneville. The prepayments are not for fixed blocks of electricity. The prepayments

entitle the participating customers to receive a fixed monthly value of electricity, valued at Bonneville's then-applicable power rates. Bonneville received \$340 million in aggregate of prepayments from the participating customers. The offsetting prepayment credits are set at \$3 million per month, in aggregate, for power provided to the participating customers in the period April 1, 2013 through September 30, 2028.

Bonneville expects to defer expending the remaining \$82 million in prepayments on Federal System hydroelectric facility investments until at least Fiscal Year 2017. The deferral, in concert with certain actions under the Regional Cooperation Debt initiative, will enable Bonneville to prepay a like amount of Federal Appropriations Repayment Obligations earlier than would otherwise occur. See "CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO BONNEVILLE—Regional Cooperation Debt and Related Actions—Bonneville Cash Management to Enable Additional Interest Expense Savings."

As of September 30, 2015, outstanding Non-Federal Debt associated with electric power prepayments was \$302 million.

#### *Resource Acquisitions*

In this form of Non-Federal Debt, Bonneville enters into resource acquisition agreements in which a third party issues bonds, the proceeds of which are used to construct or acquire generating facilities or to fund energy conservation measures, the project capability or conservation savings of which are provided to Bonneville. As of September 30, 2015, outstanding Non-Federal Debt for generating resource acquisitions was \$98 million. See "POWER SERVICES—Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville's Power Services—Bonneville's Obligation to Meet Certain Firm Power Requirements in the Region—Bonneville's Resource Program and Bonneville's Resource Strategies—Electric Power Conservation."

The following table depicts the types and amounts of Non-Federal and Federal Debt outstanding as of the end of each of Fiscal Years 2013 through 2015.

(The remainder of this page is left blank intentionally)

**Non-Federal and Federal Debt, Fiscal Years 2013-2015**  
(Dollars in millions)

**Non-Federal and Federal Debt Outstanding**

<b>Projects Financed with Non-Federal Debt</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
<b>Non-Federal Generation</b>			
Columbia Generating Station	\$3,453	\$3,305	\$3,176
Cowlitz Falls Project	82	85	88
<b>Terminated Generation</b>			
Nuclear Project No. 1	903	913	1,048
Nuclear Project No. 3	1,133	1,144	1,229
Northern Wasco Hydro Project	16	17	18
Lease-Purchase Program/Capital Leases	1,650	1,455	936
Customer prepaid power purchases	302	319	335
Other	--	2	7
<b>Total Non-Federal Debt</b>	<b>\$7,539</b>	<b>\$7,240</b>	<b>\$6,837</b>
<b>Federal Debt</b>			
Borrowings from U.S. Treasury	4,649	4,242	3,885
Federal appropriations	3,514	3,650	3,866
Federal appropriations (not yet scheduled for repayment)	388	440	425
<b>Total Federal Debt</b>	<b>\$8,551</b>	<b>\$8,332</b>	<b>\$8,176</b>
<b>Total Debt</b>	<b>\$16,090</b>	<b>\$15,572</b>	<b>\$15,013</b>

To the extent that Bonneville has entered into (or will enter into) arrangements involving Non-Federal Debt secured by cash payments by Bonneville, the related debt service costs are and will be payable on the same parity as the rental payments for the Project under the Lease Purchase Agreement in the order in which Bonneville's costs are met. See "—Order in Which Bonneville's Costs Are Met." To the extent that Bonneville uses Non-Federal Debt that involves the provision by Bonneville of financial credits or offsets (including net billing credits with respect to the Energy Northwest Net Billed Projects), such obligations may reduce the amount of cash otherwise available in the Bonneville Fund to meet Bonneville's cash payment obligations, including rental payments for the Project under the Lease-Purchase Agreement.

**Bonneville's Capital Program**

Bonneville operates in a capital intensive industry and expenditure levels for its capital program have been substantial. As with all capital investments, there is potential that certain investments may not be constructed to completion, provide the results expected, or achieve functionality for their full expected useful lives. The following table depicts Bonneville's capital investment levels by asset category for Fiscal Years 2011-2015. The following table excludes appropriated capital funding received by the Corps and Reclamation and capital investments associated with the Columbia Generating Station.

**Historical Capital Spending by Program by Fiscal Year<sup>(1)</sup>**  
(Dollars in millions)

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
Transmission <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 522	\$ 557	\$ 506	\$ 613	\$ 734	\$ 2,932
Federal System Hydro	200	214	206	173	167	960
Energy Efficiency	162	80	78	78	87	485
Fish and Wildlife	91	58	52	37	21	259
Facilities, Information Technology, Security <sup>(2)</sup>	37	44	41	28	28	178
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,012</b>	<b>\$ 953</b>	<b>\$ 883</b>	<b>\$ 929</b>	<b>\$ 1,037</b>	<b>\$ 4,814</b>

(1) Amounts include an Allowance for Funds Used during Construction (“AFUDC”), as applied in accordance with Bonneville’s accounting policy as described in Appendix B-1 to the Official Statement (Note 1 to Financial Statements). AFUDC is a measure of interest on funds borrowed to construct electric utility plant to completion and operation.

(2) Certain amounts for Facilities, Information Technology, and Security related to Transmission Services are reported under Transmission.

To date Bonneville has met its capital program needs through various sources that include borrowing from the United States Treasury, and transactions involving Non-Federal Debt, as described above. Bonneville also uses funds from reserves and funds from customers in connection with “Projects Funded in Advance.” Projects Funded in Advance are specific transmission capital investments that are made by Bonneville in the Federal Transmission System at the request of a customer or to meet a customer’s transmission needs. The customer provides funds to Bonneville to construct all or a portion of the related facilities and in some circumstances certain customers may receive offsetting payment credits in future transmission bills from Bonneville. Bonneville owns the facilities in its own name. See “TRANSMISSION SERVICES—Bonneville’s Federal Transmission System.” The following table presents Bonneville’s capital funding sources for Fiscal Year 2011 through Fiscal Year 2015. It excludes capital investments for the Columbia Generating Station and for the Columbia River Fish Mitigation as appropriated by Congress to the Corps.

**Historical Capital Funding by Source and Fiscal Year<sup>(1)</sup>**  
(Dollars in millions)

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
Borrowing from United States Treasury	\$ 798	\$ 664	\$ 632	\$ 544	\$ 647	\$ 3,285
Lease-Purchases <sup>(2)</sup>	77	235	207	248	249	1,016
Projects Funded in Advance	107	39	9	7	2	164
Reserve Funding	30	15	15	15	15	90
Electric Power Prepayments <sup>(3)</sup>	-	-	20	115	124	259
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,012</b>	<b>\$ 953</b>	<b>\$ 883</b>	<b>\$ 929</b>	<b>\$ 1,037</b>	<b>\$ 4,814</b>

(1) Reflects actual capital expenditures funded by the related source, not the amount of the debt (or related liability) by source.

(2) See “—Bonneville’s Non-Federal Debt—Bonneville’s Transmission Facility Lease-Purchase Program.”

(3) See “—Bonneville’s Non-Federal Debt—Electric Power Prepayments.”

*Bonneville's Capital Investment Expectations and Capital Prioritization Process*

To meet a variety of needs, Bonneville is forecasting aggregate planned capital expenditures comparable to or larger than levels in the recent past. Bonneville expects to fund substantial investment: (i) in the Federal Transmission System to assure reliable operation of existing facilities and to address new demands (such as integrating wind generation), (ii) in the hydroelectric dams of the Federal System to maintain and improve reliability and performance, and to protect fish and wildlife, and (iii) to meet fish and wildlife capital commitments under the Columbia Basin Fish Accords, the applicable Columbia River System biological opinions, and the Willamette BiOp. Bonneville's capital expenditures also include information technology, certain heavy equipment and certain costs related to financing.

During the spring of 2012, Bonneville outlined a general approach and subsequently introduced a systematic, value-based method of prioritizing Bonneville capital investments that considers the relationship between capital investment and O&M expense to ensure capital is deployed optimally across competing needs. This prioritization seeks to balance the often competing goals of keeping Bonneville's power and transmission rates as low as possible, making timely and needed investments in the Federal System, and assuring sustainable long-term financial health. Planned investments at the Columbia Generating Station and certain other investments that Bonneville believes are not within its direct control to determine are considered in long-term rate analysis but are not subject to prioritization.

Most of Bonneville's capital investments involve renewals, upgrades and replacement of existing facilities and are incremental in character. Occasionally, Bonneville makes determinations that involve substantial long-term commitments for new capital investments. For example, Bonneville is currently evaluating whether to construct a new transmission line and related facilities in western portions of Washington State and Oregon. The capital cost of this project is estimated to be approximately \$939 million over a five year period, if the project proceeds. Bonneville expects that a decision whether to proceed with construction could be made near the end of calendar year 2016.

In connection with developing the 2016-2017 Final Rate Proposal, Bonneville has assumed the capital spending levels shown in the table that follows. These spending levels reflect the preliminary outcome of Bonneville's capital prioritization process.

**Forecast Capital Spending by Program and Fiscal Year**  
(Dollars in millions)

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>Total</b>
Transmission	\$ 530	\$ 468	\$ 399	\$ 388	\$ 372	\$ 280	\$ 286	\$ 290	<b>\$ 3,013</b>
Fed System Hydro	224	230	257	282	307	332	349	355	<b>2,336</b>
Energy Efficiency	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fish and Wildlife	55	31	18	35	35	34	29	29	<b>266</b>
Facilities, Information Technology, Security	100	67	61	58	53	59	53	55	<b>506</b>
AFUDC <sup>(1)</sup>	63	39	38	45	25	26	27	29	<b>292</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 972</b>	<b>\$ 835</b>	<b>\$ 773</b>	<b>\$ 808</b>	<b>\$ 792</b>	<b>\$ 731</b>	<b>\$ 744</b>	<b>\$ 758</b>	<b>\$ 6,413</b>

<sup>(1)</sup> AFUDC is based on forecasts of spend rates, completion dates and interest rates. AFUDC will be applied to specific program projects as construction begins and will accumulate during the construction period in accordance with Bonneville's accounting policy as described in Appendix B-1 to the Official Statement (Note 1 to Financial Statements).

The Forecast Capital Spending table above does not include investments projected by Energy Northwest for the Columbia Generation Station. Energy Northwest has developed a long-term capital investment strategy for the Columbia Generation Station in view of a recent 20-year operating license extension, evolving and expected

guidance from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and other factors. The strategy identified \$594 million in additional capital requirements from July 2017 through June 2024. Bonneville expects that new capital needs for the project will be funded with Net Billed Bonds issued by Energy Northwest, the debt service of which will be covered by Bonneville under Net Billing Agreements. See “—Possible Non-Federal Debt Activities in the Near Future.” The Forecast Capital Spending table above also does not include investments related to the Columbia River Fish Mitigation program. See “POWER SERVICES—Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville’s Power Services—Fish and Wildlife.” For a number of years prior to Fiscal Year 2016, Bonneville capitalized energy efficiency expenditures over the average expected useful lives of the related measures. In Fiscal Year 2015, Bonneville determined that it will no longer capitalize energy efficiency expenditures beginning with Fiscal Year 2016.

There is substantial uncertainty in forecasting capital program needs. Actual capital spending can differ substantially from forecasts due to various factors including, among other things, changing needs, customer demands and input, expected rate impacts, and changes in expected costs, regulatory requirements, technology, asset prioritization, and the availability of non-capital investment alternatives. As it has in prior rate periods, Bonneville will initiate a “Capital Investment Review” process with its stakeholders on June 16, 2016. This review will provide information to Bonneville on the expected costs it will propose to recover in rates for the 2018-2019 Rate Period. It is possible that the capital spending levels identified through this process will differ from those assumed in establishing rates for the current rate period, which are portrayed in the table immediately above.

#### *Bonneville’s Capital Financing Strategy*

Given the large amount of potential Federal System investment described above, and based on current and forecast capital spending levels, and the amount of available United States Treasury borrowing authority, Bonneville has worked and continues to work with its customers to develop a strategic approach to assure that current capital investment sources described in the table above, including Non-Federal Debt, and borrowing from the United States Treasury, and other means, are sufficient to meet Bonneville’s capital program and liquidity needs. Bonneville believes that adherence to the capital strategy will assure that Bonneville will meet capital and financial liquidity needs, through at least Fiscal Year 2026. The capital strategy is predicated in part on an assumption that Bonneville will reserve \$750 million of its United States Treasury borrowing capacity to be available for short-term borrowing for liquidity. The use of Non-Federal Debt is essential to Bonneville’s capital strategy: absent the use of Non-Federal Debt and other funding arrangements, Bonneville estimates that it could reach the ceiling amount of its authority to borrow from the United States Treasury as early as Fiscal Year 2019.

#### *Possible Non-Federal Debt Activities in the Near Future*

In carrying out its capital financing strategy, Bonneville is planning to or may seek to enter into Non-Federal Debt arrangements in the near future.

Future Lease-Purchases. Bonneville expects that prior to August 2016 the Port of Morrow will issue approximately \$325 million of Bonneville-supported lease-purchase bonds (federally taxable) to fund construction of certain facilities at Bonneville’s Celilo Converter Station. On December 9, 2015, the Board of Commissioners of the Port of Morrow adopted Resolution 2015-12 to authorize such additional bonds. The debt service of such bonds will be secured by Bonneville’s rental payments under a long-term lease-purchase agreement. For future fiscal years, Bonneville believes that the amount of short- and long-term lease-purchase arrangements and the bank loans and bonds secured thereby could meet approximately 50 percent of the Federal Transmission System’s capital needs. As reflected in the 2016-2017 Final Rate Proposal, Bonneville expects that capital expenditures from funds provided under lease-purchase agreements will average approximately \$211 million annually over Fiscal Years 2016-2023. Bonneville expects that approximately \$211 million per year in short-term bank facilities will be established to fund construction, pending repayment with the proceeds of long-term lease-purchase bonds. Bonneville believes that the aggregate principal amount of short-term, lease-purchase construction bank facilities could exceed \$1 billion at any one time. See “—Bonneville’s Non-Federal Debt.” It is possible that the Issuer, IERA, or others could enter into such short-term bank facilities and/or issue such publicly-offered bonds.

Possible Additional Net Billed Bonds and Net Billed Project Debt Restructuring. Bonneville expects that Energy Northwest will continue to issue Net Billed Bonds to fund new capital investments for the Columbia

Generating Station that are expected to be made in the amount of approximately \$594 million from July 2017 through June 2024. Additional Net Billed Bonds for additional capital investments for the project may be issued thereafter. In addition, Bonneville expects that it and Energy Northwest will continue to restructure Net Billed Bond debt to extend the average maturity of the outstanding principal balance of such debt to match more closely the originally expected economic useful lives of the facilities financed thereby. See “CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO BONNEVILLE—Regional Cooperation Debt and Related Actions.”

Possible Additional Electric Power Prepayments. While Bonneville has no current plans to do so, it is possible that Bonneville may seek to use this form of Non-Federal Debt to meet some of its capital funding needs. See “—Bonneville’s Non-Federal Debt.”

Possible Additional Resource Acquisitions. While Bonneville has no current plans to do so, Bonneville may seek to use this form of Non-Federal Debt to acquire electric power generating and conservation resources. See “—Bonneville’s Non-Federal Debt.”

### **Direct Pay Agreements**

In Fiscal Year 2006, Bonneville and Energy Northwest entered into certain Direct Pay Agreements. Under these agreements, Bonneville has agreed by contract to pay directly to Energy Northwest the costs of Columbia Generating Station, Project 1, and Project 3 as billed to Bonneville by Energy Northwest. Under these agreements, Bonneville’s cash receipts and payments are more efficiently matched so that Bonneville may reduce the cash balance it carries in the Bonneville Fund to assure full and timely payment of its obligations, both federal and non-federal.

In reliance on Bonneville’s Direct Pay Agreement obligations, the billing statements that Energy Northwest is required to provide to Participants under the Net Billing Agreements show and will show the expected payments from Bonneville under the Direct Pay Agreements as amounts payable from sources other than the Net Billing Agreements. Thus, the amounts to be paid by Participants to Energy Northwest in a Net Billing Agreement Contract Year are and will in the future be reduced to zero, thereby reducing Bonneville’s obligation to provide net billing credits to zero as well. In this manner, Bonneville meets and will meet the costs of the Net Billed Projects on a current basis entirely by means of cash payments from the Bonneville Fund.

The Direct Pay Agreements did not and do not result in the amendment or termination of the Net Billing Agreements or any other agreements of Bonneville with respect to the Net Billed Projects. The Direct Pay Agreements provide that, in the event that Bonneville were to fail to make required payments under the Direct Pay Agreements, Energy Northwest would re-initiate net billing as required under the Net Billing Agreements. In the event that payments under the Direct Pay Agreements were to fall short of meeting Net Billed Project costs or the Direct Payment Agreements were terminated, under the Net Billing Agreements, the Participants would resume making payments directly to Energy Northwest and Bonneville would resume crediting (net billing) amounts otherwise due to Bonneville by the Participants for power and transmission purchases from Bonneville, up to the amount of payments made by the Participants to Energy Northwest. In general, the amount of the Participants’ payments subject to net billing is based on the amount of transmission and power purchased from Bonneville and the rates levels charged by Bonneville for such purchases.

In December 2010, Bonneville and the Eugene Water & Electric Board (“EWEB”) entered into a direct pay agreement. Under this agreement, Bonneville has agreed by contract to pay directly to EWEB its 30 percent share of the costs of the Trojan Nuclear Project as billed to Bonneville by EWEB. The EWEB direct pay agreement did not and does not result in the amendment or termination of the EWEB Net Billing Agreement. There is no debt outstanding related to the Trojan Nuclear Project and EWEB’s 30 percent share of the costs of the Trojan Nuclear Project is under \$2 million per year.

### **Direct Funding of Federal System Operations and Maintenance Expense**

In 1992, Congress enacted legislation authorizing but not requiring the Corps and the Department of Interior, encompassing both Reclamation and the Fish and Wildlife Service, to enter into direct funding agreements with

Bonneville for operations and maintenance activities for the benefit of the Federal System. Under direct funding, periodically during the course of each fiscal year, Bonneville pays amounts directly to the Corps or the Department of Interior for operations and maintenance of their respective Federal System hydroelectric facilities as the Corps or the Department of Interior and Bonneville may agree. Bonneville now “direct funds” virtually all of the Corps and Reclamation Federal System operations and maintenance activities. Bonneville’s cash payments for operations and maintenance expense to the Corps, Reclamation, and the Fish and Wildlife Service were \$215 million, \$136 million, and \$30 million, respectively, in Fiscal Year 2015.

Bonneville believes that the direct funding approach has increased Bonneville’s influence on the Corps’ and the Department of Interior’s Federal System operations and maintenance activities, expenses, and budgets because, in general, Bonneville’s approval is necessary for the Corps and the Department of Interior to assure funding. Under the direct funding agreements, direct payments from Bonneville for operations and maintenance are subject to the prior application of amounts in the Bonneville Fund to the payment of Bonneville’s non-federal obligations, including Bonneville’s rental payments for the Project under the Lease-Purchase Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, as a practical matter, since direct funding would be made by cash disbursement from the Bonneville Fund during the course of the year rather than as a repayment of a loan at the end of the year, it is possible that direct funding could be made to the exclusion of non-federal payments that would otherwise have been paid under historical practice. One result of direct funding obligations by Bonneville is that there has been and will be a reduction in the amount of Federal System operations and maintenance appropriations that Bonneville would otherwise have to repay, thereby reducing the amount of Bonneville’s repayments to the United States Treasury that would otherwise be subject to deferral. Nonetheless, Bonneville expects to have approximately \$189 million to \$564 million in scheduled payments each year to the United States Treasury, exclusive of the Corps’ and the Department of Interior’s operation and maintenance expenses, through Fiscal Year 2019. Bonneville expects that it will renew and extend the direct funding agreements with the Corps and the Department of Interior prior to the expiration dates of the respective agreements.

As part of Bonneville’s increased commitments for capital facilities to assist in Federal System fish and wildlife activities, in particular under the Columbia Basin Fish Accords, Bonneville has agreed in principle to establish a mechanism to use direct funding to finance certain capital expenditures of the Corps at its Federal System Hydroelectric Projects. Under this arrangement, Bonneville will borrow funds from the United States Treasury and transfer the funds to the Corps to make the expenditures. The debt service on the amounts borrowed from the United States Treasury would be payable by Bonneville from “net proceeds.” See “—Order in Which Bonneville’s Costs Are Met.”

#### **Order in Which Bonneville’s Costs Are Met**

Bonneville is required to establish rates sufficient to make, and Bonneville makes, certain annual payments to the United States Treasury. These payments are subject to the availability of net proceeds, which are gross cash receipts remaining in the Bonneville Fund after deducting all of the costs paid by Bonneville to operate and maintain the Federal System other than those used to make payments to the United States Treasury for: (i) the repayment of the federal investment in certain transmission facilities and the power generating facilities at the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects, (ii) debt service on bonds issued by Bonneville and sold to the United States Treasury, (iii) repayment of appropriated amounts to the Corps and Reclamation for costs that are allocated to power generation at the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects, and (iv) costs allocated to irrigation projects as are required by law to be recovered from power sales. Bonneville met its Fiscal Year 2015 payment responsibility to the United States Treasury in full and on time. Of Bonneville’s payments of \$891 million in Fiscal Year 2015, approximately \$229 million was for the amortization ahead of schedule of certain Federal Appropriations Repayment Obligations. Bonneville plans to make similar advance amortization payments to the United States Treasury at the end of Fiscal Year 2016. See “CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO BONNEVILLE—Regional Cooperation Debt and Related Actions.”

For various reasons, Bonneville’s revenues from the sale of electric power and other services may vary significantly from year to year. In order to accommodate such fluctuations in revenues and to assure that Bonneville has sufficient revenues to pay the costs necessary to maintain and operate the Federal System, all non-United States Treasury cash payment obligations of Bonneville, including rental payments for the Project under the Lease-Purchase Agreement securing the Series 2016-2 Bonds and other operating and maintenance expenses, have priority

over payments by Bonneville to the United States Treasury. In the opinion of Bonneville’s General Counsel, under federal statutes, Bonneville may make payments to the United States Treasury only from net proceeds; all other cash payments of Bonneville, including rental payments for the Project under the Lease-Purchase Agreement securing the Series 2016-2 Bonds and other operating and maintenance expenses, have priority over payments by Bonneville to the United States Treasury for the costs described in (i) through (iv) in the preceding paragraph. See the Official Statement under “SOURCES OF PAYMENT AND SECURITY FOR THE SERIES 2016-2 BONDS,” and see “—Direct Pay Agreements” in this Appendix A.

Bonneville’s operating revenues include amounts equal to net billing credits if and as provided by Bonneville under the Net Billing Agreements, see “—Bonneville’s Non-Federal Debt—Bonds for Energy Northwest’s Net Billed Projects” and “—Direct Pay Agreements” above. Net billing credits reduce Bonneville’s cash receipts by the amount of the credits. Thus, the costs payable under the Energy Northwest Net Billing Agreements for the Net Billed Projects, to the extent covered by net billing credits, are paid without regard to amounts in the Bonneville Fund. Bonneville and Energy Northwest have entered into Direct Pay Agreements under which Bonneville pays the costs of the Net Billed Projects on a current cash basis thereby reducing the use of net billing to meet the costs of the Net Billed Projects. See “—Direct Pay Agreements”.

Bonneville also has obligations to reduce future amounts receivable from certain power customers that have prepaid for electric power, see “—Bonneville’s Non-Federal Debt—Electric Power Prepayments,” and from certain transmission customers that have provided lump sum payments to Bonneville for it to construct or install certain transmission facilities necessary to provide transmission service to the customers. The electric power prepayments involve the recognition (as credits) of the prepayments in future electric power bills by Bonneville. The credits for prepaid power will be approximately \$31 million per fiscal year through Fiscal Year 2028. Bonneville estimates that transmission service credit offsets for amounts advanced to Bonneville for new transmission integration investments were \$37 million in Fiscal Year 2015 and will be \$39 million in Fiscal Year 2016.

The foregoing credits have the effect of reducing Bonneville’s future cash revenue from the participating customers, and will reduce in the future the amount of cash in the Bonneville Fund that would otherwise be available to meet Bonneville’s cash payment obligations, including rental payments for the Project under the Lease-Purchase Agreement.

The requirement to pay the United States Treasury exclusively from net proceeds would result in a deferral of payments to the United States Treasury in the event that net proceeds were not sufficient for Bonneville to make its annual payment in full to the United States Treasury. This could occur if Bonneville were to receive substantially less revenue or incur substantially greater costs than expected.

Under the repayment methodology as specified in the United States Secretary of Energy’s directive RA 6120.2, amortization of the Federal System investment is paid after all other cash obligations have been met. If, in any year, Bonneville has insufficient cash to make a scheduled amortization payment, Bonneville must reschedule amortization payments not made in that year over the remaining repayment period. If a cash under-recovery were larger than the amount of planned amortization payments, Bonneville would first reschedule planned amortization payments and then defer current interest payments to the United States Treasury. When Bonneville defers an interest payment associated with repayment of appropriated Federal System investment in the Federal System, the deferred amount may be assigned a market interest rate determined by the Secretary of the United States Treasury and must be repaid before Bonneville may make any other repayment of principal to the United States Treasury. See the table under the heading “Statement of Non-Federal Debt Service Coverage and United States Treasury Payments” for historical United States Treasury payments.

While all amounts in the Bonneville Fund are available to pay Bonneville’s costs without regard to whether such costs are Power Services’ costs or Transmission Services’ costs, some reserves are derived from Power Services’ rates and operations and some are derived from Transmission Services’ rates and operations. (As of the end of Fiscal Year 2015, approximately \$661 million in Total Financial Reserves (cash, investments in United States Treasury market-based special securities and deferred borrowing) were derived from Power Services’ rates and operations and \$526 million in Total Financial Reserves were derived from Transmission Services’ rates and operations.) “Total Financial Reserves” is an unaudited metric that is not in accordance with GAAP but which

Bonneville uses to reflect the amount of reliably available financial resources in or available to the Bonneville Fund to meet payment obligations. See “—Bonneville’s Use of Non-GAAP Financial Metrics.”

Because Bonneville’s power rates are to be established to recover the costs of power operations and Bonneville’s transmission rates are to be established to recover the cost of transmission operations, if Bonneville were to use Transmission Services-derived reserves to pay Power Services’ costs, use of the Transmission Services’ reserves would be treated as an obligation of Power Services, with the requirement that Power Services replenish any amounts of Transmission Services-derived reserves so used. Similarly, if Bonneville were to use Power Services-derived reserves to pay Transmission Services’ costs, use of the Power Services’ reserves would be treated as an obligation of Transmission Services, with the requirement that Transmission Services replenish any amounts of Power Services-derived reserves so used.

### **Bonneville’s Use of Non-GAAP Financial Metrics**

For a variety of reasons, Bonneville has developed and employs certain financial metrics that Bonneville management believes are descriptive of Bonneville’s financial performance notwithstanding that such financial metrics are not consistent with GAAP and are unaudited.

Adjusted Net Revenues. In Fiscal Year 2013, Bonneville commenced utilizing and reporting a new financial metric, “Adjusted Net Revenues.” While the Adjusted Net Revenues metric is not a measure in accordance with GAAP and is unaudited, Bonneville management believes the use and reporting of Adjusted Net Revenues assists in reflecting Bonneville’s financial performance for day-to-day operations in applicable fiscal years. The Adjusted Net Revenues metric is net revenues after removing the non-operating effects on Bonneville of certain debt management and related actions with respect to Net Billed Bonds under the Regional Cooperation Debt approach. See “CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS RELATED TO BONNEVILLE—Regional Cooperation Debt and Related Actions.”

The first phase of Regional Cooperation Debt occurred under the Debt Optimization Program (between 2001 and 2009) under which Energy Northwest and Bonneville worked together to refinance certain maturities of Net Billed Bonds so that the weighted average maturities more closely matched the originally expected useful lives of the related Net Billed Project facilities. These debt management actions freed up Bonneville revenues to replenish available United States Treasury borrowing capacity by extending into the future the repayment dates of debt for the Net Billed Projects. The resulting reductions in intervening debt payments (in the period between the dates the Energy Northwest debt was initially due to be repaid and the dates that such refinanced debt was re-set to be repaid) resulted in funds becoming available to pay down the aggregate principal amount of Bonneville’s then-outstanding United States Treasury debt.

Net Billed Project debt expense is recorded over the term of the related outstanding debt. The lower Net Billed Project debt expense due to the Debt Optimization Program resulted in higher net revenues than otherwise would have been reported in the affected fiscal years absent the debt management actions. As the Energy Northwest debt that was issued for the refinancing under the Debt Optimization Program reaches maturity, as is now occurring, the converse of the original effects of Debt Optimization on financial reporting is also occurring: Net Billed Project debt expense is higher than, and Federal System net revenues are lower than, would have been the case without Debt Optimization. The Adjusted Net Revenues metric reflects the fact that Bonneville ceased financing the cost of energy efficiency measures and began expensing them in Fiscal Year 2016.

More recently Bonneville and Energy Northwest have initiated a new phase of Regional Cooperation Debt beginning in 2014. See “CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO BONNEVILLE—Regional Cooperation Debt and Related Actions.” As noted above, Net Billed Project debt expense is recorded over the term of the related outstanding debt. The Regional Cooperation Debt transactions in Fiscal Year 2014 and Fiscal Year 2015 had the effect of lowering Net Billed Project debt expense and resulted in higher net revenues than otherwise would have been reported in Fiscal Year 2014 and Fiscal Year 2015 absent the Fiscal Year 2014 and Fiscal Year 2015 Regional Cooperation Debt management actions.

The effects of the foregoing debt management actions are not considered to be related to ongoing Federal System operations, and therefore management has determined that the Adjusted Net Revenues metric is a better

representation of Federal System financial performance for the periods. End of Year Adjusted Net Revenues were \$236 million in Fiscal Year 2014 and \$143 million in Fiscal Year 2015. See “—Management Discussion of Operating Results—Fiscal Year 2015.”

Reserves Available for Risk. For ratemaking purposes, Bonneville uses a financial metric it refers to as “Reserves Available for Risk,” or “RAR,” as a measure of financial reserves. While the RAR metric is not a measure in accordance with GAAP and is unaudited, Bonneville management nonetheless believes that the RAR metric provides a sound measure of Bonneville’s reserves derived (and retained) from operations. See “—Management Discussion of Operating Results—Fiscal Year 2015.” The RAR metric represents amounts in, or reliably available to, the Bonneville Fund which are generated through normal operations and excludes deposits from third parties, capital funds drawn in advance, borrowings for expenses and other amounts deemed by Bonneville not to be available for risk.

As of the end of Fiscal Year 2015, Bonneville had \$845 million in RAR and a \$750 million short-term credit facility (available to meet certain expenses) with the United States Treasury with no outstanding balance. The RAR balances and the short-term borrowing facility combine to provide a cushion of liquidity for Bonneville to meet its costs in situations where revenues and expenses deviate from rate case assumptions. Bonneville forecasts and assesses uncertainty in expenses, revenues, and cash flow through the end of the rate period. Bonneville models the effect of these uncertainties on RAR and short-term liquidity, given proposed rates. This assessment yields information about several key metrics, including TPP, which is the probability that Bonneville will be able to make all payments to the United States Treasury during the rate period. See “CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO BONNEVILLE—Bonneville Power and Transmission Rate Developments.” Depending on numerous variables, assumptions and forecasts, Bonneville may establish rates that, on average, will increase (or decrease) RAR for the relevant business line in the applicable rate period in amounts that are sufficient to meet Bonneville’s TPP policy. Bonneville measures RAR for both Power Services operations and Transmission Services operations.

Total Financial Reserves. “Total Financial Reserves” is a non-GAAP and unaudited metric that Bonneville uses to reflect current cash and cash equivalents. Bonneville uses the metric to reflect the amount of reliably available financial resources in or available to the Bonneville Fund to meet payment obligations. Total Financial Reserves are composed of cash, cash equivalents, and special investments held in the Bonneville Fund, and deferred borrowing from the United States Treasury, all of which are available to meet Bonneville’s current expenditure needs. Total Financial Reserves are affected by numerous factors including revenues and expenses for the year, increases or decreases in cash and cash equivalents related to the timing of collections and payments, capital expenditures, and principal and interest payments to the United States Treasury. Bonneville does not use this metric in establishing rates; rather, Bonneville focuses on RAR. As of the end of Year Fiscal Year 2015, Total Financial Reserves were \$1.19 billion.

Days Liquidity on Hand. One metric that Bonneville uses to measure the amount of liquidity relative to its ability to meet operating expenses is “Days Liquidity on Hand.” Bonneville measures this using the following equation: (i) RAR plus Available United States Treasury Short-Term Facility (\$750 million) divided by (ii) Operating Expenses divided by 360. The information is unaudited.

(The remainder of this page is left blank intentionally)

**Bonneville’s Fiscal Year-End Financial Reserves  
Fiscal Years 2011-2015  
(Dollars in millions)**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Total Financial Reserves</b>	<b>Reserves Available for Risk</b>	<b>U.S. Treasury Short-Term Line</b>	<b>Days Liquidity on Hand<sup>(1)</sup></b>
2011	1,006	747	750	329
2012	1,022	704	750	319
2013	1,272	641	750	303
2014	1,224	784	750	317
2015	1,187	845	750	347

<sup>(1)</sup> The calculation of Days Liquidity on Hand is (RAR + United States Treasury Short-Term Line) / (Operating Expenses / 360).

**Position Management and Derivative Instrument Activities and Policies**

Bonneville seeks to ensure that its management of various financial risks is conducted in a controlled, business-like manner. To this end, Bonneville has adopted risk management policies and organizational structures that systematically address the management of these activities. Policies governing transacting are overseen by an internal risk committee composed of senior Bonneville executives.

Bonneville’s policies allow the use of financial instruments such as commodity and interest rate futures, forwards, options, and swaps to manage Bonneville’s risk to net revenue outcomes. Such policies do not authorize the use of financial instruments for purposes outside Bonneville-established strategies. Strategies are established in the context of portfolio management, as opposed to individual position/exposure management, and are subject to quantitatively-derived, hard position limits mathematically linked to Bonneville’s financial metrics, such as TPP. Exceptions to established policies must be cleared by Bonneville’s internal risk committee before execution.

Bonneville’s use of these various financial instruments is subject to regulation under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (“Dodd-Frank”). Dodd-Frank grants extensive discretion to applicable regulatory bodies, primarily the Commodities Futures Trading Commission (“CFTC”) and the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”), which have established rules regarding trading limits, and capital, reserve, and collateral requirements (primarily margin requirements).

In 2012, Bonneville approved a permanent and ongoing financial hedging program using power futures that do not require physical delivery. Such transactions require Bonneville to provide collateral through the posting of margin payments to cover the credit risk absorbed by the exchange. Margin payments can affect Bonneville’s cash flows, especially if large margin payments are required. For exchange-traded power futures, failure to meet margin calls can subject a party’s related agreements to immediate termination and the net mark-to-market value of the related agreements may become immediately due and payable. In contrast, Bonneville does not currently provide collateral to secure any of its related physical delivery power trading contract obligations, including over-the-counter physical delivery electric power transactions.

**Historical Federal System Operating Revenue and Operating Expense Compared to Historical Streamflow**

Streamflow is an important variable in Bonneville’s financial performance because, in effect, it is the fuel for the hydroelectric facilities of the Federal System. The availability of hydroelectric generation affects Bonneville’s purchased power costs. In periods of abundant hydroelectric generation Bonneville can avoid making “balancing” short-term power purchases to match loads. In periods of low hydroelectric generation, Bonneville’s purchased power expense can increase to make such balancing purchases. Conversely, in periods of abundant hydroelectric

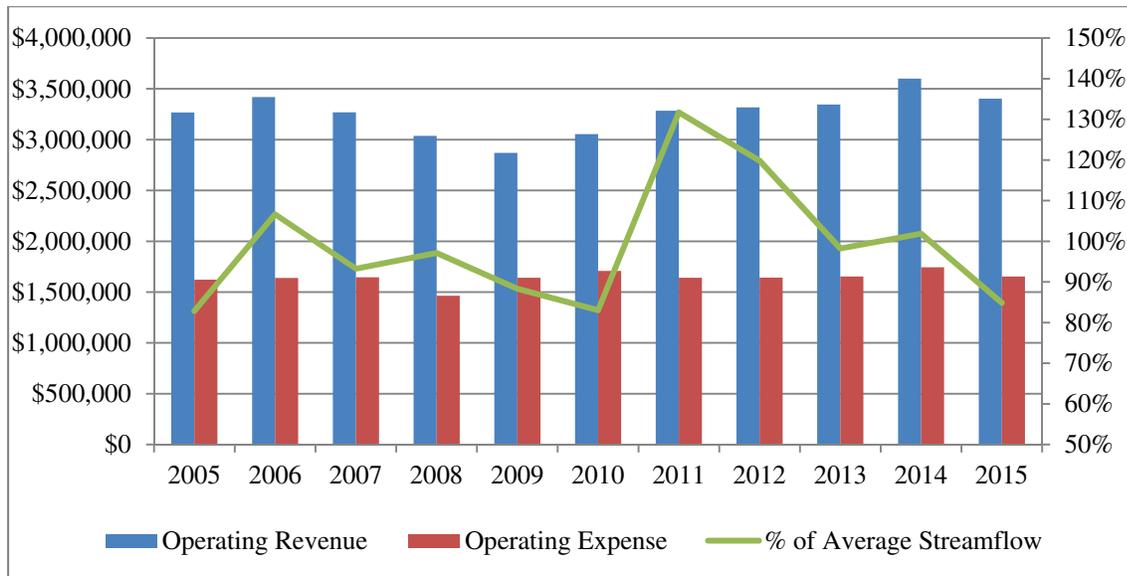
generation Bonneville can obtain additional revenue from marketing seasonal surplus (secondary) energy while in periods of low hydroelectric generation, such revenue can diminish. Bonneville's ratemaking, power and resource planning, financial operations, power operations, power marketing and risk management functions all take hydroelectric variability into account in their operations and have been doing so, in effect, since Bonneville's creation.

The relationship of operating revenues to operating expenses has been stable relative to wide variances in streamflow and hydro-generation. Much of this stability in revenues is attributable to the high proportion of power revenues that Bonneville derives from sales of firm power. Firm power is power expected to be produced by the Federal System under certain assumptions of Low Water Flows/Critical Water. See "POWER SERVICES—Description of the Generation Facilities of the Federal System—Federal Hydro-Generation." By contrast, Bonneville derives fewer revenues from seasonal surplus (secondary) energy. In establishing rates for the 2016-2017 Rate Period, Bonneville assumed that revenues from net secondary sales would average approximately \$335 million per fiscal year of the rate period, assuming average streamflow. For reference, \$335 million is approximately 10 percent of Bonneville total revenues of approximately \$3.4 billion (Fiscal Year 2015).

The following chart plots Bonneville's annual operating expense and operating revenues (as presented in the table entitled, "Statement of Non-Federal Debt Service Coverage and United States Treasury Payments," see "—Statement of Non-Federal Debt Service Coverage") against Federal System streamflow in the same year. The streamflow data for the relevant year are expressed as a percentage of historical average streamflow. Bonneville believes that the relative stability of operating expense and operating revenue over a wide variety of annual streamflow, particularly since 2002, reflects Bonneville's accommodation of the potential variability of streamflow in virtually all of Bonneville's major functions.

(The remainder of this page is left blank intentionally)

**Historical Federal System Operating Revenue and Operating Expense  
Compared to Historical Streamflow  
(\$ in thousands)**



In the preceding table, the streamflow data are based on the Federal System’s Operating Year (August 1 – July 30) and the financial information is based on Bonneville’s Fiscal Year (October 1 – September 30).

**Pension and Other Post-Retirement Benefits**

Federal employees associated with the operation of the Federal System participate in either the Civil Service Retirement System or the Federal Employees Retirement System. Employees may also participate in the Federal Employees Health and Benefit Program and the Federal Employee Group Life Insurance Program. All such post-retirement systems and programs are sponsored by the United States Office of Personnel Management; therefore, the accounts of the Federal System do not record any accumulated plan assets or liabilities related to the administration of such programs. Contribution amounts are paid by Bonneville to the United States Treasury and are recorded as expense during the year to which the payment relates. In Fiscal Year 2015, Bonneville made \$38 million in post-retirement contributions.

Almost all of Energy Northwest’s costs for pension and post retirement benefits relate to employment in connection with the Columbia Generating Station. To the extent that these costs arise in connection with the Energy Northwest Net Billed Projects, they have been and will be recovered under the Net Billing Agreements and borne by Bonneville. Energy Northwest participates in certain retirement plans administered by the State of Washington. Contribution amounts are paid by Energy Northwest to the State of Washington and are recorded as an expense during the year in which the payment relates. In Fiscal Year 2015, Energy Northwest made \$20 million in post-retirement contributions (\$13 million of which was from Energy Northwest as employer, while \$7 million represented contributions made on behalf of Energy Northwest employees). While Energy Northwest’s contributions represent its full current liability under such retirement plans, any unfunded pension benefit obligations could result in higher required contributions in future years.

**Historical Federal System Financial Data**

Federal System historical financial data for Fiscal Years 2013 through 2015 are set forth in the following “Federal System Statement of Revenues and Expenses (Unaudited)” table. Such data have been derived from the annual audited financial statements of the Federal System and differ therefrom in some respects in the categorization of certain costs. The audited Financial Statements of the Federal System (prepared in accordance with GAAP and provided as Appendix B-1 to the Official Statement) include accounts of Bonneville as well as those of the

generating facilities that are located in the Region and owned by the Corps and Reclamation and for which Bonneville is the power marketing agency, and certain operation and maintenance costs of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

(The remainder of this page is left blank intentionally)

**Federal System Statement of Revenues and Expenses  
(Unaudited)**

<b>As of Sept. 30 – Dollars in millions</b>	<b><u>2015</u></b>	<b><u>2014</u></b>	<b><u>2013</u></b>
Operating Revenues:			
Sales of electric power —			
Sales within the Northwest Region —			
Northwest Publicly-Owned Utilities <sup>(1)</sup>	\$1,929	\$1,945	\$1,829
Direct Service Industrial Customers	78	107	102
Northwest Investor-Owned Utilities	67	72	73
Sales outside the Northwest Region <sup>(2)</sup>	326	448	434
Book-outs <sup>(3)</sup>	<u>(45)</u>	<u>(38)</u>	<u>(67)</u>
Total Sales of Electric Power	2,355	2,534	2,371
Transmission <sup>(4)</sup>	937	932	858
Fish Credits and other Revenues <sup>(5)</sup>	<u>112</u>	<u>134</u>	<u>117</u>
Total Operating Revenues	3,404	3,600	3,346
Operating Expenses:			
Bonneville O&M <sup>(6)</sup>	1,022	1,015	961
Purchased Power <sup>(3)</sup>	76	199	154
Corps, Reclamation, and Fish & Wildlife Service O&M <sup>(7)</sup>	381	356	345
Non-Federal entities O&M — net billed <sup>(8)</sup>	314	292	297
Non-Federal entities O&M — non-net billed <sup>(9)</sup>	<u>42</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>39</u>
Total Operation and Maintenance	1,835	1,898	1,796
Net billed Debt Service	219	344	717
Non-net billed Debt Service	<u>10</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>16</u>
Non-Federal Projects Debt Service <sup>(10)</sup>	229	356	733
Federal Projects Depreciation	448	441	430
Residential Exchange <sup>(11)</sup>	<u>200</u>	<u>201</u>	<u>202</u>
Total Operating Expenses	<u>2,712</u>	<u>2,896</u>	<u>3,161</u>
Net Operating Revenues	<u>692</u>	<u>704</u>	<u>185</u>
Interest Expense:			
Appropriated Funds	217	236	237
Long-term debt	188	139	156
Capitalization Adjustment <sup>(12)</sup>	(65)	(65)	(65)
Allowance for funds used during construction	<u>(53)</u>	<u>(50)</u>	<u>(38)</u>
Net Interest Expense <sup>(13)</sup>	<u>287</u>	<u>260</u>	<u>290</u>
Net Revenues/(Expenses)	<u>\$405</u>	<u>\$444</u>	<u>\$(105)</u>
Total Sales (annual average megawatts)			
(Net of Residential Exchange Program and excluding Canadian Entitlement Return)	9,315	10,197	9,994

<sup>(1)</sup> This customer group includes Preference Customers (municipalities, public utility districts, and electric cooperatives in the Region) and federal agencies. This amount reflects refunds to Preference Customers

- arising from past overpayments of Residential Exchange Program benefits to Regional IOUs. Refund amounts recorded in Fiscal Year 2015 were \$77 million (see footnote (11) below).
- (2) In general, revenues from Sales outside the Northwest Region are derived from seasonal surplus (secondary) energy and firm long-term sales. The availability of seasonal surplus (secondary) energy that Bonneville has to market is highly dependent upon the occurrence of streamflow in the Columbia River basin that is greater than would occur under Low Water Flows/Critical Water. In almost all years, except when streamflow is near Low Water Flows/Critical Water, the amount of seasonal surplus (secondary) energy that Bonneville exports is greater than firm sales exports. Revenues from seasonal surplus (secondary) sales are also affected by the prices Bonneville can obtain for the sale of energy in short-term energy markets, which is influenced by the cost other producers incur to generate energy and the price of fuel (in particular, natural gas) used to generate the energy.
  - (3) Total Operating Expenses and Revenue from Electricity Sales reflect accounting guidance associated with non-trading energy activities that are “booked out” (settled other than by the physical delivery of power) and are reported on a “net” basis in both operating revenues and purchased power expense. The accounting treatment for book-outs has no effect on net revenues, cash flows, or margins.
  - (4) Bonneville obtains revenues from the provision of transmission and other related services.
  - (5) Bonneville also receives certain revenues from sources apart from power sales and the provision of transmission services. These revenues relate primarily to fish and wildlife payment credits (also referred to as “4(h)(10)(C) credits”) that reduce Bonneville’s United States Treasury repayment obligation. Such credits are provided on the basis of estimates and forecasts and later are adjusted when actual data are available. The amount of such credits was approximately \$84 million, \$104 million, and \$78 million in Fiscal Years 2013, 2014, and 2015, respectively. See “POWER SERVICES—Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville’s Power Services—Fish and Wildlife—Federal Repayment Offsets for Certain Fish and Wildlife Costs Borne by Bonneville.”
  - (6) Bonneville O&M expenses include operation and maintenance expenditures for the Federal Transmission System, and other Bonneville functions such as Bonneville’s power marketing, and fish and wildlife programs. Bonneville O&M as included herein reflects a mix of cash payments and accrued amounts, which, when aggregated with other line items presented herein, are consistent with amounts reported in the audited financial statements of the Federal System.
  - (7) Corps, Reclamation, and Fish and Wildlife Service O&M expenses include Federal System operation and maintenance expenditures of the Corps, Reclamation and the Fish and Wildlife Service. Amounts shown represent cash payments. An offsetting adjustment for accrued amounts is included in Bonneville O&M (see footnote (6) above).
  - (8) The Non-Federal entities O&M – net billed expense includes the operation and maintenance costs for generating facilities, the generating capability or output of which Bonneville has agreed to purchase under net billing agreements, which are capitalized contracts that cover the costs of Energy Northwest’s terminated Project 1, terminated Project 3, and operating Columbia Generating Station, and EWEB’s 30 percent ownership share of the terminated Trojan Nuclear Project.
  - (9) The Non-Federal entities O&M – non-net billed expense includes the operation and maintenance costs for generating facilities and the generating capability or output of which Bonneville has agreed to purchase under certain capitalized contracts, the costs of which are not net billed.
  - (10) Non-Federal Projects Debt Service includes payments (and net billing credits when in effect) by Bonneville for all or a part of the generating capability of, and the related debt service, including interest, for Energy Northwest’s Net Billed Projects described in footnote (8) above, and the generating capability of other small projects which Bonneville has acquired.
  - (11) See “POWER SERVICES—Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville’s Power Services” and “—Residential Exchange Program” and see “—Management Discussion of Operating Results.” Bonneville’s payments to Regional IOUs with respect to the Residential Exchange Program for Fiscal Year 2012 through Fiscal Year 2028 were established under the 2012 Residential Exchange Program Settlement Agreement, dated July 26, 2011. In Fiscal Year 2015, the Residential Exchange Program payments were \$198 million. In Fiscal Year 2015, Bonneville also provided refunds in an aggregate amount of \$77 million to qualifying Preference Customers for overpayments (“Refund Amounts”) Bonneville made to Regional IOUs for the period July 1, 2001 through September 30, 2011 under the original Residential Exchange Program Settlement Agreements, which were invalidated by the Ninth Circuit Court in May 2007. Bonneville recognizes a refund for Refund Amounts recovered from Regional IOUs in the rate setting process and returned to Preference Customers and will do so through Fiscal Year 2019, at which time all

overpayments will be fully recovered. See “POWER SERVICES—Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville’s Power Services—Residential Exchange Program.”

- (12) The capitalization adjustment represents the annual recognition of the reduction in principal realized from refinancing federal appropriation repayment obligations under a federal law enacted in 1996.
- (13) Lease-Purchase Program is included in Net Interest Expense as reported in the audited financial statements of the Federal System. Amounts shown are calculated on an accrual basis.

## **Management Discussion of Operating Results**

### *Fiscal Year 2015*

In Fiscal Year 2015, Bonneville made its scheduled United States Treasury payments on time and in full for the 32nd consecutive year. Bonneville finished the fiscal year with Total Financial Reserves of \$1.19 billion, which is a decline of approximately three percent from the prior fiscal year.

In Fiscal Year 2015, Federal System net revenues were \$405 million, a decrease of approximately \$39 million from net revenues of \$444 million in Fiscal Year 2014. For additional details related to Fiscal Year 2015 Adjusted Net Revenues, see the end of this section and see “—Bonneville’s Use of Non-GAAP Financial Metrics.”

For Fiscal Year 2015, Power Services and Transmission Services consolidated gross sales, excluding the effects of bookouts, were \$3.3 billion, a decrease of approximately \$162 million from the prior fiscal year. Power Services’ gross sales decreased by \$173 million, or approximately seven percent, in Fiscal Year 2015 compared to Fiscal Year 2014 primarily due to two key factors: (i) firm power sales decreased \$48 million in Fiscal Year 2015 compared to Fiscal Year 2014 due to decreased load shaping revenue from the unseasonably warm weather in the Pacific Northwest and reduced Direct Service Industries revenue resulting from the reduction in load commitment that went into effect in Fiscal Year 2015, and (ii) seasonal surplus (secondary) sales decreased \$125 million in Fiscal Year 2015 due to the low water year and lower production at Columbia Generating Station due to the scheduled biennial refueling outage. A key metric that Bonneville uses to measure year-to-year changes in river runoff is the amount of water (as measured in million acre feet or “MAF”) flowing through The Dalles Dam, which is the second dam upriver from the mouth of the Columbia River. January through July 2015 runoff volume at The Dalles Dam was 84 MAF. The full Fiscal Year 2015 volume finished at 113 MAF, a decrease of 22 MAF from the 135 MAF attained in Fiscal Year 2014, and substantially below the historical average of 132 MAF.

Transmission Services gross sales increased \$11 million primarily due to \$18 million of revenue recorded in Fiscal Year 2015, of which \$14 million related to prior fiscal years, to reflect corrected amounts that should have been payable to Bonneville by certain customers for certain transmission services. In Fiscal Year 2015, Bonneville discovered that it had under-billed these customers by including in their transmission bills certain payment credits to which the customers were not entitled. This one-time revenue adjustment was determined to be immaterial to Fiscal Year 2015 and prior periods. Partially offsetting the effects of the foregoing were lower short-term sales of transmission service caused by the implementation of new mandatory reliability standards.

Operating expense decreased approximately \$185 million in Fiscal Year 2015 from Fiscal Year 2014. Operations and maintenance expense increased \$58 million, or three percent, from the prior fiscal year primarily due to: (i) an increase of \$26 million in Fish and Wildlife spending for habitat restoration and mitigation projects and land acquisitions, (ii) an increase of \$20 million in Columbia Generating Station plant costs due to higher maintenance and costs related to biennial refueling in Fiscal Year 2015, (iii) an increase of \$19 million in transmission operations, maintenance and engineering costs primarily arising from additional substation and non-electric maintenance work, as well as increased work associated with control center and compliance-related activities, (iv) an increase of \$13 million in transmission acquisition and ancillary purchases caused principally by a \$9 million expense recorded in Fiscal Year 2015 related to oversupply events that occurred in Fiscal Year 2012 (the expense had previously been capitalized and recorded as a regulatory asset), and (v) an increase of \$7 million in hydro facilities operations and maintenance for the Corps largely due to the replacement of transformer bushings at Chief Joseph Dam, generator repairs at Bonneville Dam and head-gates refurbishment at McNary Dam. Partially offsetting these increases was an expense reduction in the amount of \$27 million from the reversal of a contingent liability originally established for the breach of contract claims associated with the California Refund Proceedings.

Purchased power expense, net of bookouts, decreased \$123 million from the prior fiscal year. The decrease in purchased power was driven principally by warmer weather in Bonneville's service territory and higher-than-typically-observed streamflow during a time of the year when Bonneville normally makes balancing power purchases (as noted above, Fiscal Year 2015 had dry conditions overall). This decreased the need for power purchases through the second quarter. In addition certain long-term, higher-priced power purchase contracts for winter hedging purposes expired. Also, under agreements with BC Hydro, Bonneville recorded credits to purchase power expense of \$16 million.

Net interest expense for Fiscal Year 2015 increased \$27 million, or ten percent, compared to Fiscal Year 2014, primarily due to the lapse of the effects of a one-time \$36 million interest saving in Fiscal Year 2014 arising from the early payment of United States Treasury bonds. Partially offsetting the effects of the foregoing was lower aggregate interest expense resulting from Regional Cooperation Debt management actions in Fiscal Year 2014. These actions enabled the prepayment of comparatively high interest-rate Federal Appropriations Repayment Obligations at the end of Fiscal Year 2014, thereby reducing interest expense for Federal Appropriations Repayment Obligations in Fiscal Year, 2015. See "CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO BONNEVILLE—Regional Cooperation Debt and Related Actions."

Non-Federal Projects Debt Service expense decreased \$127 million, or 36 percent, from the prior fiscal year, primarily due to the debt management actions with respect to Regional Cooperation Debt to extend bond maturities. See "CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO BONNEVILLE—Regional Cooperation Debt and Related Actions."

Depreciation and amortization expense increased \$7 million, or two percent, from the prior fiscal year, primarily due to increased completed plant in service for Power Services construction projects and for Transmission Services lease-purchased transmission facilities.

Adjusted Net Revenues is a metric that Bonneville uses to report net revenues after taking into account the effects of certain debt management actions under Regional Cooperation Debt. See "—Bonneville's Use of Non-GAAP Financial Metrics." Prior to Fiscal Year 2014, these actions included the Debt Optimization Program and beginning in Fiscal Year 2014, the actions have included (and will continue to include) more recent Regional Cooperation Debt actions. The effect on net revenues in Fiscal Year 2015 of the prior Debt Optimization Program was a reduction of \$7 million, with the effect of the more recent Regional Cooperation Debt transactions contributing \$269 million to Fiscal Year 2015 net revenues. Thus, after removing the combined effects of the Debt Optimization Program and the Fiscal Year 2015 Regional Cooperation Debt transaction, Adjusted Net Revenues were \$143 million in Fiscal Year 2015. By contrast, as noted immediately above, net revenues were \$405 million in Fiscal Year 2015. Adjusted Net Revenues are described under "—Bonneville's Use of Non-GAAP Financial Metrics," and in the Management Discussion and Analysis in the Federal System Audited Financial Statements for the Year Ended September 30, 2015, included in Appendix B-1 to the Official Statement. See also "CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO BONNEVILLE—Regional Cooperation Debt and Related Actions."

At the end of Fiscal Year 2015, RAR for Power Services operations was \$395 million, an increase of 45 percent from the prior fiscal year, and RAR for Transmission Services operations was \$450 million, a decrease of 12 percent from the prior fiscal year. Aggregate Bonneville RAR was \$845 million, an increase of 8 percent from the prior fiscal year. See "—Bonneville's Use of Non-GAAP Financial Metrics."

#### *Fiscal Year 2014*

In Fiscal Year 2014, Bonneville made its scheduled United States Treasury payments on time and in full for the 31st consecutive year. Bonneville finished Fiscal Year 2014 with Total Financial Reserves of \$1.22 billion, which is a decrease of approximately four percent from the prior fiscal year.

In Fiscal Year 2014, Federal System net revenues were \$444 million, an improvement of approximately \$548 million from net revenues of negative \$105 million in Fiscal Year 2013. For additional details related to Fiscal Year 2014 Adjusted Net Revenues, see the end of this section and see "—Bonneville's Use of Non-GAAP Financial Metrics."

For Fiscal Year 2014, Power Services and Transmission Services consolidated gross sales increased by approximately \$223 million from the prior fiscal year. Power Services' gross sales increased \$134 million, or approximately five percent, primarily due to two key factors: (i) firm power sales increased \$118 million, or six percent, in Fiscal Year 2014 compared to Fiscal Year 2013 due to the nine percent average power rate increase which took effect beginning October 1, 2013 and higher Preference Customer peak loads due to colder than average temperatures in October 2013, December 2013 and February 2014, and (ii) seasonal surplus (secondary) sales increased \$16 million in Fiscal Year 2014 compared to Fiscal Year 2013 due to slightly higher market prices and increased streamflow compared to the prior year. January through July 2014 runoff volume at The Dalles Dam was 108 MAF. The full Fiscal Year 2014 volume finished at 135 MAF, an increase from 130 MAF in Fiscal Year 2013, and close to the historical average of 133 MAF.

Transmission Services gross sales increased \$89 million, or 11 percent, mainly due to the 11 percent average transmission rate increase which took effect beginning October 1, 2013.

Transmission miscellaneous revenues decreased by \$15 million, or 27 percent, mainly due to higher Fiscal Year 2013 reimbursable activity from other federal agencies for assistance Bonneville provided in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy and a one-time effect from the receipt of revenues in Fiscal Year 2013 for the termination/expiration of certain transmission service that Bonneville theretofore had provided on comparatively favorable terms to the related customers (referred to by Bonneville as "Precedent Transmission Service Agreements").

Operating expense decreased approximately \$264 million in Fiscal Year 2014 from Fiscal Year 2013. Operations and maintenance increased \$57 million, or three percent, from the prior fiscal year primarily due to: (i) a \$30 million increase in transmission maintenance and operation costs arising from increased reliability compliance activities, upgrades to Federal Transmission System communication systems, and additional labor costs for increased control center, substation, and transmission line maintenance, (ii) a \$27 million increase in decommissioning expense due to the one-time only credit received in Fiscal Year 2013 for a settlement related to spent nuclear fuel storage costs at the terminated Trojan nuclear facility, (iii) a \$26 million increase due to increased reliability compliance activities for Federal System Hydroelectric Projects, and (iv) a \$16 million increase in general and administrative costs related to support of information technology and infrastructure. These increases were offset in part by a \$32 million reduction in Columbia Generating Station costs reflecting the fact that Fiscal Year 2014 was not a refueling year and Fiscal Year 2013 was a refueling year (refueling work results in higher maintenance costs). Bonneville also reduced expenditures on the Fish and Wildlife program by \$7 million, and power marketing and business support and transmission reimbursable programs by \$9 million.

Purchased power expense increased \$45 million, or 29 percent, from the prior fiscal year. The increase in purchased power was driven mainly by lower year-over-year hydroelectric generation (despite slightly increased streamflow) and reduced output of the Grand Coulee Dam due to reduced turbine capacity during scheduled renewal of certain facilities in Fiscal Year 2014. Net interest expense for Fiscal Year 2014 decreased \$30 million, or ten percent, compared to Fiscal Year 2013, primarily due to a non-cash gain on extinguishment of debt related to amounts borrowed from the United States Treasury, as further described in Appendix B-1 (Note 7 to Financial Statements).

Non-Federal Projects Debt Service expense decreased \$377 million, or 51 percent, from the prior fiscal year, primarily due to the debt management actions with respect to the Net Billed Bonds to extend bond maturities. See "CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO BONNEVILLE—Regional Cooperation Debt and Related Actions."

Depreciation and amortization expense increased \$11 million, or three percent, from the prior fiscal year, primarily due to increased completed plant in service for Power Services construction projects and for Transmission Services lease-purchased transmission facilities.

Adjusted Net Revenues were \$236 million in Fiscal Year 2014, which was an increase of \$180 million from Bonneville's Adjusted Net Revenues of \$56 million in Fiscal Year 2013. By contrast, as noted immediately above, net revenues were \$444 million in Fiscal Year 2014. At the end of Fiscal Year 2014, RAR for Power Services operations was \$273 million, an increase of 50 percent from the prior fiscal year, and RAR for Transmission Services operations was \$511 million, an increase of 11 percent from the prior fiscal year. Aggregate Bonneville

RAR was \$784 million, an increase of 22 percent from the prior fiscal year. Adjusted Net Revenues and RAR are described in “—Bonneville’s Use of Non-GAAP Financial Metrics.”

### *Fiscal Year 2013*

In Fiscal Year 2013, Bonneville made its scheduled United States Treasury payments on time and in full for the 30th consecutive year. Bonneville finished Fiscal Year 2013 with Total Financial Reserves of \$1.27 billion, which was an increase of approximately 25 percent from the prior fiscal year. A major factor in the increase in financial reserves was the receipt in April 2013 by Bonneville of \$340 million in power prepayments from certain Preference Customers, which in return receive a discount and a reduction in their future power payment obligations to Bonneville. See “—Bonneville’s Non-Federal Debt—Electric Power Prepayments.”

For Fiscal Year 2013, Federal System net revenues were negative \$105 million, a decrease of approximately \$192 million from net revenues of \$87 million in Fiscal Year 2012.

For Fiscal Year 2013, Power Services and Transmission Services consolidated gross sales increased by approximately \$600,000 from the prior fiscal year. Power Services’ gross sales decreased \$12 million, or less than one percent, primarily due to two key factors: (i) firm power sales decreased \$17 million, or one percent, in Fiscal Year 2013 compared to Fiscal Year 2012, and (ii) seasonal surplus (secondary) sales increased \$5 million, or one percent, in Fiscal Year 2013 compared to Fiscal Year 2012 due to higher market prices that offset decreased streamflow compared to the prior year.

Transmission Services gross sales increased \$13 million, or two percent, mainly due to increases in the sale of a particular type of ancillary service (Variable Energy Resource Balancing Service) and Point-to-Point Long-Term transmission service (a type of transmission service that uses a single transmission path between two points).

Transmission miscellaneous revenues increased by \$24 million, or 78 percent, mainly due to reimbursable activity from other federal agencies for assistance that Bonneville provided in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy and a one-time effect from the receipt of revenues in Fiscal Year 2013 for the termination/expiration of certain transmission service that Bonneville theretofore had provided on comparatively favorable terms under Precedent Transmission Service Agreements (defined above in “—Fiscal Year 2014”).

Operating expense increased approximately \$172 million in Fiscal Year 2013 from Fiscal Year 2012. Operations and maintenance increased \$47 million, or three percent, from the prior fiscal year primarily because (i) Reclamation costs increased by \$38 million, primarily due to additional non-routine extraordinary maintenance work at Grand Coulee Dam, (ii) Columbia Generating Station costs increased \$38 million because of biennial refueling and maintenance, (iii) transmission maintenance costs increased \$11 million due to increased reliability compliance activities and upgrades to Federal Transmission System communication systems, and (iv) transmission reimbursable cost increased \$7 million primarily as a result of Hurricane Sandy East Coast emergency response activity. These increases were offset in part by receipt of \$28 million from the United States government in settlement of its failure to take spent nuclear fuel into permanent storage (the amounts were initially paid to EWEB as part owner of the terminated Trojan nuclear facility, and from whom Bonneville acquired project capability under net billing agreements similar to the Net Billing Agreements with Energy Northwest). Bonneville also reduced spending on long-term and renewable generation projects by \$7 million, transmission marketing and business support by \$7 million, and transmission acquisition and ancillary services by \$5 million.

Purchased power expense increased \$11 million, or eight percent, from the prior fiscal year. The increase in purchased power was driven mainly by lower year-over-year hydroelectric generation and reduced output of the Columbia Generating Station due to the scheduled refueling and maintenance outage in Fiscal Year 2013. Net interest expense for Fiscal Year 2013 increased \$48 million, or 20 percent, compared to Fiscal Year 2012, primarily due to an increase of \$25 million from increased borrowings necessary to finance Power Service’s-related construction projects and from increased lease-purchases of transmission facilities.

As noted above under “—Bonneville’s Use of Non-GAAP Financial Metrics,” in Fiscal Year 2013, Bonneville commenced utilizing and reporting a new financial metric, Adjusted Net Revenues to remove from net revenues the

non-operating effects of prior debt management actions related to the Debt Optimization Program. The effects on net revenues (a GAAP-recognized metric) in Fiscal Year 2013 of the prior debt management actions were negative \$161 million (this is reflected as “Adjustment for Debt Service Reassignment” in the audited Financial Statements of the Federal System included as Appendix B-1 to the Official Statement).

Adjusted Net Revenues were \$56 million in Fiscal Year 2013. By contrast, as noted immediately above, net revenues were negative \$105 million in Fiscal Year 2013.

At the end of Fiscal Year 2013, RAR for Power Services operations was \$182 million, a decline of 16 percent from the prior fiscal year, and RAR for Transmission Services operations was \$459 million, a decline of six percent from the prior fiscal year. Aggregate Bonneville RAR was \$641 million, a decline of nine percent from the prior fiscal year. See “—Bonneville’s Use of Non-GAAP Financial Metrics.”

### **Statement of Non-Federal Debt Service Coverage**

The “Statement of Non-Federal Debt Service Coverage and United States Treasury Payments” below uses the “Federal System Statement of Revenues and Expenses (Unaudited)” to develop a non-federal project debt service coverage ratio (“Non-Federal Debt Service Coverage Ratio”), which demonstrates how many times total non-federal project debt service is covered by net funds available for non-federal project debt service. Net funds available for non-federal debt service is defined as total operating revenues less operating expenses. Net funds available for non-federal project debt service less total non-federal project debt service yields the amount available for payment to the United States Treasury. This Non-Federal Debt Service Coverage Ratio does not reflect the actual priority of payments or distinctions between cash payments and credits under Bonneville’s net billing obligations under the Net Billing Agreements.

(The remainder of this page is left blank intentionally)

**Statement of Non-Federal Debt Service Coverage and United States Treasury Payments  
(unaudited)**

<b>As of Sept. 30 – Dollars in millions</b>	<b><u>2015</u></b>	<b><u>2014</u></b>	<b><u>2013</u></b>
Total Operating Revenues	\$3,404	\$3,600	\$3,346
Less: Operating Expenses <sup>(1)</sup>	<u>1,654</u>	<u>1,744</u>	<u>1,653</u>
Net Funds Available to meet Non-Federal Debt Service Obligations	1,750	1,856	1,693
Less: Non-Federal Debt Service Obligations			
Non-Federal Projects <sup>(2)</sup>	228	355	733
Lease-Purchase Program <sup>(3)</sup>	47	39	29
Electric Power Prepayments <sup>(4)</sup>	<u>31</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>13</u>
Total Non-Federal Debt Service Obligations	<u>306</u>	<u>425</u>	<u>775</u>
Revenue Available for Treasury	1,444	1,431	918
Amount Allocated for Payment to Treasury <sup>(9)</sup> :			
Corps and Reclamation O&M <sup>(5)</sup>	381	356	345
Net Interest Expense <sup>(6)</sup>	287	260	290
Lease-Purchase Program <sup>(3)</sup>	(47)	(39)	(29)
Electric Power Prepayments <sup>(4)</sup>	(14)	(15)	(8)
Capitalization Adjustment <sup>(7)</sup>	65	65	65
Allowance for Funds Used During Construction <sup>(8)</sup>	24	22	15
Amortization of Federal Principal	<u>449</u>	<u>567</u>	<u>225</u>
Total Amount Allocated for Payment to Treasury <sup>(9)</sup>	1,145	1,216	903
Revenues Available for Other Purposes <sup>(10)</sup>	\$299	\$215	\$15
Non-Federal Debt Service Coverage Ratio <sup>(11)</sup>	5.7x	4.4x	2.2x
Non-Federal Project Debt Service Plus Operating Expense Coverage Ratio <sup>(12)</sup>	1.7x	1.7x	1.4x

(1) Operating Expenses include the following items from the Federal System Statement of Revenues and Expenses: Bonneville O&M, Purchased Power, Book-outs, Non-Federal entities O&M-net billed, Non-Federal entities O&M non-net-billed, and the Residential Exchange Program. Operating Expenses do not include certain payments to the Corps and Reclamation. Treatment of the Corps, Reclamation, and Fish and Wildlife Service operating expense is described in “—Direct Funding of Federal System Operations and Maintenance Expense.”

(2) Includes debt service (principal and interest) for generating resources acquired by Bonneville under Net Billing Agreements or other capitalized contracts. Non-net billed debt service amounted to \$16 million, \$12 million, and \$10 million for Fiscal Years 2013, 2014, and 2015 respectively.

(3) To reconcile Net Interest Expense as reported in the audited financial statements of the Federal System (included as Appendix B-1 to the Official Statement) the interest expense portion of the Lease-Purchase Program as shown here is a reduction of Amount Allocated for Payment to Treasury. The aggregate debt service amount represents interest expense only.

(4) To reconcile Net Interest Expense as reported in the audited financial statements of the Federal System (included as Appendix B-1 to the Official Statement) the interest expense portion of the Electric Power Prepayments as shown here is a reduction of Amount Allocated for Payment to Treasury. In Fiscal Year

2013, Bonneville received \$340 million from certain Preference Customers as one-time prepayments of portions of their future power bills through Fiscal Year 2028. In return the customers will receive discounted credits in future power bills. The aggregate amount of the credits is \$2.55 million per month through Fiscal Year 2028. In Fiscal Year 2015, Bonneville provided credits on Preference Customers' bills in an aggregate amount of \$31 million. Of this amount, \$14 million is accounted for as Net Interest Expense and \$17 million is accounted for as the repayment of principal. See "BONNEVILLE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS—Bonneville's Non-Federal Debt—Electric Power Prepayments."

- (5) Amounts shown are calculated on an accrual basis and include direct operations and maintenance payments to the Corps, Reclamation, and Fish and Wildlife Service for Fiscal Years 2013, 2014, and 2015. See "—Direct Funding of Federal System Operations and Maintenance Expense."
- (6) Net Interest Expense as reported in the audited financial statements of the Federal System (included as Appendix B-1 to the Official Statement) includes certain interest associated with obligations to Non-Federal entities (see footnotes (3) and (4)). Amounts shown are calculated on an accrual basis.
- (7) The capitalization adjustment is included in net interest expense but is not part of Bonneville's payment to the United States Treasury.
- (8) The Allowance for Funds Used During Construction includes, among other things, Bonneville's portion of the interest during the construction period for Federal System investments funded by borrowings from the United States Treasury. For clarity, none of the related interest expense for the Lease-Purchase Program is reflected in Allowance for Funds Used During Construction.
- (9) In contrast to the "Total Amount Allocated for Payment to Treasury," Bonneville's actual payments to the United States Treasury in Fiscal Years 2013, 2014, and 2015 were \$692 million, \$991 million, and \$891 million respectively, and include the amounts for each such year for direct funding for the Corps, Reclamation, and Fish and Wildlife Service as portrayed under "Corps and Reclamation O&M." See "—Direct Funding of Federal System Operations and Maintenance Expense."
- (10) Revenues Available for Other Purposes is not a measure of financial reserves or amounts retained from operations. Bonneville closed Fiscal Year 2015 with \$1.19 billion in fiscal year-end "Total Financial Reserves," which include cash, cash equivalents, special investments held in the Bonneville Fund, and "deferred borrowing." Deferred borrowing represents amounts that Bonneville is authorized to borrow from the United States Treasury for expenditures that Bonneville had theretofore incurred, but the borrowing for which Bonneville elected to delay. Fiscal year-end Total Financial Reserves have been as low as \$188 million at the end of Fiscal Year 2002 (not depicted). For cash management purposes, Bonneville tracks Total Financial Reserves. While Total Financial Reserves is a financial metric not consistent with GAAP and is unaudited, Bonneville management nonetheless believes that it provides a sound measure of Bonneville's financial reserves available to meet current obligations. In establishing rates, Bonneville focuses on "Reserves Available for Risk" (or "RAR"). These amounts are used in rate case planning for risk mitigation providing a liquidity buffer should Bonneville cash flow decline or turn negative for any significant period of time. The RAR metric measures accumulated reserves (or retained amounts) derived from operations. While the RAR metric is not a measure in accordance with GAAP and is unaudited, Bonneville management nonetheless believes that the RAR metric provides a sound measure of Bonneville's reserves derived (and retained) from operations. RAR at the end of Fiscal Year 2015 was \$845 million.

- (11) The "Non-Federal Debt Service Coverage Ratio" is defined as follows:

**Total Operating Revenues-Operating Expense (Footnote 1)**

**Non-Federal Projects + Lease-Purchase Program + Electric Power Prepayments**

(Non-Federal Debt Service Coverage Ratios increased in Fiscal Years 2015 and 2014 due to Non-Federal Debt management actions that enabled Bonneville to prepay additional high-interest Federal Appropriations Repayment Obligations. See "CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO BONNEVILLE—Regional Cooperation Debt and Related Actions.")

- (12) The "Non-Federal Debt Service plus Operating Expense Coverage Ratio" is defined as follows:

**Total Operating Revenues**

**Operating Expense (Footnote 1) + Non-Federal Projects + Lease-Purchase Program + Electric Power Prepayments**

(Non-Federal Debt Service plus Operating Expense Coverage Ratio was affected in Fiscal Years 2015 and 2014 due to Non-Federal Debt management actions that enabled Bonneville to prepay additional high-

interest Federal Appropriations Repayment Obligations. See “CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO BONNEVILLE—Regional Cooperation Debt and Related Actions.”)

### **Management Discussion of Unaudited Results for the Six Months ended March 31, 2016**

Total operating revenues were \$1.8 billion through the second quarter of Fiscal Year 2016 (“Fiscal Year 2016 Second Quarter”), a decrease of \$45 million as compared to operating revenues for the six months ended March 31, 2015 (“Fiscal Year 2015 Second Quarter”). Consolidated gross sales for Power Services and Transmission Services, including the effect of bookouts, decreased \$61 million as compared to consolidated gross sales for Fiscal Year 2015 Second Quarter. (“Bookouts” are a reflection of accounting guidance associated with non-trading energy activities that are settled other than by the physical delivery of power and are reported on a “net” basis in both operating revenues and purchased power expense. The accounting treatment for book-outs has no effect on net revenues, cash flows, or margins.)

Through Fiscal Year 2016 Second Quarter, total operating expenses were \$1.4 billion, which is the same as reported through Fiscal Year 2015 Second Quarter. Operations and maintenance expense increased \$4 million through the Fiscal Year 2016 Second Quarter as compared to Fiscal Year 2015 Second Quarter.

Purchased power expense, net of bookouts, increased \$59 million through Fiscal Year 2016 Second Quarter as compared to Fiscal Year 2015 Second Quarter. The increase in purchased power was driven by: (i) lower than normal streamflow through mid-November associated with drought conditions in the Columbia River basin, (ii) lower than average hydro-generation in part because of effects of planned limitations on water releases from Canadian reservoirs of the upper Columbia River basin to restore reservoir levels in accordance with the Columbia River Treaty and other arrangements, and (iii) less compensation (amounts that are recorded as a reduction of purchased power expense) from certain water storage agreements with BC Hydro, a Canadian electric utility owned by the Province of British Columbia.

Non-federal projects debt service decreased \$69 million through Fiscal Year 2016 Second Quarter as compared to Fiscal Year 2015 Second Quarter, primarily due to the debt management actions with respect to Regional Cooperation Debt. See “CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO BONNEVILLE—Regional Cooperation Debt and Related Actions.”

For further information regarding Fiscal Year 2016 Second Quarter unaudited results, see Appendix B-2—“FEDERAL SYSTEM UNAUDITED FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2016.”

### **BONNEVILLE LITIGATION**

Bonneville is involved in the following matters in addition to the litigation described elsewhere in this Appendix A:

#### **Columbia River ESA Litigation**

In a lawsuit filed May 4, 2001, in the Oregon Federal District Court, the National Wildlife Federation and other plaintiffs asked the court: (1) to declare that the 2000 Columbia River System Biological Opinion was arbitrary and capricious, an abuse of discretion, and otherwise not in accordance with law, and (2) to order NOAA Fisheries to reinstate consultation with the Action Agencies responsible for operation of the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects and to prepare a new biological opinion.

In May 2003, the Oregon Federal District Court ruled that the 2000 Biological Opinion was inadequate because it relied on offsite mitigation measures that were “not reasonably certain to occur” and because the biological opinion used an “action area” that was too small. (An “action area” is the geographically delineated area comprising where the dams’ operations directly or indirectly affect ESA-listed species.) In June 2003, the court remanded the 2000 Biological Opinion back to NOAA Fisheries to correct the deficiencies identified by the court.

On November 30, 2004, NOAA Fisheries finalized a subsequent biological opinion (the “2004 Biological Opinion”) to replace the 2000 Biological Opinion and address the deficiencies identified by the Oregon Federal District Court. Plaintiffs filed a complaint against NOAA Fisheries and subsequently filed another complaint against the Corps and Reclamation with the Oregon Federal District Court alleging that the 2004 Biological Opinion and the Corps’ and Reclamation’s decisions to implement the 2004 Biological Opinion violated certain provisions of the ESA and Administrative Procedure Act. On May 26, 2005, the court issued an opinion identifying several deficiencies in the 2004 Biological Opinion. The court issued an order remanding the matter to the federal agencies to correct identified deficiencies. Additionally, in the court’s remand order, the federal agencies were ordered to undertake collaboration with the sovereign parties to the litigation (states and tribes) to address key issues in a new biological opinion. The federal government and the State of Idaho appealed the order to the Ninth Circuit Court, which ultimately upheld the order.

On May 5, 2008, NOAA Fisheries issued its 2008 Columbia River System Biological Opinion. On August 12, 2008, Bonneville issued its Record of Decision adopting the actions in the 2008 Columbia River System Biological Opinion. A number of parties filed litigation in the Oregon Federal District Court in connection with the 2008 Columbia River System Biological Opinion naming NOAA Fisheries, the Corps and Reclamation as defendants and alleging violations of the ESA as well as the CWA. In addition, some interests filed litigation in the Ninth Circuit Court against Bonneville regarding the 2008 Columbia River System Biological Opinion. The Ninth Circuit Court has exclusive direct review jurisdiction over most of Bonneville’s administrative actions.

In September 2009, the federal agencies filed an “Adaptive Management Implementation Plan” with the court, in which the federal agencies outlined a more detailed and aggressive plan for implementing the adaptive management provisions of the 2008 Columbia River System Biological Opinion. In May 2010, NOAA Fisheries finalized a “2010 Supplemental Columbia River System Biological Opinion” to supplement the existing 2008 Columbia River System Biological Opinion and to incorporate the Adaptive Management Implementation Plan. In August 2011, the Oregon Federal District Court found that the 2010 Supplemental Columbia River System Biological Opinion was unlawful because it had not identified specific mitigation plans after 2013, and it ordered NOAA Fisheries to issue a new or supplemental Columbia River System Biological Opinion that corrects this deficiency.

In January 2014, NOAA Fisheries issued the 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion. In February 2014, Bonneville, the Corps and Reclamation each signed a decision document to implement the biological opinion. In May 2014, American Rivers and other plaintiffs filed a petition in the Ninth Circuit Court challenging Bonneville’s record of decision. In July 2014, National Wildlife Federation and other plaintiffs challenged NOAA Fisheries’ biological opinion and the Corps’ and Reclamation’s decision documents in Oregon Federal District Court, and the State of Oregon intervened as a plaintiff in this litigation in October 2014. In both the Oregon Federal District Court and Ninth Circuit Court actions, plaintiffs allege that the 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion and related decisions violate certain provisions of the ESA, NEPA, and Administrative Procedure Act. These lawsuits are similar to previous challenges of past biological opinions, with the exception of one additional claim under NEPA challenging the federal agencies’ failure to prepare a new environmental impact statement for their adoption and implementation of the Reasonable and Prudent Alternative actions in the biological opinion. The Ninth Circuit Court originally issued an order staying the petition against Bonneville pending resolution of the Oregon Federal District Court action. Shortly after the issuance by the Oregon Federal District Court of the May 4, 2016 order described immediately below, the Ninth Circuit Court issued an order staying the petition against Bonneville until August 10, 2016.

On May 4, 2016, the Oregon Federal District Court issued a ruling on the ESA challenges to the 2014 Columbia River System Supplemental Biological Opinion and the NEPA challenge. The court concluded that the biological opinion did not meet the requirements of the ESA and that the Corps and Reclamation violated NEPA. See “CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO BONNEVILLE—Developments Relating to the Endangered Species Act,” “POWER SERVICES—Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville’s Power Services—Fish and Wildlife—The Endangered Species Act,” and “POWER SERVICES—Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville’s Power Services—Fish and Wildlife—The National Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species Act.”

On June 3, 2016, the federal government submitted to the Oregon Federal District Court a proposed schedule for preparing the environmental impact statement and stated that “to complete a system-wide, comprehensive

environmental impact statement . . . will require a minimum of five years.” With respect to the integration of the process of the new environmental impact statement and the new biological opinion the federal government’s June 3 filing stated that “the Federal Defendants are not presently in a position to precisely delineate how the processes will be coordinated and sequenced.” The plaintiffs’ response was filed on June 17, 2016. The plaintiffs’ position is that the Action Agencies’ five-year schedule is too long and instead they proposed a concurrent ESA and NEPA compliance process ending December 31, 2018 for ESA and January or February 2019 for NEPA. The federal government’s reply to the plaintiffs’ response is due by July 1, 2016. Ultimately the Oregon Federal District Court will issue an order governing the timing of the new environmental impact statement. See “POWER SERVICES—Certain Statutes and other Matters Affecting Bonneville’s Power Services—Fish and Wildlife—The National Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species Act.”

See “CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO BONNEVILLE—Developments Relating to the Endangered Species Act,” “POWER SERVICES—Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville’s Power Services—Fish and Wildlife—The Endangered Species Act,” and “POWER SERVICES—Certain Statutes and Other Matters Affecting Bonneville’s Power Services—Fish and Wildlife—The National Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species Act.”

The federal government is currently considering whether to file an appeal of the Oregon Federal District Court decision to the Ninth Circuit Court.

On May 6, 2016, two Montana-based environmental groups (Alliance for the Wild Rockies and Friends of the Wild Swan, collectively, the “Alliance”) sent to Bonneville, the Corps, Reclamation, and the U.S. Department of Interior a 60-day notice of intent to sue (“NOI”) under the ESA in connection with operation and maintenance of 30 named dams. The Alliance alleges that “consultation” under ESA Section 7 is either incomplete, or that existing consultation should have been reinitiated following the Fish and Wildlife Service’s final designation of critical habitat for bull trout in October 2010. The bull trout is a fish species that is listed as threatened under the ESA. The species inhabits, among other watersheds, portions of the Columbia River and its tributaries, including the Snake River.

Under the ESA, “consultation” is the process, which may result in prescribed measures, whereby federal agencies work with the Fish and Wildlife Service (or NOAA Fisheries, if appropriate) to ensure any action authorized, funded, or carried out by the agency is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat. See “CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO BONNEVILLE—Developments Relating to the Endangered Species Act.” There are several existing ESA bull trout consultations, including letters of concurrence and biological opinions that pre-date the final critical habitat designation.

In the NOI, the Alliance asserts that the consultation should determine whether dam operations in and near the designated bull trout critical habitat will destroy or adversely modify designated critical habitat. The Alliance also asserts that consultation should involve the operations of almost all of the Federal System Hydroelectric Projects, many of which operate under biological opinions for other listed species.

Bonneville cannot predict whether the Alliance will in fact file litigation and, if such litigation were to be filed, whether additional consultation under the ESA would be required.

### **DSI Service Litigation**

Bonneville’s power sales to DSIs have been the subject of litigation since 2000. There is no litigation currently pending in the Ninth Circuit Court with respect to Bonneville’s power sales to DSIs. However, as described below, Bonneville has recently issued a record of decision in response to an order of remand from the Ninth Circuit Court arising from litigation challenging certain actions by Bonneville in connection with DSI power service.

The issues in the Ninth Circuit Court pertained to contracts originally intended to provide power sales service by Bonneville to two current DSIs (Alcoa and Port Townsend Paper) and one DSI not currently taking service from Bonneville (Columbia Falls Aluminum Corporation) for portions of the period Fiscal Years 2007-2011. In 2007,

two Preference Customers, an association of Preference Customers and an association representing industrial customers of Preference Customers (collectively, the “DSI Service Petitioners”) filed legal challenges in the Ninth Circuit Court seeking to set aside Bonneville’s entry into the contracts and requesting that the Ninth Circuit Court direct Bonneville to take action to recoup from the DSIs approximately \$159 million in amounts paid by Bonneville in lieu of physical power deliveries to the DSIs under the contracts. In 2008, the Ninth Circuit Court partially invalidated the contracts, but denied the DSI Service Petitioners’ request for relief. However, the court remanded the recoupment matter to Bonneville for further consideration. On remand, Bonneville considered:

1. Whether a damage waiver provision in the subject Alcoa contract (whereby both Bonneville and Alcoa relinquished any claims in the event that a court were to render the agreement unenforceable) remained enforceable and was severable from other terms of the contract in light of the court’s partial invalidation; and
2. Whether, in the absence of a damage waiver provision, Bonneville had a valid basis to pursue a claim against the DSIs for the restitution of benefits provided under the partially invalidated contracts and whether the claims, if any, would have a reasonable prospect of success.

In 2011, Bonneville issued an administrative determination and record of decision concluding that the damage waiver is both enforceable and severable, and that there is no reasonable basis upon which to predicate a claim for restitution from the DSIs. In response to Bonneville’s determination, the DSI Service Petitioners challenged the determination and filed briefs with the Ninth Circuit Court arguing that Bonneville violated the Appropriations Clause of the United States Constitution in making the contested payments to the DSIs and that Bonneville has an absolute duty to undertake collection efforts and pursue litigation in such instances, if necessary. Bonneville took the position that no violation of the Appropriations Clause had occurred and there is no support for the proposition that Bonneville had an absolute duty to initiate collection efforts and pursue litigation against the DSIs for recovery of payments regardless of the circumstances.

On September 18, 2014, the court issued its opinion denying in part and granting in part the petitions for review. In most respects, the court upheld Bonneville’s decisions not to seek to recover funds from DSIs. The court directed Bonneville to reconsider Bonneville’s decision not to attempt to seek to recover from Alcoa approximately \$26 million (as estimated by Bonneville) in funds Bonneville paid to Alcoa under the amended agreement during a period in which there was no damage waiver provision in effect. The court also directed Bonneville to provide an adequate explanation of its decision upon reconsideration. Bonneville has complied with the court’s order to reconsider its decision and issued a final record of decision on January 21, 2016 affirming the decision not to attempt to recover funds from Alcoa. No challenges to the final record of decision have been made and the time within which such challenges must be filed has ended.

### **Southern California Edison v. Bonneville Power Administration**

In 2004 and 2006, Southern California Edison (“SCE”) filed certain claims in the United States Court of Federal Claims against Bonneville relating to actions taken by Bonneville under a 1988 power sale contract between Bonneville and SCE.

In 2006, Bonneville and SCE executed an agreement to settle the claims, whereby Bonneville will make a settlement payment of \$28.5 million plus interest to SCE in exchange for SCE’s dismissing the two claims. Payment by Bonneville is due (with interest) when it receives a final resolution of its refund liability, if any, in the California refund proceedings. See “—Litigation and Related Administrative Disputes in Connection with the West Coast Power Crisis in 1999-2001.”

### **Rates Litigation Generally**

Bonneville’s rates are frequently the subject of litigation in the Ninth Circuit Court. Most of the litigation involves claims that Bonneville’s rates are inconsistent with statutory directives, are not supported by substantial evidence in the record or are arbitrary and capricious. See “MATTERS RELATING TO POWER SERVICES AND TRANSMISSION SERVICES—Bonneville Ratemaking and Rates.”

It is the opinion of Bonneville's General Counsel that if any rate were to be rejected by the Court, the sole remedy accorded would be a remand to Bonneville to establish a new rate. Bonneville's flexibility in establishing rates could be restricted by the rejection of a Bonneville rate, depending on the grounds for the rejection. Bonneville is unable to predict, however, what new rate it would establish if a rate were rejected. If Bonneville were to establish a rate that was lower than the rejected rate, a petitioner may be entitled to a refund in the amount overpaid. However, Bonneville is required by law to set rates to meet all of its costs. Thus, it is the opinion of Bonneville's General Counsel that Bonneville may be required to increase its rates to seek to recover the amount of any such refunds, if needed.

### **Litigation and Related Administrative Disputes in Connection with the West Coast Power Crisis in 1999-2001**

In connection with the historically high power prices and volatility in West Coast power markets in 1999-2001, FERC initiated three proceedings to address, under the Federal Power Act ("FPA"), whether certain power sellers charged unjust and unreasonable prices and therefore should refund to power purchasers any amounts overcharged. The foregoing proceedings and the problems experienced in West Coast power markets in 1999-2001 have also engendered litigation affecting Bonneville.

In the "FERC California Refund Docket" FERC is examining, among other things, whether to order refunds from entities that sold power into California power markets in 2000 and 2001. More particularly, FERC is examining whether and the extent to which power prices were "unjust and unreasonable." The California Power Exchange ("Cal-PX") (which filed for bankruptcy protection and has ceased operations) and the California Independent System Operator ("Cal-ISO") operated centralized market-clearing price auction energy markets where buyers could purchase power. Under a market-clearing auction, power sellers' bids are accepted from lowest to highest price until all power demand is met, and accepted bids are all paid the same price as the bid for the last unit of electricity needed to meet total demand (the highest price that 'clears the market'). The Cal-ISO also entered into non-market-clearing power purchases and exchanges to obtain electric power to meet loads.

Under the competitive power market structure that California established, Bonneville sold power to the Cal-ISO and the Cal-PX in 2000 and 2001. The California investor-owned utilities, which were obligated by law to purchase from the Cal-ISO and Cal-PX markets, later sought at FERC refunds for their purchases. In litigation arising out of the FERC California Refund Docket, the Ninth Circuit Court ultimately held, in September 2005, that Bonneville was not (under law in effect at the time) subject to FERC authority to order refunds (the "September 2005 Ninth Circuit Court Opinion"). As a result of the court's ruling, the FERC California Refund Docket cannot in and of itself result in any FERC-ordered refund liability for Bonneville. Notwithstanding the September 2005 Ninth Circuit Court Opinion, Bonneville remained a party to the FERC California Refund Docket, as described below.

On April 25, 2012, Bonneville received \$73.8 million from the Cal-ISO and Cal-PX for the principal amount of withheld outstanding payment obligations to Bonneville for sales during the period (2000-2001) at issue in the case. Under a FERC order, the accrued interest through April 25, 2012 will not become payable until the FERC California Refund Docket is finally resolved.

In light of the September 2005 Ninth Circuit Court Opinion, the California Attorney General on behalf of California Energy Scheduling Resources, which is a California state agency, and three California-based investor-owned utilities (Pacific Gas and Electric ("PG&E"), San Diego Gas and Electric, and Southern California Edison ("SCE")), (the foregoing four parties are referred to collectively herein as the "California Parties"), filed separate breach of contract claims against Bonneville in the United States Court of Federal Claims ("Court of Federal Claims") in March 2007. Each claim sought unspecified damages related to Bonneville's power sales and related transactions into the Cal-PX and Cal-ISO markets. These claims are referred to herein as the "California Breach Claims." The California Parties also sought to recover pre-judgment and post-judgment interest and litigation costs in the California Breach Claims litigation. Bonneville estimates that the aggregate refund period contract damages claimed by California Parties are approximately \$41 million in specified damages (not including litigation costs and interest) plus additional unspecified amounts that could be realized through declaratory orders sought by the California Parties.

The California Parties' claims in the California Breach Claims litigation are predicated on the assertion that in its transactions into the Cal-PX and Cal-ISO markets, Bonneville had agreed by contract to accept prices by reference to tariff rates. In a May 2012 order (the "May 2012 CFC Order"), the Court of Federal Claims found that when FERC established mitigated market prices in the Cal-ISO and Cal-PX markets to calculate refunds for transacting entities that were subject to FERC's refund authority (as noted above, Bonneville was not subject to FERC's refund authority for such transactions as established in the September 2005 Ninth Circuit Court Opinion), FERC had "retroactively reset" the tariff rates in such markets. The Court of Federal Claims also found that FERC's retroactive revision of tariff rates retroactively adjusted Bonneville's contracted-for prices to an amount equal to the 'new' lower tariff rates and that Bonneville breached contracts with the California Parties by failing to pay refunds for amounts it retained in excess of the mitigated market-clearing prices. The Court of Federal Claims also found that Bonneville is liable for contract damages in the amount of the difference between the original contracted-for prices and the FERC-revised prices, as established by FERC in the FERC California Refund Docket. (As described below, the May 2012 CFC Order was set aside in December 2013 by a new judge in the California Breach Claims litigation and she has indicated she intends to dismiss the California Breach Claims.)

In September 2012, the Ninth Circuit Court, in further review of the FERC California Refund Docket, issued an opinion holding that FERC, in establishing mitigated prices in the Cal-PX and Cal-ISO markets for calculating refunds, had not retroactively reset the tariff rates in those markets (the "September 2012 Ninth Circuit Court Opinion"). The Ninth Circuit Court found that although "FERC has authority to state retroactively what a 'just and reasonable' rate would have been pursuant to its refund authority, Congress did not provide FERC with retroactive rate setting authority over non-jurisdictional sellers" like Bonneville.

As part of the FERC California Refund Docket, an administrative law judge ("FERC ALJ") appointed by the FERC Commissioners made certain findings related to (i) the Summer 2000 Transactions, and (ii) certain non-cleared (bi-lateral) multi-day power sales and power exchange transactions by Bonneville into the Cal-ISO's "Exchange and Multi-day" markets in 2000 and 2001 ("Exchange and Multi-day Transactions"). In February 2013, the FERC ALJ issued these findings to the FERC Commissioners (the "February 2013 Findings").

Following the issuance of the February 2013 Findings, Bonneville filed a brief with the FERC Commissioners arguing, among other things, that under the September 2005 Ninth Circuit Court Opinion and the September 2012 Ninth Circuit Court Opinion, FERC does not have authority to order refunds by non-jurisdictional utilities such as Bonneville or to modify Bonneville's rates. On November 10, 2014, FERC dismissed Bonneville from the proceeding with no finding of any tariff violation.

In certain orders issued in April 2013 (the "April 2013 CFC Orders"), the Court of Federal Claims rejected a motion by the United States Department of Justice on behalf of Bonneville and another federal power marketing administration asking the court to reconsider its May 2012 CFC Order on liability in light of the Ninth Circuit Court's September 2012 ruling that FERC had not retroactively reset tariff rates. (The Ninth Circuit's September 2012 ruling is referred to herein as the City of Redding Opinion.) The Court of Federal Claims ruled that the City of Redding Opinion was not dispositive of the contract liability issue in the California Breach Claims litigation because the Ninth Circuit Court did not address how the FERC-mitigated prices affected the California Parties' breach of contract claims against Bonneville. The Court of Federal Claims also determined, in response to motions by the California Parties, that if and when FERC resets prices, Bonneville will be contractually bound to refund the value, in excess of FERC-mitigated prices, that Bonneville received from the Cal-ISO, Cal-PX, and others in the Summer 2000 Transactions and the Exchange and Multi-day Transactions (which were under review by FERC in the FERC California Refund Docket described above).

In the spring of 2013, a new Court of Federal Claims judge was assigned to the California Breach Claims case. On December 20, 2013, the new judge issued an order vacating the prior judge's substantive orders, including the April 2013 CFC Order and the May 2012 CFC Order. On February 26, 2014, the judge issued a notice to show cause why the court, on reconsideration, should not dismiss these cases, because of plaintiffs' failure to establish the requirements of standing to sue on a government contract, thereby depriving the court of jurisdiction of the case. On June 5, 2014 and January 22, 2015 the judge held the oral argument for the show cause hearing. At the judge's request, Bonneville filed a motion to dismiss the California Breach Claims. On March 12, 2015, the judge issued an order granting Bonneville's motion to dismiss, and holding that the California Parties lacked standing to sue because no contractual privity existed between Bonneville and the California Parties. The judge also found that even if the

California Parties had standing, the breach of contract claims should nevertheless be dismissed because the factual predicate for a breach of contract claim against Bonneville did not exist. The California Parties appealed the decision to the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, and filed their initial brief on September 8, 2015. In the initial brief, the California Parties raised the following three issues: (i) the decision to vacate the May 2012 CFC Order was an abuse of discretion; (ii) contractual privity existed between Bonneville and the California Parties; and (iii) a factual predicate for a breach of contract claim against Bonneville to pay refunds existed. Bonneville filed a responsive brief on December 23, 2015 and the plaintiffs filed a reply brief on January 27, 2016. Oral argument was held May 6, 2016. The parties await a decision from the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

For a description of litigation between SCE and Bonneville arising out of developments in West Coast energy markets in 1999-2001, see “—Southern California Edison v. Bonneville Power Administration.”

### **Oversupply Management Protocol and Related Rates Litigation**

Bonneville and FERC have undertaken a number of administrative actions relating to the implementation by Bonneville of its oversupply management. Certain of these actions have been challenged in litigation, as described herein. See “MATTERS RELATING TO POWER SERVICES AND TRANSMISSION SERVICES—Renewable Generation Development and Integration into the Federal Transmission System.”

In March 2012, Bonneville filed with FERC a proposed Open Access Transmission Tariff revision, referred to herein as the “Oversupply Management Protocol” or “OMP”, to manage over-generation events. The OMP provided that if other actions were insufficient to manage oversupply, Bonneville would displace wind generators and compensate them for the displacement. The OMP set specific costs for which wind generators could be compensated, including the value of lost production tax credits and renewable energy credits, and with respect to power sales agreements executed on or before March 6, 2012, lost revenues and penalties for the failure to deliver wind energy. Bonneville initially requested FERC approval of the OMP through March 2013. In March 2013, Bonneville re-filed the OMP with FERC, addressing changes that FERC had ordered to the terms and conditions, and asked FERC to approve the OMP through September 30, 2015.

Along with its March 2012 OMP filing, Bonneville informed FERC that Bonneville planned to initiate a rate proceeding in which it would prepare an initial rate proposal under which Bonneville would allocate 50 percent of OMP costs to Power Services’ rates (borne primarily by Preference Customers), and 50 percent of OMP costs to wind generators that receive compensation under the OMP. Shortly after Bonneville initiated the rate proceeding, FERC, in a December 2012 order, rejected Bonneville’s proposed cost allocation. In response, Bonneville issued a supplemental rate proposal in which Bonneville proposed to allocate OMP costs to all transmission customers using the Federal Transmission System at the time of the over-generation event. In March 2014, Bonneville issued a final rate proposal (the “Final Oversupply Rate Proposal”) and a related record of decision and submitted them to FERC for review. The Final Oversupply Rate Proposal included provisions allocating OMP costs only to generators that are located within Bonneville’s balancing authority area based on transmission use during oversupply events. In October 2014, FERC issued orders approving the March 2012 and March 2013 OMP filings and the Final Oversupply Rate as meeting the comparability and equitable cost allocation requirements of the FPA and the Northwest Power Act (the “October 2014 FERC Orders”).

The Final 2016-2017 Rates include a rate and a cost allocation for OMP that are consistent with the Final Oversupply Rate. In July 2015, Bonneville also requested that FERC approve the OMP on a permanent basis. In February 2016, FERC issued orders approving the Final 2016-2017 Rate Proposal and removing the expiration date of the OMP. Bonneville will not have to re-file the OMP with FERC unless Bonneville changes the terms and conditions of the OMP.

Certain of the foregoing administrative and rate actions engendered litigation in the Ninth Circuit Court: (i) petitions challenging Bonneville’s adoption of the OMP, (ii) petitions challenging Bonneville’s final record of decision adopting the Final Oversupply Rate, and (iii) petitions challenging the issuance by FERC of the October 2014 FERC Orders. As a result of certain settlement agreements, all of the foregoing petitions have been dismissed and there are no active dockets relating to OMP at FERC or the Ninth Circuit Court.

### **Miscellaneous Litigation**

From time to time, Bonneville may be involved in numerous other cases and arbitration proceedings, including land, contract, employment, billing disputes, federal procurement, and tort claims, some of which could result in money judgments or increased costs to Bonneville. The combined amount of damages claimed in these unrelated actions is not expected to exceed \$50 million.

**(THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK)**

**APPENDIX B-1**

**FEDERAL SYSTEM AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2015, 2014 AND 2013**

**(THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK)**



## **Independent Auditor's Report**

To the Administrator of the  
Bonneville Power Administration,  
United States Department of Energy

We have audited the accompanying combined financial statements of the Federal Columbia River Power System which comprise the combined balance sheets as of September 30, 2015 and 2014 and the related combined statements of revenues and expenses and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended September 30, 2015.

### ***Management's Responsibility for the Combined Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the combined financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of combined financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### ***Auditor's Responsibility***

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the combined financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the combined financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the combined financial statements. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the combined financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, we consider internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the combined financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the combined financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.



***Opinion***

In our opinion, the combined financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Federal Columbia River Power System as of September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2014, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended September 30, 2015 in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

*PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP*

October 30, 2015

# Federal Columbia River Power System

## Combined Balance Sheets

As of September 30

(Thousands of Dollars)

	2015	2014
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Utility plant</b>		
Completed plant	\$ 17,235,713	\$ 16,618,215
Accumulated depreciation	(6,192,725)	(5,941,078)
	<b>11,042,988</b>	<b>10,677,137</b>
Construction work in progress	1,815,735	1,603,811
Net utility plant	<b>12,858,723</b>	<b>12,280,948</b>
<b>Nonfederal generation</b>	<b>3,534,241</b>	<b>3,361,386</b>
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	646,670	859,242
Short-term investments in U.S. Treasury securities	694,274	465,756
Accounts receivable, net of allowance	35,732	24,321
Accrued unbilled revenues	298,906	283,377
Materials and supplies, at average cost	116,830	112,445
Prepaid expenses	27,447	32,443
Total current assets	<b>1,819,859</b>	<b>1,777,584</b>
<b>Other assets</b>		
Regulatory assets	6,603,165	6,741,604
Investments in U.S. Treasury securities	-	94,542
Nonfederal nuclear decommissioning trusts	282,655	279,210
Deferred charges and other	449,918	396,876
Total other assets	<b>7,335,738</b>	<b>7,512,232</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 25,548,561</b>	<b>\$ 24,932,150</b>

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.*

# Federal Columbia River Power System

## Combined Balance Sheets

As of September 30

(Thousands of Dollars)

	2015	2014
<b>Capitalization and Liabilities</b>		
<b>Capitalization and long-term liabilities</b>		
Accumulated net revenues	\$ 3,175,668	\$ 2,823,085
Debt		
Federal appropriations	3,901,740	4,090,050
Borrowings from U.S. Treasury	4,366,740	3,944,040
Nonfederal debt	6,786,856	6,439,711
<b>Total capitalization and long-term liabilities</b>	<b>18,231,004</b>	<b>17,296,886</b>
 <b>Commitments and contingencies (Note 13)</b>		
 <b>Current liabilities</b>		
Debt		
Borrowings from U.S. Treasury	282,000	298,000
Nonfederal debt	752,515	799,829
Accounts payable and other	539,747	555,165
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>1,574,262</b>	<b>1,652,994</b>
 <b>Other liabilities</b>		
Regulatory liabilities	2,259,843	2,322,386
IOU exchange benefits	2,683,866	2,795,470
Asset retirement obligations	184,784	176,127
Deferred credits and other	614,802	688,287
<b>Total other liabilities</b>	<b>5,743,295</b>	<b>5,982,270</b>
 <b>Total capitalization and liabilities</b>	 <b>\$ 25,548,561</b>	 <b>\$ 24,932,150</b>

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.*

# Federal Columbia River Power System

## Combined Statements of Revenues and Expenses

For the Years Ended September 30

(Thousands of Dollars)

	2015	2014	2013
<b>Operating revenues</b>			
Sales	\$ 3,257,461	\$ 3,426,514	\$ 3,175,570
U.S. Treasury credits	82,316	108,453	88,692
Miscellaneous revenues	64,655	65,379	82,019
<b>Total operating revenues</b>	<b>3,404,432</b>	3,600,346	3,346,281
<b>Operating expenses</b>			
Operations and maintenance	1,959,272	1,901,288	1,843,972
Purchased power	76,265	199,056	154,173
Nonfederal projects	228,965	355,828	733,313
Depreciation and amortization	447,984	440,524	429,717
<b>Total operating expenses</b>	<b>2,712,486</b>	2,896,696	3,161,175
<b>Net operating revenues</b>	<b>691,946</b>	703,650	185,106
<b>Interest expense and (income)</b>			
Interest expense	355,854	333,820	356,337
Allowance for funds used during construction	(53,217)	(50,236)	(37,529)
Interest income	(15,345)	(23,446)	(28,937)
<b>Net interest expense</b>	<b>287,292</b>	260,138	289,871
<b>Net revenues (expenses)</b>	<b>404,654</b>	443,512	(104,765)
Accumulated net revenues, beginning of year	2,823,085	2,432,217	2,595,940
Irrigation assistance	(52,071)	(52,644)	(58,958)
<b>Accumulated net revenues, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 3,175,668</b>	\$ 2,823,085	\$ 2,432,217

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.*

# Federal Columbia River Power System

## Combined Statements of Cash Flows

For the Years Ended September 30

(Thousands of Dollars)

	2015	2014	2013
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net revenues (expenses)	\$ 404,654	\$ 443,512	\$ (104,765)
Non-cash items:			
Depreciation and amortization	447,984	440,524	429,717
Amortization of nonfederal projects	23,065	119,168	512,363
Gain on extinguishment of U.S. Treasury bonds	-	(36,122)	-
Changes in:			
Receivables and unbilled revenues	(22,566)	(14,833)	45,261
Materials and supplies	(4,385)	(426)	(12,583)
Prepaid expenses	4,996	8,015	(14,398)
Accounts payable and other	(1,069)	35,636	(53,511)
Regulatory assets and liabilities	16,587	(95,454)	(141,867)
IOU exchange benefits	(111,604)	(197,270)	(88,313)
Other assets and liabilities	(81,978)	(5,148)	(3,259)
Net cash provided by operating activities	<b>675,684</b>	<b>697,602</b>	<b>568,645</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Investment in utility plant, including AFUDC	(964,509)	(842,983)	(778,785)
U.S. Treasury securities:			
Purchases	(1,322,999)	(950,001)	(940,000)
Maturities	1,185,200	808,429	808,783
Deposits to nonfederal nuclear decommissioning trusts	(3,363)	(3,234)	(3,598)
Lease-purchase trust funds:			
Deposits to	(205,789)	(519,039)	(144,208)
Receipts from	205,174	256,784	160,095
Net cash used for investing activities	<b>(1,106,286)</b>	<b>(1,250,044)</b>	<b>(897,713)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
Federal appropriations:			
Proceeds	47,970	119,654	99,175
Repayment	(236,280)	(321,061)	(56,740)
Borrowings from U.S. Treasury:			
Proceeds	619,000	603,000	632,000
Repayment	(212,300)	(206,898)	(167,800)
Nonfederal debt:			
Proceeds	206,167	520,118	488,965
Repayment	(121,702)	(227,043)	(498,748)
Customers:			
Net advances (refunds) for construction	4,034	3,664	(6,425)
Repayment of funds used for construction	(36,788)	(37,234)	(41,132)
Irrigation assistance	(52,071)	(52,644)	(58,958)
Net cash provided by financing activities	<b>218,030</b>	<b>401,556</b>	<b>390,337</b>
<b>Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>(212,572)</b>	<b>(150,886)</b>	<b>61,269</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	859,242	1,010,128	948,859
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>	<b>\$ 646,670</b>	<b>\$ 859,242</b>	<b>\$ 1,010,128</b>
<b>Supplemental disclosures:</b>			
Cash paid for interest, net of amount capitalized	\$ 365,785	\$ 350,743	\$ 377,167
Significant noncash investing and financing activities:			
U.S Treasury bonds repaid with non-cash gains	\$ -	\$ (39,102)	\$ -
Nonfederal debt increase for Energy Northwest	\$ 572,779	\$ 221,550	\$ 12,639
Nonfederal debt extinguished through refinancing for Energy Northwest	\$ (359,715)	\$ (111,954)	\$ (20,235)
Other nonfederal	\$ 2,302	\$ -	\$ (10,135)

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.*

# Notes to Financial Statements

## 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

### ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES

#### Combination and consolidation of entities

The Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS) financial statements combine the accounts of the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), the accounts of the Pacific Northwest generating facilities of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) as well as the operations and maintenance costs of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for the Lower Snake River Compensation Plan facilities. Consolidated with BPA are "Special Purpose Corporations" known as Northwest Infrastructure Financing Corporations (NIFCs), from which BPA leases certain transmission facilities. (See Note 7, Debt and Appropriations, and Note 8, Variable Interest Entities.)

BPA is a separate and distinct entity within the U.S. Department of Energy; the Corps is part of the U.S. Department of Defense; and Reclamation and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are part of the U.S. Department of the Interior. Each of the combined entities is separately managed, but the facilities are operated as an integrated power system with the financial results combined as the FCRPS. BPA is the power marketing administration that purchases, transmits and markets power for the FCRPS. While the costs of Corps and Reclamation projects serve multiple purposes, only the power portion of total project costs are assigned to the FCRPS through cost allocation processes. All intracompany and intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated from the combined financial statements.

FCRPS financial statements are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) of the United States of America. FCRPS financial statements also reflect the Uniform System of Accounts (USoA) applicable to federal entities as prescribed for electric public utilities by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FCRPS accounting policies also reflect other specific legislation and directives issued by U.S. government agencies. All U.S. government properties and income are tax exempt.

#### Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### Reclassifications

A \$5 million reclassification from Miscellaneous revenues to U.S. Treasury credits was made in the Combined Statements of Revenues and Expenses for fiscal years 2015, 2014 and 2013. This reclassification had no effect on previously reported results of operations or cash flows.

#### Rates and regulatory authority

BPA establishes separate power and transmission rates in accordance with several statutory directives. Rates proposed by BPA are subject to an extensive formal hearing process, after which they are proposed by BPA and reviewed by FERC. FERC's review is based on BPA statutes that include a requirement that rates must be sufficient to ensure repayment of the federal investment in the FCRPS over a reasonable number of years after first meeting BPA's other costs. After the final FERC approval, BPA's rates may be reviewed by the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit (Ninth Circuit Court) if challenged by parties involved in the rate proceedings. Petitions seeking such review must be filed within 90 days of the final FERC approval. The Ninth Circuit Court may either confirm or reject a rate proposed by BPA. BPA's rates are not structured to provide a rate of return on its assets.

In accordance with authoritative guidance for regulated operations, certain costs or credits may be included in rates for recovery or refund over a future period and are recorded as regulatory assets or liabilities. (See Note 4, Effects of Regulation.)

### **Utility plant**

Utility plant is stated at original cost and includes generation, transmission and other assets. The costs of substantial additions, major replacements and substantial betterments are capitalized. Costs include direct labor and materials; payments to contractors; indirect charges for engineering, supervision and certain overhead items; and an allowance for funds used during construction (AFUDC). Maintenance, repairs and replacements of items determined to be less than major units of property are charged as incurred to Operations and maintenance in the Combined Statements of Revenues and Expenses. When utility plant is retired, the original cost and any net proceeds from the disposition are charged to accumulated depreciation. (See Note 2, Utility Plant.)

### **Depreciation and amortization**

Depreciation of the original cost of generation plant is computed using straight-line methods based on estimated average service lives of the various classes of property. For transmission plant, depreciation of original cost and estimated net cost of removal is computed primarily on the straight-line group life method based on estimated average service lives of the various classes of property. The estimated net cost of removal is included in depreciation expense. (See Note 2, Utility Plant.)

In the event removal costs are expected to exceed salvage proceeds, a reclassification of this negative salvage is made from accumulated depreciation to a regulatory liability. As actual removal costs are incurred, the associated regulatory liability is reduced.

Amortization expense relates primarily to certain regulatory assets. (See Note 4, Effects of Regulation.)

### **Allowance for funds used during construction**

AFUDC represents the estimated cost of interest on financing the construction of new assets. AFUDC is based on the construction work in progress balance and is charged to the capitalized cost of the utility plant asset. AFUDC is a reduction of interest expense.

AFUDC is capitalized at one rate for construction funded substantially by BPA and at another rate for Corps and Reclamation construction funded by congressional appropriations. The BPA rate is determined based on the weighted-average cost of borrowing for BPA and for the Lease-Purchase Program. (See discussion of the Lease-Purchase Program in Note 7, Debt and Appropriations.) The rate for appropriated funds is provided each year to BPA by the U.S. Treasury. (See Note 2, Utility Plant.)

### **Nonfederal generation**

BPA is party to long-term contracts for BPA to acquire all of the generating capability of Energy Northwest's Columbia Generating Station (CGS) nuclear power plant and Lewis County PUD's Cowlitz Falls Hydroelectric Project. These contracts require BPA to meet all of the facilities' operating, maintenance and debt service costs. Operations and maintenance and debt service expenses for these projects are recognized based upon total project cash funding requirements. The Nonfederal generation assets in the Combined Balance Sheets are amortized over the term of the outstanding debt, with the amortization expense included in Nonfederal projects on the Combined Statements of Revenues and Expenses. (See Note 7, Debt and Appropriations.)

### **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash amounts include cash in the Bonneville Power Administration Fund (Bonneville Fund) with the U.S. Treasury and unexpended appropriations of the Corps and Reclamation. Cash equivalents consist of investments in non-marketable market-based special securities issued by the U.S. Treasury (market-based specials) with maturities of 90 days or less at the date of investment. The carrying value of cash and cash equivalents approximates fair value.

## **Concentrations of credit risks**

### **General credit risk**

Financial instruments that potentially subject the FCRPS to concentrations of credit risk consist primarily of BPA accounts receivable. Credit risk represents the loss that would be recognized if counterparties fail to perform as contracted.

BPA's accounts receivable are spread across a diverse group of customers throughout the western United States and Canada, and include consumer-owned utilities (COUs), investor-owned utilities (IOUs), power marketers, wind generators and others. BPA's accounts receivable exposure is generally from large and stable counterparties and does not represent a significant concentration of credit risk. During fiscal years 2015, 2014 and 2013, BPA experienced no material losses as a result of any customer defaults or bankruptcy filings.

BPA mitigates credit risk by reviewing counterparties for creditworthiness, establishing credit limits and monitoring credit exposure. In order to further manage credit risk, BPA obtains credit support, such as letters of credit, parental guarantees, and cash in the form of prepayments, deposits or escrow funds from some counterparties. BPA closely monitors counterparties for changes in financial condition and regularly updates credit reviews.

### **Allowance for doubtful accounts**

Management reviews accounts receivable to determine if any receivable will potentially be uncollectible. The allowance for doubtful accounts includes amounts estimated through an evaluation of specific customer accounts, based upon the best available facts and circumstances of customers that may be unable to meet their financial obligations, and a reserve for all other customers based on historical experience. The balance is not material to the financial statements.

### **Derivative instruments**

Derivative instruments are measured at fair value and recognized on the Combined Balance Sheets as either Deferred charges and other or as Deferred credits and other unless the contract is eligible for the normal purchases and normal sales exception under derivatives and hedging accounting guidance. Forward electricity contracts are generally considered normal purchases and normal sales if they require physical delivery, are expected to be used or sold in the normal course of business and meet the derivative accounting definition of capacity. Recognition of these contracts in Sales or Purchased power in the Combined Statements of Revenues and Expenses occurs when the contracts settle.

Changes in fair value are deferred as either Regulatory assets or Regulatory liabilities on the Combined Balance Sheets in accordance with regulated operations accounting guidance. The FCRPS does not apply hedge accounting.

### **Fair value**

Carrying amounts of current assets and current liabilities approximate fair value based on the short-term nature of these instruments. Fair value measurements are applied to certain financial assets and liabilities and to determine fair value disclosures in accordance with accounting guidance for fair value measurements and disclosures. When developing fair value measurements, it is FCRPS policy to use quoted market prices whenever available or to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs when quoted market prices are not available. Fair values are primarily developed using industry standard models that consider various inputs including: (a) quoted forward prices for commodities; (b) time value; (c) volatility factors; (d) current market and contractual prices for underlying instruments; (e) market interest rates and yield curves; and (f) credit spreads, as well as other relevant economic measures. (See Note 11, Risk Management and Derivative Instruments and Note 12, Fair Value Measurements.)

### **Revenues and net revenues**

Operating revenues are recorded when power, transmission and related services are delivered and include estimated unbilled revenues. Net revenues over time are committed to payment of operational obligations, including debt for both operating and non-operating nonfederal projects, debt service on bonds BPA issues to

the U.S. Treasury, the repayment of federal appropriations in the FCRPS, and the payment of certain irrigation costs.

### **U.S. Treasury credits**

U.S. Treasury credits represent nonpower-related costs that BPA recovers from the U.S. Treasury in accordance with certain laws. The primary U.S. Treasury credit is the 4(h)(10)(C) credit provided for in the Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act (Northwest Power Act). This credit allows BPA to recover the nonpower portion of expenditures BPA makes for fish and wildlife protection, mitigation and enhancement. Through Section 4(h)(10)(C), the Northwest Power Act ensures that the costs of mitigating these impacts are properly accounted for among the power-related and other purposes of the federal hydroelectric projects of the FCRPS. Power-related costs are recovered in BPA's rates. U.S. Treasury credits are reported as a component of Operating revenues in the Combined Statements of Revenues and Expenses.

### **Purchased power**

Purchased power expense represents wholesale power purchases that are meant to augment the FCRPS resource pool to meet loads and obligations. Purchased power excludes operations and maintenance expenses associated with CGS and the Cowlitz Falls Hydroelectric Project, and with certain contracts for renewable resources that BPA management considers part of the FCRPS resource pool.

### **Nonfederal projects**

Nonfederal projects expense represents the amortization of nonfederal generation assets and regulatory assets for terminated nonfederal nuclear and hydro facilities, as well as the interest expense on the debt related to those assets. This expense is recognized over the terms of the related outstanding debt.

### **Interest expense**

Interest expense includes interest associated with the unpaid balance of federal appropriations scheduled for repayment, interest on bonds issued by BPA to the U.S. Treasury and interest on certain nonfederal debt. Reductions to interest expense include the amortization of a capitalization adjustment regulatory liability and also gains related to the repayment of certain U.S. Treasury bonds considered extinguished or modified after being called and reissued. Interest expense excludes interest on nonfederal debt related to operating or terminated generation assets that is instead reported as a component of nonfederal projects expense. (See Note 7, Debt and Appropriations.)

### **Interest income**

Interest income includes interest earnings on balances in the Bonneville Fund including market-based special securities and interest earnings from other sources. BPA continues to earn interest offset credits on certain cash balances in the Bonneville Fund that are not invested in market-based specials. These credits reduce some interest payments, associated with federally appropriated investments in the FCRPS, in the amount of the interest earned. The interest offset credits are earned at the weighted-average interest rate of BPA's outstanding U.S. Treasury borrowings. Interest earnings on U.S. Treasury market-based special investments are based on the stated rates of the individual securities. (See Note 3, Investments in U.S. Treasury Securities.)

### **Residential Exchange Program**

In order to provide qualifying regional utilities, primarily IOUs, access to power benefits from the FCRPS, Congress established the Residential Exchange Program (REP) in Section 5(c) of the Northwest Power Act. Whenever a Pacific Northwest electric utility offers to sell power to BPA at the utility's average system cost of resources, BPA purchases such power and offers, in exchange, to sell an equivalent amount of power at BPA's priority firm exchange rate to the utility for resale to that utility's residential and small farm consumers. REP costs are forecast for each year of the rate period and included in the revenue requirement for establishing rates. The cost of this program is collected through rates. REP costs are recognized when incurred and included in Operations and maintenance in the Combined Statements of Revenues and Expenses.

In fiscal year 2011, BPA signed the 2012 Residential Exchange Program Settlement Agreement (2012 REP Settlement Agreement), resolving disputes related to the REP. The 2012 REP Settlement Agreement provides for fixed “Scheduled Amounts” payable to the IOUs, as well as fixed “Refund Amounts” payable to the COUs. The Refund Amounts do not reduce rates but are bill credits to qualifying COUs as designated in the 2012 REP Settlement Agreement. (See Note 9, Residential Exchange Program.)

### **Pension and other postretirement benefits**

Federal employees associated with the operation of the FCRPS participate in either the Civil Service Retirement System or the Federal Employees Retirement System. Employees may also participate after retirement in the Federal Employees Health and Benefit Program and the Federal Employee Group Life Insurance Program. All such postretirement systems and programs are sponsored by the Office of Personnel Management; therefore, the FCRPS financial statements do not include accumulated plan assets or liabilities related to the administration of such programs. Contribution amounts are paid to the U.S. Treasury and are recorded as Operations and maintenance in the Combined Statements of Revenues and Expenses during the year to which the payment relates.

## **RECENT ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS**

### **Revenue recognition**

In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued an Accounting Standards Update (ASU) on revenue from contracts with customers that supersedes the existing revenue recognition guidance, including most industry-specific guidance. On April 1, 2015, the FASB proposed to defer the effective date of the new revenue standard by one year and to permit one year early adoption. Management is evaluating the impact of adopting this guidance, which will be effective for fiscal year 2019.

### **Fees paid in cloud computing arrangements**

In April 2015, the FASB issued an ASU addressing customer’s accounting for fees paid in a cloud computing arrangement. Existing GAAP does not include explicit guidance about these types of fees. Examples of cloud computing arrangements include software as a service, platform as a service, infrastructure as a service, and other similar hosting arrangements. Management is evaluating the impact of adopting this guidance, which will be effective for fiscal year 2017.

### **Presentation of debt issuance costs**

In April 2015, the FASB issued an ASU to align the balance sheet presentation of debt issuance costs with that of debt premiums and discounts. Management is evaluating the impact of adopting this guidance, which will be effective for fiscal year 2017.

## **SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

Management has performed an evaluation of events and transactions for potential FCRPS recognition or disclosure through Oct. 30, 2015, which is the date the financial statements were issued. On Oct. 21, 2015, Energy Northwest issued \$109 million of par value bonds at a premium, which resulted in the receipt of \$130 million in proceeds. These bonds were issued for Washington Nuclear Project No. 1 (Project 1), Washington Nuclear Project No. 3 (Project 3) and for CGS, and Energy Northwest used the proceeds to repay a \$130 million line of credit. On the Combined Balance Sheets, the \$130 million line of credit is included in long-term Nonfederal debt as the newly issued bonds have maturities between 2025 and 2031. (See Note 7, Debt and Appropriations.)

## 2. Utility Plant

<i>As of Sept. 30 — millions of dollars</i>	2015	2014	Estimated average service lives
Generation assets	\$ 8,839	\$ 8,624	75 years
Transmission and other assets	7,849	7,843	48 years
Transmission capital leased assets	548	151	48 years
Completed plant	\$ 17,236	\$ 16,618	

### Allowance for funds used during construction

<i>Fiscal year</i>	2015	2014	2013
BPA rate	3.1%	3.7%	3.6%
Appropriated rate	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%

## 3. Investments in U.S. Treasury Securities

<i>As of Sept. 30 — millions of dollars</i>	2015		2014	
	Amortized cost	Fair value	Amortized cost	Fair value
Short-term	\$ 694	\$ 695	\$ 466	\$ 466
Long-term	-	-	94	95
Total	\$ 694	\$ 695	\$ 560	\$ 561

BPA participates in the U.S. Treasury's Federal Investment Program, which provides investment services to federal government entities that have funds on deposit with the U.S. Treasury and statutory authority to invest those funds. Investments of the funds are generally restricted to market-based special securities. Under its banking arrangement with the U.S. Treasury, BPA has agreed to increase the amounts in the Bonneville Fund that are invested in market-based specials by at least \$100 million annually. This has had and is expected to have the effect of increasing the amounts of market-based specials in the Bonneville Fund. At the earlier of the date that the Bonneville Fund is fully invested in market-based specials or Sept. 30, 2018, all balances in the Bonneville Fund will thereafter be invested through the Federal Investment Program and BPA will no longer earn interest offset credits. Instead, BPA will continue to earn interest on its investments in market-based specials.

Market-based specials held during fiscal years 2015 and 2014 had a weighted-average yield of 0.1 percent and 0.2 percent, respectively, with maturities of up to two years. The amounts shown in the preceding table exclude U.S. Treasury securities with maturities of 90 days or less at the date of investment, which are considered cash equivalents and are included in the Combined Balance Sheets as part of Cash and cash equivalents. For all other securities, FCRPS follows the authoritative guidance for investments, debt and equity securities. These investments are classified as held-to-maturity and reported at amortized cost. They are not actively traded and their valuations are based on a market input evaluation pricing methodology using a combination of observable market data such as current market trade data, reported bid/ask spreads, and institutional bid information. These fair value measurements are considered Level 2 in the fair value hierarchy as defined by the accounting guidance for fair value measurements and disclosures. (See Note 12, Fair Value Measurements.) Investments

with maturities that will be realized in cash between 91 days and one year are classified as short-term investments.

## 4. Effects of Regulation

### REGULATORY ASSETS

<i>As of Sept. 30 — millions of dollars</i>	2015	2014
REP Scheduled Amounts	\$ 2,684	\$ 2,795
Terminated nuclear facilities	2,031	2,031
Columbia River Fish Mitigation	696	657
Conservation measures	380	341
Fish and wildlife measures	299	310
REP Refund Amounts	294	364
Legal claims and settlements	56	92
Spacer damper replacement program	48	50
Derivative instruments	34	16
Federal Employees' Compensation Act	32	33
Trojan decommissioning and site restoration	26	24
Terminated hydro facilities	14	16
Other	9	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 6,603</b>	<b>\$ 6,742</b>

Regulatory assets include the following items:

“REP Scheduled Amounts” reflect the costs of REP Scheduled Amounts representing REP benefits payable under the 2012 REP Settlement Agreement that will be recovered in rates through 2028. These amounts amortize to operations and maintenance expense. (See Note 9, Residential Exchange Program.)

“Terminated nuclear facilities” consist of the nonfederal debt for Energy Northwest Projects 1 and 3. These assets are amortized to nonfederal projects expense over the term of the related outstanding debt. (See Note 7, Debt and Appropriations.)

“Columbia River Fish Mitigation” is the cost of research and development for fish bypass facilities funded through appropriations since 1989 in accordance with the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act of 1989, Public Law 100-371. These costs are recovered in rates over 75 years and amortized to depreciation and amortization expense.

“Conservation measures” consist of the costs of deferred conservation measures and are amortized to depreciation and amortization expense over periods from 12 to 20 years. “Fish and wildlife measures” consist of deferred fish and wildlife project expenses and are amortized to depreciation and amortization expense over a period of 15 years.

“REP Refund Amounts” are amounts that reduce the REP benefit payments through fiscal year 2019 and were established in the 2012 REP Settlement Agreement. (See Note 9, Residential Exchange Program.) These amounts are recoverable in future rates and are equal to the regulatory liability for REP Refund Amounts to COUs.

“Legal claims and settlements” reflect accrued liabilities related to outstanding legal claims and settlement agreements. These costs will be recovered and amortized to operations and maintenance expense through future rates over a period established by BPA.

“Spacer damper replacement program” consists of costs to replace deteriorated spacer dampers and are recovered in rates under the Spacer Damper Replacement Program. These costs are amortized to depreciation and amortization expense over a period of 25 or 30 years.

“Derivative instruments” reflect the unrealized losses from BPA’s derivative portfolio. These amounts are deferred over the corresponding underlying contract delivery months. (See Note 11, Risk Management and Derivative Instruments.)

“Federal Employees’ Compensation Act” reflects the actuarial estimated amount of future payments for current recipients of BPA’s worker compensation benefits. This amount equals the associated liability.

“Trojan decommissioning and site restoration” reflects the amount to be recovered in future rates for funding the asset retirement obligation (ARO) liability related to the former Trojan nuclear facility. This amount equals the associated liability. (See Note 5, Asset Retirement Obligations.)

“Terminated hydro facilities” consist of the nonfederal debt for the Northern Wasco hydro project, for which BPA terminated its participation. These assets are amortized to nonfederal projects expense over the term of the related outstanding debt. (See Note 7, Debt and Appropriations.)

## REGULATORY LIABILITIES

<i>As of Sept. 30 — millions of dollars</i>	2015	2014
Capitalization adjustment	\$ 1,342	\$ 1,407
Accumulated plant removal costs	423	411
REP Refund Amounts to COUs	294	364
Decommissioning and site restoration	126	129
Derivative instruments	68	5
Other	7	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,260</b>	<b>\$ 2,322</b>

Regulatory liabilities include the following items:

“Capitalization adjustment” is the difference between the outstanding balance of federal appropriations, plus \$100 million, before and after refinancing under the BPA Refinancing Section of the Omnibus Consolidated Rescissions and Appropriations Act of 1996 (Refinancing Act), 16 U.S.C. 838(l). Consistent with treatment in BPA’s power and transmission rate cases, this adjustment is being amortized over a 40-year period through fiscal year 2036. Amortization of the capitalization adjustment as a reduction to interest expense was \$65 million for fiscal years 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

“Accumulated plant removal costs” are the amounts previously collected through rates as part of depreciation. The liability will be reduced as actual removal costs are incurred. (See Note 1, Summary of Significant Accounting Policies.)

“REP Refund Amounts to COUs” are the amounts previously collected through rates that are owed to qualifying consumer-owned utilities and will be provided as future bill credits through fiscal year 2019 as established in the 2012 REP Settlement Agreement. These amounts are equal to regulatory assets for REP Refund Amounts. (See Note 9, Residential Exchange Program.)

“Decommissioning and site restoration” is the amount previously collected through rates and invested in the related nonfederal nuclear decommissioning trusts in excess of the ARO balances for CGS decommissioning and site restoration as well as Energy Northwest Projects 1 and 4 sites. (See Note 5, Asset Retirement Obligations.)

“Derivative instruments” reflect the unrealized gains from BPA’s derivative portfolio. These amounts are deferred over the corresponding underlying contract delivery months. (See Note 11, Risk Management and Derivative Instruments.)

## 5. Asset Retirement Obligations

<i>As of Sept. 30 — millions of dollars</i>	2015	2014
Beginning Balance	\$ 176	\$ 172
Activities:		
Accretion	9	8
Expenditures	(2)	(2)
Revisions	2	(2)
Ending Balance	\$ 185	\$ 176

AROs are recognized based on the estimated fair value of the dismantlement and restoration costs associated with the retirement of certain tangible long-lived assets. The liability is adjusted for any revisions, expenditures and the passage of time. The FCRPS also has tangible long-lived assets such as federal hydro projects and transmission assets without an associated ARO because no obligation exists to remove these assets.

AROs include the following items as of Sept. 30, 2015:

- CGS decommissioning and site restoration of \$142 million;
- Trojan decommissioning of \$26 million;
- Energy Northwest Projects 1 and 4 site restoration of \$17 million.

### NONFEDERAL NUCLEAR DECOMMISSIONING TRUSTS

<i>As of Sept. 30 — millions of dollars</i>	2015		2014	
	Amortized cost	Fair value	Amortized cost	Fair value
Equity index funds	\$ 131	\$ 135	\$ 86	\$ 121
Bond index funds	130	130	62	65
U.S. government obligation mutual funds	19	18	93	93
Total	\$ 280	\$ 283	\$ 241	\$ 279

These assets represent trust fund balances for decommissioning and site restoration costs. External trust funds for decommissioning and site restoration costs are funded monthly for CGS and are charged to operations and maintenance expense. The trust funds are expected to provide for decommissioning at the end of the project's safe storage period in accordance with Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) requirements. The NRC requires that this period be no longer than 60 years from the time the plant ceases operations. Trust fund requirements for CGS are based on an NRC decommissioning cost estimate and the license termination date, which is in 2043. The CGS trusts are funded and managed by BPA in accordance with the NRC requirements and site certification agreements.

The investment securities in the decommissioning and site restoration trust accounts are classified as available-for-sale and recorded at fair value in accordance with accounting guidance for investments, debt and equity securities. Net unrealized gains and losses on these investment securities are recognized as adjustments to the related regulatory liability, which represents the excess of the amount previously collected through rates over the current ARO balance. (See Note 4, Effects of Regulation.)

Contribution payments to the CGS trusts for fiscal years 2015, 2014 and 2013 were approximately \$3 million, \$3 million and \$4 million, respectively. BPA and Energy Northwest have no obligation to make further payments into the site restoration fund for Energy Northwest Projects 1 and 4.

Based on an agreement in place, BPA directly funds Eugene Water and Electric Board's 30 percent share of Trojan's decommissioning costs through current rates. Decommissioning costs are included in Operations and maintenance in the Combined Statements of Revenues and Expenses.

## 6. Deferred Charges and Other

<i>As of Sept. 30 — millions of dollars</i>	2015	2014
Lease-Purchase trust funds	\$ 336	\$ 355
Derivative instruments	68	5
Settlements receivable	16	16
Spectrum Relocation Fund	13	8
Funding agreements	12	7
Other	5	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 450</b>	<b>\$ 397</b>

Deferred Charges and Other include the following items:

"Lease-Purchase trust funds" are amounts held in separate trust accounts outside the Bonneville Fund for the construction of leased transmission assets, the use of which BPA has received under lease-purchase agreements. The amounts held in trust are also used in part for debt service payments during the construction period and include an investment fund mainly for future principal and interest debt service payments. (See Note 7, Debt and Appropriations.) These trust balances consist of cash and cash equivalents and investments classified as either trading or held to maturity. Trading securities, which comprise the majority of trust balances, are held for construction purposes and are stated at fair value based on quoted market prices. Interest income and realized and unrealized gains or losses on amounts held in trust for construction are recorded as AFUDC. Interest income and gains and losses on other trust balances are recorded as either income or expense in the period when earned.

"Derivative instruments" represent unrealized gains from BPA's derivative portfolio, which includes physical power purchase and sale transactions and power exchange transactions.

"Settlements receivable" represents interest earned by BPA on certain settlements, the principal of which has been collected. The timing of cash receipt of the interest is unknown.

"Spectrum Relocation Fund" was created to reimburse certain federal agencies such as BPA for the costs of replacing radio communication equipment displaced as a result of radio band frequencies no longer available to the affected federal agencies. Amounts received for Spectrum Relocation Fund from the U.S. Treasury are held in the Bonneville Fund for the sole purpose of constructing replacement assets.

"Funding agreements" represent deferred costs associated with BPA's contractual obligations to determine the feasibility of certain joint transmission projects.

## 7. Debt and Appropriations

As of Sept. 30 — millions of dollars

		2015		2014	
	Terms	Carrying Value	Weighted-Average Interest Rate	Carrying Value	Weighted-Average Interest Rate
<b>Nonfederal debt</b>					
Nonfederal generation:					
Columbia Generating Station	0.5 – 6.8% through 2044	\$ 3,453	4.0%	\$ 3,305	4.2%
Cowlitz Falls Project	4.0 – 5.3% through 2032	82	5.1	85	5.1
Terminated nonfederal generation:					
Nuclear Project 1	0.6 – 7.1% through 2028	903	4.7	913	5.0
Nuclear Project 3	0.6 – 7.1% through 2028	1,133	4.7	1,144	4.9
Northern Wasco Hydro Project	1.2 – 5.0% through 2024	16	3.5	17	3.3
Lease-Purchase Program:					
Capital leases	1.9 – 6.1% through 2042	1,181	2.9	687	2.9
Consolidated NIFC debt	1.8 – 5.4% through 2034	437	3.1	735	3.4
Other capital leases	4.7 – 7.4% through 2044	32	6.4	33	6.8
Customer prepaid power purchases	4.3 – 4.6% through 2028	302	4.5	319	4.5
Other		-		2	4.6
Total Nonfederal debt		7,539	4.0	7,240	4.2
<b>Federal debt and appropriations</b>					
Borrowings from U.S Treasury	0.2 – 5.9% through 2043	4,649	3.0	4,242	3.1
Federal appropriations	2.9 – 7.3% through 2064	3,514	5.8	3,650	5.9
Federal appropriations (not yet scheduled for repayment)		388	n/a	440	n/a
Total Federal debt and appropriations		8,551	4.2	8,332	4.4
<b>Total debt and appropriations</b>		\$ 16,090	4.1%	\$ 15,572	4.3%

### Nonfederal generation and Terminated nonfederal generation

BPA is party to long-term contracts for BPA to acquire all of the generating capability of Energy Northwest's Columbia Generating Station and Lewis County PUD's Cowlitz Falls Hydroelectric Project. These contracts require that BPA meet all of the operating, maintenance and debt service costs for these projects. Under certain agreements, BPA also assumed financial responsibility for meeting all costs of Energy Northwest's Projects 1 and 3, including debt service costs of bonds and other financial instruments issued for the projects, even though these projects were terminated. BPA is also required by a "Settlement and Termination Agreement" between BPA and Northern Wasco PUD to pay amounts equal to annual debt service on the Northern Wasco Hydro Project for which BPA ceased its participation.

BPA recognizes expenses for these nonfederal generation and terminated nonfederal generation projects based on total project cash funding requirements, which include debt service and operating and maintenance expenses. BPA recognized operating and maintenance expense for these projects of \$323 million, \$301 million and \$307 million in fiscal years 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively, which is included in Operations and maintenance in the Combined Statements of Revenues and Expenses. Debt service expense for all projects of \$229 million, \$356 million and \$733 million for fiscal years 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively, is reported as Nonfederal projects in the Combined Statements of Revenues and Expenses. On the Combined Balance

Sheets, related assets for operating projects are included in Nonfederal generation. Related assets for terminated generation are included in Regulatory assets. (See Note 4, Effects of Regulation.)

As a result of debt management actions taken by Energy Northwest under a Regional Cooperation Debt effort with BPA, amounts otherwise collected in BPA's Power rates during fiscal years 2015 and 2014 were not used to fund the Energy Northwest-related principal payments as originally intended, and as included in rates. Instead, amounts were used to repay, before their maturity date, \$229 million and \$321 million of higher interest rate federal appropriations during fiscal years 2015 and 2014, respectively.

Energy Northwest debt of \$1.37 billion is callable, in whole or in part, at Energy Northwest's option, on call dates between July 2017 and July 2025 at 100 percent of the principal amount.

The fair value of Energy Northwest debt exceeded recorded value by \$561 million and \$591 million as of Sept. 30, 2015, and 2014, respectively. The valuations are based on a market input evaluation pricing methodology using a combination of market observable data such as current market trade data, reported bid/ask spreads and institutional bid information. These fair value measurements are considered Level 2 in the fair value hierarchy. (See Note 12, Fair Value Measurements.)

### **Lease-Purchase Program and Capital leases**

Under the Lease-Purchase Program, BPA consolidates special purpose corporations, collectively referred to as Northwest Infrastructure Financing Corporations (NIFCs). These entities issued debt to and received advances from nonfederal sources, which were used to finance construction of transmission facilities leased to BPA. The combined NIFCs have issued \$120 million in bonds and borrowed \$317 million on lines of credit with various banks as of Sept. 30, 2015. The collateral for this debt is the future lease payment stream from BPA. The bonds bear interest at 5.4 percent and mature in 2034. All NIFC bonds outstanding are subject to redemption by the issuing NIFC, in whole or in part, at any date, at the higher of the principal amount of the bonds or the present value of the bonds discounted using the U.S. Treasury rate plus a premium of 12.5 basis points. The lines of credit become due in full at various dates ranging between July 1, 2016, and Jan. 1, 2019. The lease-purchase agreements contain provisions that allow BPA to purchase the related assets at any time during each lease term for a bargain purchase price plus the value of the related outstanding debt instrument. (See Note 8, Variable Interest Entities.)

The fair value of the consolidated NIFC debt exceeded the recorded value by \$21 million and \$24 million as of Sept. 30, 2015, and 2014, respectively. The valuations are based on the discounted future cash flows using interest rates for similar debt that could have been issued at Sept. 30, 2015, and 2014, respectively. These fair value measurements are considered Level 2 in the fair value hierarchy. (See Note 12, Fair Value Measurements.)

Lease-purchase transactions with entities that are not consolidated in the combined FCRPS financial statements are reported as transmission capital leased assets. These include BPA's lease-purchase transactions with the Port of Morrow, a port district located in Morrow County, Oregon, and the Idaho Energy Resources Authority (IERA), an independent public instrumentality of the State of Idaho, for transmission facilities, including lines, substations and general plant assets.

On the Combined Balance Sheets, the consolidated NIFC debt and capital lease liabilities are included in Nonfederal debt. The related assets are included in Utility plant and Deferred charges and other for unspent funds held in trust accounts outside the Bonneville Fund. The capital leases expire on various dates through 2044. Additionally one capital lease agreement includes a minimum lease payment escalation clause based on transmission usage, which was triggered during fiscal year 2015. The contract change became effective Oct. 1, 2015, but will not have a material impact to the financial statements.

Completed plant assets reported as transmission capital leased assets were \$548 million and \$151 million, with accumulated depreciation of \$54 million and \$23 million, at Sept. 30, 2015, and 2014, respectively. During fiscal year 2015, two of the NIFC entities sold their lease receivables, rights to future lease revenues, and title to their leased assets to the Port of Morrow, resulting in the associated liabilities being reported as capital

leases instead of as consolidated NIFC debt. These transactions resulted in a \$303 million increase to transmission capital leased assets with an immaterial net change to Completed plant on the Combined Balance Sheets. (See Note 2, Utility Plant.)

### **Customer prepaid power purchases**

During fiscal year 2013, BPA entered into agreements with four regional COUs for the advance payment of portions of their power purchases. Under this program, customers purchased prepaid power in blocks through fiscal year 2028. For each block purchased, BPA repays the prepayment, with interest, as monthly fixed credits on the customers' power bills.

In March 2013, BPA received \$340 million representing \$474 million in scheduled credits for blocks purchased by customers. BPA accounts for the prepayment proceeds as a financing transaction and reports the value of the obligations associated with the fixed credits as a prepayment liability. Interest expense is recognized using a weighted-average effective interest rate of 4.5 percent. The prepaid liability is reduced as power is delivered and the credits are applied through fiscal year 2028.

### **Borrowings from U.S. Treasury**

BPA is authorized by Congress to issue and sell to the U.S. Treasury, and have outstanding at any one time, up to \$7.70 billion aggregate principal amount of bonds. Of the \$7.70 billion in U.S. Treasury borrowing authority, \$1.25 billion is available for electric power conservation and renewable resources, including capital investment at the FCRPS hydroelectric facilities owned by the Corps and Reclamation, and \$6.45 billion is available for BPA's transmission capital program and to implement BPA's authorities under the Northwest Power Act. Of the \$7.70 billion, \$750 million can be issued to finance Northwest Power Act related expenses. The interest on BPA's outstanding bonds is set at rates comparable to rates on debt issued by other comparable federal government institutions at the time of issuance. Bonds can be issued with call options.

As of Sept. 30, 2015, of the total \$4.65 billion outstanding balance, none related to Northwest Power Act expenses. Outstanding bonds carrying a variable rate of interest were \$700 million and \$661 million at Sept. 30, 2015, and 2014, respectively. The weighted-average interest rate of BPA's borrowings from the U.S. Treasury exceeds current rates. As a result, the fair value of BPA's U.S. Treasury borrowings exceeded the carrying value by approximately \$474 million and \$417 million, based on discounted future cash flows using agency rates offered by the U.S. Treasury as of Sept. 30, 2015, and 2014, respectively, for similar maturities. These fair value measurements are considered Level 2 in the fair value hierarchy. (See discussion in Note 12, Fair Value Measurements.)

Of the outstanding U.S. Treasury borrowings, \$219 million is not subject to redemption prior to their stated maturities. As of Sept. 30, 2015, \$700 million of borrowings are callable by BPA at par value and the remaining \$3.73 billion of borrowings are callable by BPA at a premium or discount, which is calculated based on the current government agency rates for the remaining term to maturity at the time the borrowings are called.

During fiscal year 2014, BPA called \$1.18 billion principal amount of previously issued U.S. Treasury borrowings prior to maturity and reissued \$1.14 billion principal amount of shorter-duration debt at lower interest rates. The result of these noncash transactions was a gain of \$36 million for extinguished debt, which decreased interest expense immediately, as well as a gain of \$3 million for modified debt, which was amortized to interest expense over the term of the new debt. During fiscal year 2015, BPA did not call any bonds it had issued to the U.S. Treasury.

### **Federal appropriations**

Federal appropriations reflect the responsibility that BPA has to repay congressionally appropriated amounts in the FCRPS. Federal appropriations consist primarily of the remaining unpaid power portion of Corps and Reclamation capital investments funded through congressional appropriations and include appropriations for Columbia River Fish Mitigation as allocated to the power purpose of the Corps' FCRPS hydroelectric projects.

BPA is obligated to establish rates to repay to the U.S. Treasury appropriations for federal generation and transmission plant investments within a specified repayment period, which is the reasonable expected service life of the facilities, not to exceed 50 years. Federal appropriations may be paid early without penalty, and BPA repaid appropriations early in fiscal years 2015 and 2014. All outstanding federal appropriations are scheduled for repayment in fiscal year 2019 and thereafter. BPA schedules the repayment of federal appropriations, which begin accruing interest once the related assets are placed into service.

	<i>Maturing Nonfederal debt excluding capital leases</i>		<i>Future minimum lease payments under capital leases</i>		<i>Borrowings from U.S. Treasury</i>		<i>Federal appropriations</i>		<i>Total</i>
<i>As of Sept. 30 — millions of dollars</i>									
2016	\$	751	\$	38	\$	282	\$	-	\$ 1,071
2017		597		38		76		-	711
2018		933		38		9		-	980
2019		642		49		575		-	1,266
2020		383		357		389		83	1,212
2021 and thereafter		3,020		1,044		3,318		3,819	11,201
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>6,326</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,564</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>4,649</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,902</b>	<b>\$ 16,441</b>
Less: Executory costs		-		29		-		-	29
Less: Amount representing interest		-		322		-		-	322
Present value of debt		6,326		1,213		4,649		3,902	16,090
Less: Current portion		751		1		282		-	1,034
Long-term debt	\$	5,575	\$	1,212	\$	4,367	\$	3,902	\$ 15,056

## 8. Variable Interest Entities

A VIE is an entity that does not have sufficient equity at risk to finance its activities without additional financial support or whose equity investors lack characteristics of a controlling financial interest. An enterprise that has a controlling interest is known as the VIE's primary beneficiary and is required to consolidate the VIE.

BPA management reviews executed power purchase agreements with counterparties that may be considered VIEs. These VIEs are typically legal entities structured to own and operate specific generating facilities, primarily wind farms. Because of their pricing arrangements, these agreements may provide that BPA absorb commodity price risk of the counterparty entities. BPA does not provide, and does not plan to provide, any additional financial support to these entities beyond what BPA is contractually obligated to pay. Management has concluded that it does not control the operating and maintenance activities that most significantly impact these entities. Therefore, BPA is not considered the primary beneficiary of these VIEs and does not consolidate any entities because of power purchase agreements, and none of the entities with which BPA has power purchase agreements are consolidated.

Management also reviews executed lease-purchase agreements with nonfederal entities. Certain of these entities, including the Port of Morrow and IERA, are governmental and, in accordance with VIE accounting guidance, are therefore scoped out of consolidation into the FCRPS financial statements.

BPA is the primary beneficiary of the NIFCs, which are considered VIEs, and BPA therefore consolidates these entities into the FCRPS financial statements. The key factors in this determination are BPA's ability to take

contractual actions that significantly impact the economic, commercial and operating activities of the NIFCs and that BPA may be obligated to absorb losses that could be significant to the NIFCs. Additionally, BPA's lease-purchase agreements with the NIFC entities obligate BPA to absorb the operational and commercial risks, and thus potentially significant benefits or losses associated with the underlying transmission facilities. BPA also has exclusive use and control of the facilities during the lease periods and has indemnified the NIFC entities for all construction and operating risks associated with their respective transmission facilities.

Amounts related to the NIFC entities include Lease-Purchase trust funds and other assets of \$22 million and \$25 million and Nonfederal debt of \$437 million and \$735 million as of Sept. 30, 2015, and 2014, respectively.

## 9. Residential Exchange Program

### **BACKGROUND**

As provided in the Northwest Power Act, in 1981 BPA began to implement the REP through various contracts with eligible regional utility customers. BPA's implementation of the REP has been the subject of various litigations and settlement agreements. (See Note 13, Commitments and Contingencies.)

### **2008 IOU EXCHANGE BENEFITS**

In fiscal year 2008, certain Interim Agreements were executed to provide certain IOUs with temporary REP benefits for their residential and small farm consumers. These agreements included a provision to true up the amounts advanced with the actual REP benefits for fiscal year 2008. The true up amount for the IOUs accumulated to \$89 million by the end of December 2013; however, provisions in the agreement provided that true up payments could not be paid until any subsequent legal challenges to BPA's final Record of Decision (ROD), if any, were resolved. In fiscal year 2014, the conditions allowing for payment were met, and BPA paid all remaining Interim Agreement true up payments.

### **2012 RESIDENTIAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

Beginning in April 2010, over 50 litigants and other regional parties entered into mediation to resolve their numerous disputes over the REP. Participants reached an agreement in principle in early September 2010 and in February 2011 reached a final settlement agreement – the 2012 Residential Exchange Program Settlement Agreement (2012 REP Settlement Agreement).

In July 2011, BPA signed the REP-12 Final ROD and the 2012 REP Settlement Agreement, and BPA recorded an associated long-term IOU exchange benefits liability and corresponding regulatory asset of \$3.07 billion. Beginning in fiscal year 2012, under the provisions of the 2012 REP Settlement Agreement the IOUs began to receive Scheduled Amounts annually starting at \$182 million with increases over time to \$286 million as the final payment in fiscal year 2028. The distribution of these payments is established in the 2012 REP Settlement Agreement and is based on each IOU's average system cost, BPA's Priority Firm Exchange rates and exchange load. The settled Scheduled Amounts to be paid to the IOUs total \$4.07 billion over the 17-year period through 2028, with remaining payments as of Sept. 30, 2015, totaling \$3.31 billion. Amounts recorded of \$2.68 billion at Sept. 30, 2015, represent the present value of future cash outflows for these exchange benefits.

## REP SCHEDULED AMOUNTS

As of Sept. 30 — millions of dollars

2016	\$	214
2017		214
2018		232
2019		232
2020		245
2021 through 2028		2,169
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,306</b>

In addition to Scheduled Amounts, the 2012 REP Settlement Agreement calls for Refund Amounts to be paid to COUs in the amount of \$77 million each year from fiscal year 2012 through fiscal year 2019. The Refund Amounts were established as a regulatory asset and regulatory liability for the refunds that will be provided to BPA customers as bill credits. The 2012 REP Settlement Agreement established Refund Amounts totaling \$612 million, with remaining refunds as of Sept. 30, 2015, totaling \$306 million. Amounts recorded as a regulatory liability of \$294 million at Sept. 30, 2015, represent the present value of future cash flows for the amounts to be refunded to COUs.

## 10. Deferred Credits and Other

As of Sept. 30 — millions of dollars	2015	2014
Customer reimbursable projects	\$ 216	\$ 220
Generation interconnection agreements	169	196
Third AC Intertie capacity agreements	100	101
Legal claims and settlements	34	89
Derivative instruments	34	16
Federal Employees' Compensation Act	32	33
Fiber optic leasing fees	22	25
Other	8	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 615</b>	<b>\$ 688</b>

Deferred Credits and Other include the following items:

“Customer reimbursable projects” consist of advances received from customers where either the customer or BPA will own the resulting asset. If the customer will own the asset under construction, the revenue is recognized as the expenditures are incurred. If BPA will own the resulting asset, the revenue is recognized over the life of the asset once the corresponding asset is placed in service.

“Generation interconnection agreements” are generators’ advances held as security for requested new network upgrades and interconnection. These advances accrue interest and will be returned as cash or credits against future transmission service on the new or upgraded lines.

“Third AC Intertie capacity agreements” reflect unearned revenue from customers related to the Third AC Intertie transmission line capacity project. Revenue is recognized over an estimated 49-year life of the related assets.

“Legal claims and settlements” reflect amounts accrued for outstanding legal claims and settlements. (See Note 13, Commitments and Contingencies.)

“Derivative instruments” reflect the unrealized loss of the derivative portfolio, which includes physical power purchase and sale transactions.

“Federal Employees’ Compensation Act” reflects the actuarial estimated amount of future payments for current recipients of BPA’s worker compensation benefits.

“Fiber optic leasing fees” reflect unearned revenue related to the leasing of fiber optic cables. Revenue is recognized over the lease terms extending through 2024.

## 11. Risk Management and Derivative Instruments

BPA is exposed to various forms of market risks related to commodity prices and volumes, counterparty credit, and interest rates. Non-performance risk, which includes credit risk, is described in Note 12, Fair Value Measurements. BPA has formalized risk management processes in place to manage agency risks, including the use of derivative instruments. The following sections describe BPA’s exposure to and management of certain risks.

### **RISK MANAGEMENT**

Due to the operational risk posed by fluctuations in river flows and electricity market prices, net revenues that result from underlying surplus or deficit energy positions are inherently uncertain. BPA’s Risk Oversight Committee has responsibility for the oversight of market risk and determines the transactional risk policy and control environment at BPA. Through simulation and analysis of the hydro supply system, experienced business and risk managers install market price risk measures to capture additional market-related risks, including credit and event risk.

### **COMMODITY PRICE RISK AND VOLUMETRIC RISK**

BPA has exposure to commodity price risk through fluctuations in electricity market prices that affect the value of energy bought and sold. Volumetric risk is the uncertainty of energy production from the hydro system. The combination of the two results in net revenue uncertainty. BPA routinely models commodity price risk and volumetric risk through parametric calculations, Monte Carlo simulations and general market observations to derive net revenues at risk, mark-to-market valuations, value at risk and other metrics as appropriate. These metrics capture the uncertainty around single point forecasts in order to monitor changes in the revenue risk profile from changes in market price, market price volatility and forecasted hydro generation. BPA measures and monitors the output of these methods on a regular basis. In order to mitigate revenue uncertainty that is beyond BPA’s risk tolerance, BPA enters into short-term and long-term purchase and sale contracts by using instruments such as forwards, futures, swaps, and options.

### **CREDIT RISK**

Credit risk relates to the loss that might occur as a result of counterparty non-performance. BPA mitigates credit risk by reviewing counterparties for creditworthiness, establishing credit limits and monitoring credit exposure. To further manage credit risk, BPA obtains credit support such as letters of credit, parental guarantees, cash in the form of prepayment and/or deposit of escrow from some counterparties. BPA monitors counterparties for changes in financial condition and regularly updates credit reviews. BPA uses scoring models, publicly available financial information and external ratings from major credit rating agencies to determine appropriate levels of credit for its counterparties.

During fiscal year 2015, BPA experienced no material losses as a result of any customer defaults or bankruptcy filings. As of Sept. 30, 2015, BPA had \$118 million in credit exposure related to purchase and sale contracts after taking into account netting rights. BPA’s credit exposure, net of cash collateral, to sub-investment grade counterparties was less than one percent of total outstanding credit exposures.

### **INTEREST RATE RISK**

BPA has the ability to issue variable rate bonds or related instruments to the U.S. Treasury. BPA manages the interest rate risk presented by variable rate U.S. Treasury debt by holding a like amount of variable rate U.S.

Treasury security investments with a similar maturity profile. These U.S. Treasury investments earn interest at a variable rate that is correlated, but not identical, to the interest rate paid on U.S. Treasury variable rate debt. (See Note 3, Investments in U.S. Treasury Securities and Note 7, Debt and Appropriations.)

## **DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS**

### **Commodity Contracts**

BPA's forward electricity contracts are eligible for the normal purchases and normal sales exception if they require physical delivery, are expected to be used or sold by BPA in the normal course of business and meet the derivative accounting definition of capacity described in the derivatives and hedging accounting guidance. These transactions are not recorded at fair value in the financial statements. Recognition of these contracts in Sales or Purchased power in the Combined Statements of Revenues and Expenses occurs when the contracts are delivered and settled.

For derivative instruments not eligible for the normal purchases and normal sales exception, BPA records unrealized gains and losses in Regulatory assets and Regulatory liabilities in the Combined Balance Sheets. Realized gains and losses are included in Sales and Purchased power in the Combined Statements of Revenues and Expenses as the contracts are delivered and settled.

When available, quoted market prices or prices obtained through external sources are used to measure a contract's fair value. For contracts without available quoted market prices, fair value is determined based on internally developed modeled prices. (See Note 12, Fair Value Measurements.)

As of Sept. 30, 2015, the derivative commodity contracts recorded at fair value totaled 8 million megawatt hours (MWh), gross basis, with delivery months extending to September 2022.

In the Combined Balance Sheets, BPA reports gross fair value amounts of derivative instruments subject to a master netting arrangement, excluding contracts designated as normal purchases or normal sales. (See Note 6, Deferred Charges and Other and Note 10, Deferred Credits and Other.) In the event of default or termination, contracts with the same counterparty are offset and net settle through a single payment. BPA does not offset cash collateral against recognized derivative instruments with the same counterparty under the master netting arrangements.

If netted by counterparty, BPA's derivative position would result in a liability of \$34 million and \$16 million as of Sept. 30, 2015, and 2014, respectively.

## **12. Fair Value Measurements**

BPA applies fair value measurements and disclosures accounting guidance to certain assets and liabilities including commodity derivative instruments, nuclear decommissioning trusts and other investments. BPA maximizes the use of observable inputs and minimizes the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value. Fair value is based on actively quoted market prices, if available. In the absence of actively quoted market prices, BPA seeks price information from external sources, including broker quotes and industry publications. If pricing information from external sources is not available, BPA uses forward price curves derived from internal models based on perceived pricing relationships to major trading hubs.

BPA also utilizes the following fair value hierarchy, which prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value, into three broad levels:

Level 1 – Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets and liabilities that BPA has the ability to access at the measurement date. Instruments categorized in Level 1 primarily consist of financial instruments such as fixed income investments, equity mutual funds and money market funds.

Level 2 – Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are either directly or indirectly observable for the asset or liability, including quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets,

quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets, inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability, and inputs that are derived from observable market data by correlation or other means. Instruments categorized in Level 2 include certain non-exchange traded commodity derivatives and certain agency, corporate and municipal securities as part of the Lease-Purchase trust funds investments. Fair value for certain non-exchange traded derivatives is based on forward exchange market prices and broker quotes adjusted and discounted. Lease-Purchase trust funds investments are based on a market input evaluation pricing methodology using a combination of observable market data such as current market trade data, reported bid/ask spreads, and institutional bid information.

Level 3 – Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability, including situations where there is little, if any, market activity for the asset or liability. Instruments categorized in Level 3 include long-dated and modeled commodity contracts where inputs into the valuation are adjusted market prices plus an adder.

The fair value hierarchy gives the highest priority to quoted prices in active markets (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable data (Level 3). In some cases, the inputs used to measure fair value might fall in different levels of the fair value hierarchy. The lowest level input that is significant to a fair value measurement in its entirety determines the applicable level in the fair value hierarchy. Assessing the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgment, considering factors specific to the asset or liability.

BPA includes non-performance risk when calculating fair value measurements. This includes a credit risk adjustment based on the credit spreads of BPA's counterparties when in an unrealized gain position, or on BPA's own credit spread when in an unrealized loss position. BPA's assessment of non-performance risk is generally derived from the credit default swap market and from bond market credit spreads. The impact of the credit risk adjustments for all outstanding derivatives was immaterial to the fair value calculation at Sept. 30, 2015, and 2014. There were no transfers between Level 1 or Level 2 during the fiscal years ended Sept. 30, 2015, and 2014.

## ASSETS AND LIABILITIES MEASURED AT FAIR VALUE ON A RECURRING BASIS

As of Sept. 30, 2015 — millions of dollars

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
<b>Assets</b>				
Nonfederal nuclear decommissioning trusts				
Equity index funds	\$ 135	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 135
Bond index funds	130	—	—	130
U.S. government obligation mutual funds	18	—	—	18
Derivative instruments <sup>1</sup>				
Commodity contracts	—	—	70	70
Lease-Purchase trust funds				
U.S. government sponsored enterprise obligations	—	199	—	199
U.S. government obligations	—	48	—	48
Corporate obligations	—	36	—	36
Municipal obligations	—	22	—	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 283</b>	<b>\$ 305</b>	<b>\$ 70</b>	<b>\$ 658</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Derivative instruments <sup>1</sup>				
Commodity contracts	\$ —	\$ (34)	\$ —	\$ (34)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ (34)</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ (34)</b>

As of Sept. 30, 2014 — millions of dollars

<b>Assets</b>				
Nonfederal nuclear decommissioning trusts				
Equity index funds	\$ 121	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 121
U.S. government obligation mutual funds	93	—	—	93
Corporate bond index funds	65	—	—	65
Derivative instruments <sup>1</sup>				
Commodity contracts	—	—	5	5
Lease-Purchase trust funds				
U.S. government sponsored enterprise obligations	—	168	—	168
U.S. government obligations	—	93	—	93
Corporate obligations	—	27	—	27
Municipal obligations	—	31	—	31
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 279</b>	<b>\$ 319</b>	<b>\$ 5</b>	<b>\$ 603</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Derivative instruments <sup>1</sup>				
Commodity contracts	\$ —	\$ (16)	\$ —	\$ (16)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ (16)</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ (16)</b>

<sup>1</sup> Derivative instruments assets and liabilities are included in Deferred charges and other and Deferred credits and other in the Combined Balance Sheets, respectively. (See Note 6, Deferred Charges and Other and Note 10, Deferred Credits and Other.) See Note 11, Risk Management and Derivative Instruments for more information related to BPA's risk management strategy and use of derivative instruments.

Level 3 derivative commodity contracts are long-dated power contracts measured at fair value on a recurring basis using the California-Oregon Border (COB) and Mid-Columbia (Mid-C) forward price curves. They include power contracts delivering to illiquid trading points or contracts without available market transactions for the entire delivery period; therefore, they are considered unobservable. Forward prices are considered a key

component to contract valuations. All valuation pricing data is generated internally by BPA's risk management organization.

The risk management organization constructs the forward price curve through the use of available market prices, broker quotes and bid/offer spreads. In periods where market prices or broker quotes are not available, the risk management organization derives monthly prices by applying seasonal shaping based on historical broker quotes and spreads. Long-term prices are derived from internally developed or commercial models with both internal and external data inputs. BPA management believes this approach maximizes the use of pricing information from external sources and is currently the best option for valuation. Significant increases or decreases in the inputs would result in a significantly higher or lower fair value measurement.

The fair value of Level 3 derivative commodity contracts was \$70 million at Sept. 30, 2015. The volumes under these contracts will be physically delivered through September 2022.

As of Sept. 30, 2015, forward prices for power to be delivered through September 2022 varied as shown in the following table. All prices are presented in dollars per megawatt-hour.

	Low	High	Weighted Average
COB On-Peak	\$24.95	\$33.65	\$28.23
COB Off-Peak	\$19.80	\$28.20	\$24.89
Mid-C Flat	\$16.30	\$40.36	\$27.68

Forward power prices are influenced by, among other factors, seasonality, hydro forecasts, expectations of demand growth, planned changes in the regional generating plants, and the emergence of new marginal fuels for generation.

## COMMODITY CONTRACTS

The following table presents the changes in the assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis and included in the Level 3 fair value category.

<i>As of Sept. 30 — millions of dollars</i>	2015	2014
Beginning Balance	\$ 5	\$ 5
Changes in unrealized gains (losses) <sup>1</sup>	65	—
Ending Balance	\$ 70	\$ 5

<sup>1</sup> Unrealized gains and losses are included in Regulatory assets and Regulatory liabilities in the Combined Balance Sheets. Realized gains and losses are included in Sales and Purchased power, respectively, in the Combined Statements of Revenues and Expenses.

# 13. Commitments and Contingencies

## INTEGRATED FISH AND WILDLIFE PROGRAM

The Northwest Power Act directs BPA to protect, mitigate and enhance fish and wildlife resources to the extent they are affected by federal hydroelectric projects on the Columbia River and its tributaries. BPA makes expenditures and incurs other costs for fish and wildlife projects that are consistent with the Northwest Power Act and that are consistent with the Pacific Northwest Power and Conservation Council's Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program. In addition, certain fish species are listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) as threatened or endangered. BPA is financially responsible for expenditures and other costs arising from conformance with the ESA and certain biological opinions (BiOp) prepared by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in furtherance of the ESA. BPA's total commitment including timing of payments under the Northwest Power Act, ESA and BiOp is not

fixed or determinable. As of Sept. 30, 2015, BPA has entered into long-term fish and wildlife agreements with estimated contractual commitments of \$595 million. These agreements will expire at various dates between fiscal years 2018 and 2025.

## IRRIGATION ASSISTANCE

### Scheduled distributions

*As of Sept. 30 — millions of dollars*

2016	\$	61
2017		51
2018		28
2019		57
2020		25
2021 through 2045		280
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>502</b>

As directed by law, BPA is required to establish rates sufficient to make distributions to the U.S. Treasury for original construction costs of certain Pacific Northwest irrigation projects that have been determined to be beyond the irrigators' ability to pay. These irrigation distributions do not specifically relate to power generation. In establishing power rates, particular statutory provisions guide the assumptions that BPA makes as to the amount and timing of such distributions. Accordingly, these distributions are not considered to be regular operating costs of the power program and are treated as distributions from accumulated net revenues when paid. Future irrigation assistance payments are scheduled to total \$502 million over a maximum of 66 years since the time the irrigation facilities were completed and placed in service. BPA is required by the Grand Coulee Dam - Third Powerplant Act to demonstrate that reimbursable costs of the FCRPS will be returned to the U.S. Treasury from BPA within the period prescribed by law. BPA is required to make a similar demonstration for the costs of irrigation projects to the extent the costs have been determined to be beyond the irrigators' ability to repay. These requirements are met by conducting power repayment studies including schedules of distributions at the proposed rates to demonstrate repayment of principal within the allowable repayment period. Irrigation assistance excludes \$40 million for Teton Dam, which failed prior to completion and for which BPA has no obligation to repay.

## FIRM PURCHASE POWER COMMITMENTS

*As of Sept. 30 — millions of dollars*

2016	\$	32
2017		70
2018		75
2019		78
2020		44
2021		34
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>333</b>

BPA periodically enters into long-term commitments to purchase power for future delivery. When BPA forecasts a resource shortage, based on its planned contractual obligations for a period and the historical water record for the Columbia River basin, BPA takes a variety of operational and business steps to cover a potential

shortage including entering into power purchase commitments. Additionally, under BPA's current Tiered Rates Methodology and its current Regional Dialogue power sales contracts, BPA's customers may request that BPA meet their power requirements in excess of the Rate Period High Water Mark load under their contract. For these Above High Water Mark load requests, BPA may meet such requests by entering into power purchase commitments. The preceding table includes firm purchase power agreements of known costs that are currently in place to assist in meeting expected future obligations under BPA's current long-term power sales contracts. The expenses associated with Tier 2 purchases to meet prior commitments were \$25 million, \$5 million and \$23 million for fiscal years 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively. BPA has several other purchase agreements with wind-powered and other generating facilities that are not included in the preceding table as payments are based on the variable amount of future energy generated and as there are no minimum payments required.

## **ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAM**

BPA is required by the Northwest Power Act to meet the net firm power load requirements of its customers in the Pacific Northwest. BPA is authorized to help meet its net firm power load through the acquisition of electric conservation. BPA makes available a portfolio of initiatives and infrastructure support activities to its customers to ensure the conservation targets established in the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's Sixth Power Plan are achieved. These initiatives and activities are often executed via conservation commitments made by BPA to its customers. These commitments are captured through \$148 million of agreements with utility customers and contractors that provide support in the way of energy efficiency program research, development and implementation. The timing of the payments under these commitments is not fixed or determinable and these agreements will expire at various dates through fiscal year 2017.

## **1989 ENERGY NORTHWEST LETTER AGREEMENT**

In 1989, BPA agreed with Energy Northwest that, in the event any participant shall be unable for any reason, or shall fail or refuse, to pay to Energy Northwest any amount due from such participant under its net billing agreement for which a net billing credit or cash payment to such participant has been provided by BPA, BPA will be obligated to pay the unpaid amount in cash directly to Energy Northwest.

## **NUCLEAR INSURANCE**

BPA is a member of the Nuclear Electric Insurance Limited (NEIL), a mutual insurance company established to provide insurance coverage for nuclear power plants. The insurance policies purchased from NEIL by BPA include: 1) Primary Property and Decontamination Liability Insurance; 2) Decontamination Liability, Decommissioning Liability and Excess Property Insurance; and 3) NEIL I Accidental Outage Insurance.

Under each insurance policy, BPA could be subject to a retrospective premium assessment in the event that a member-insured loss exceeds reinsurance and reserves held by NEIL. The maximum assessment for the Primary Property and Decontamination Liability Insurance policy is \$19 million. For the Decontamination Liability, Decommissioning Liability and Excess Property Insurance policy, the maximum assessment is \$7 million. For the NEIL I Accidental Outage Insurance policy, the maximum assessment is \$5 million.

As a separate requirement, BPA is liable under the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's indemnity for public liability coverage under the Price-Anderson Act. In the event of a nuclear accident resulting in public liability losses exceeding \$375 million, BPA could be subject to a retrospective assessment of up to \$121 million limited to an annual maximum of \$19 million. Assessments would be included in BPA's costs and recovered through rates. As of Sept. 30, 2015, there have been no assessments to BPA under either of these programs.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

From time to time there are sites for which BPA, the Corps or Reclamation may be identified as potential responsible parties. Costs associated with cleanup of sites are not expected to be material to the FCRPS financial statements. As such, no material liability has been recorded.

## **INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENTS**

BPA, the Corps and Reclamation have provided indemnifications of varying scope and terms in contracts with customers, vendors, lessors, trustees, and other parties with respect to certain matters, including, but not limited to, losses arising out of particular actions taken on behalf of the FCRPS, electrical disturbances on specific projects, certain circumstances related to Energy Northwest Projects, and in connection with lease-purchases. Because of the absence of a maximum obligation in the provisions, management is not able to reasonably estimate the overall maximum potential future payments. Based on historical experience and current evaluation of circumstances, management believes that, as of Sept. 30, 2015, the likelihood is remote that the FCRPS would incur any significant costs with respect to such indemnities. No liability has been recorded in the financial statements with respect to these indemnification provisions.

## **LITIGATION**

### **Southern California Edison**

Southern California Edison (SCE) filed two separate actions pending in the U.S. Court of Federal Claims against BPA related to a power sales and exchange agreement (Sale and Exchange Agreement) between BPA and SCE. The actions challenged: 1) BPA's decision to convert the contract from a sale of power to an exchange of power as provided for under the terms of the contract (Conversion Claim); and 2) BPA's termination of the Sales and Exchange Agreement due to SCE's nonperformance (Termination Claim).

In 2006, BPA and SCE executed an agreement to settle the claims wherein BPA would make a payment of \$29 million plus applicable interest to SCE if certain identified conditions were met, including a final resolution of BPA's claims pending in the California refund proceedings and related litigation as discussed below. BPA has recorded a liability of \$34 million, including interest, on the basis that all conditions have been met except the final resolution in the California refund proceedings and related litigation, which management considers probable. BPA established an offsetting regulatory asset, as the costs will be collected in future rates.

### **California parties' refund claims**

BPA was a party to proceedings at FERC that sought refunds for sales into markets operated by the California Independent System Operator and the California Power Exchange during the California energy crisis of 2000-2001. In *BPA v. FERC*, 422 F.3d 908 (9th Cir. 2005) the Ninth Circuit Court found that governmental utilities, like BPA, were not subject to FERC's statutory authority to order market participants to pay refunds. As a consequence of the Ninth Circuit Court's decision, three California investor-owned utilities along with the State of California filed breach of contract claims in the United States Court of Federal Claims against BPA. The complaints, filed in 2007, alleged that BPA was contractually obligated to pay refunds on transactions where BPA received amounts in excess of mitigated market clearing prices retroactively established by FERC.

In May 2012, the Court of Federal Claims issued an opinion that held that BPA breached its contracts with the California parties. Assuming the amounts owed included interest, such refunds could have amounted up to \$52 million. While the ruling did not establish a specific liability in this matter, BPA recorded a liability in this amount in fiscal year 2012.

On April 2, 2013, the Court of Federal Claims issued a Declaratory Judgment in favor of the California parties in response to motions by these parties requesting declaratory relief for certain transactions.

Thereafter, a new judge for the Court of Federal Claims was assigned to the claims, and on Dec. 20, 2013, she vacated the May 2012 opinion. After hearings conducted in June 2014 and January 2015, at the judge's request, BPA filed a motion to dismiss the claims. On March 12, 2015, the judge issued a decision granting BPA's motion to dismiss and holding that the California parties lacked standing to sue because they had no contractual privity with BPA. The judge also found that even if the California parties had standing, the breach of contract claims should nevertheless be dismissed because the factual predicate for a breach of contract claim against Bonneville did not exist because FERC had not retroactively revised the rates applicable to the BPA transactions, as alleged by the California parties. Thereafter the California parties filed appeals of the order in the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit where the matter is pending.

In a separate proceeding as part of FERC's California refund docket, an administrative law judge appointed by the FERC Commissioners conducted a hearing in 2012 to make certain findings related to certain classes of transactions at issue in the California parties' breach of contract litigation in the Court of Federal Claims. The FERC proceeding had potential impacts on the scope of potential damages in the breach of contract case. On Feb. 15, 2013, the FERC administrative law judge issued findings to the effect that the prices involved in certain transactions were unjust and unreasonable and subject to refund and recommended that BPA pay \$60 million, plus interest. On Nov. 10, 2014, FERC dismissed BPA from the FERC California refund proceeding and did not affirm the administrative law judge's findings and recommendations. The California parties did not appeal the dismissal of BPA from the proceeding.

In fiscal year 2015, BPA removed its liability for the California parties' refund claims as a result of the judge's dismissal in 2015 of all the claims in the Court of Federal Claims on the basis that BPA's management has determined that the probability of financial loss is remote.

## **Rates**

BPA's rates are frequently the subject of litigation. Most of the litigation involves claims that BPA's rates are inconsistent with statutory directives, are not supported by substantial evidence in the record, or are arbitrary and capricious. It is the opinion of BPA's general counsel that if any rate were to be rejected, the remedy accorded would be a remand to BPA to establish a new rate. BPA's flexibility in establishing rates could be restricted by the rejection of a BPA rate, depending on the grounds for the rejection. BPA is unable to predict, however, what new rate it would establish if a rate were rejected. If BPA were to establish a rate that was lower than the rejected rate, a petitioner may be entitled to a refund in the amount overpaid; however, BPA is required by law to set rates to meet all of its costs. Thus, it is the opinion of BPA's general counsel that BPA may be required to increase its rates to seek to recover the amount of any such refunds, if needed.

In 2011 representatives from most of the region's consumer- and investor-owned utilities reached an agreement on how BPA should establish REP benefits and recover the costs of those benefits through rates for the fiscal year periods 2002 through 2028. BPA signed the settlement agreement (the 2012 REP Settlement Agreement) in July 2011. In 2011, BPA and many COUs filed respective motions in the Ninth Circuit Court to dismiss certain pending, stayed challenges to certain BPA decisions affecting the REP prior to the 2012 REP Settlement. The stayed challenges sought review of a number of matters including BPA's calculation of certain refunds (referred to as "Lookback Amounts") by BPA to COUs to redress the adverse effects on COU rates from fiscal years 2002 through 2008 arising from a prior REP settlement that the Ninth Circuit Court overturned. On Oct. 28, 2013, the Ninth Circuit Court affirmed the 2012 REP Settlement Agreement and on May 20, 2015, issued an order dismissing the prior stayed challenges as moot. A petitioner filed a request for rehearing of the order of dismissal and in an order dated July 10, 2015, the court denied the request, and the pending challenges were dismissed on July 20, 2015, and on Aug. 3 and 4, 2015, thereby ending the litigation. This matter is now resolved. (See Note 9, Residential Exchange Program.)

The cost of providing REP benefits will be recovered through future rates. BPA has recorded regulatory assets, a liability and a regulatory liability for the effects of the 2012 REP Settlement Agreement. (See Note 9, Residential Exchange Program.)

## **OTHER**

The FCRPS may be affected by various other legal claims, actions and complaints, including litigation under the Endangered Species Act, which may include BPA as a named party. Certain of these cases may involve material amounts. Management is unable to predict whether the FCRPS will avoid adverse outcomes in these legal matters; however, management believes that disposition of pending matters will not have a materially adverse effect on the FCRPS financial position or results of operations for fiscal year 2015.

Judgments and settlements are included in FCRPS costs and recovered through rates. Except with respect to the SCE and REP matters described above, no liability has been recorded for the above legal matters. (See Note 10, Deferred Credits and Other, for discussion of amounts accrued for outstanding legal claims and settlements.)

**(THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK)**

**APPENDIX B-2**

**FEDERAL SYSTEM UNAUDITED FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR  
THE SIX MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2016**

**(THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK)**

# Federal Columbia River Power System

## Combined Balance Sheets <sup>(Unaudited)</sup>

(Thousands of dollars)

	As of March 31, 2016	As of September 30, 2015
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Utility plant</b>		
Completed plant	\$ 17,815,228	\$ 17,235,713
Accumulated depreciation	(6,338,060)	(6,192,725)
	11,477,168	11,042,988
Construction work in progress	1,585,144	1,815,735
Net utility plant	13,062,312	12,858,723
<b>Nonfederal generation</b>	<b>3,524,073</b>	<b>3,534,241</b>
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,044,433	646,670
Short-term investments in U.S. Treasury securities	704,480	694,274
Accounts receivable, net of allowance	40,129	35,732
Accrued unbilled revenues	314,619	298,906
Materials and supplies, at average cost	120,390	116,830
Prepaid expenses	35,417	27,447
Total current assets	2,259,468	1,819,859
<b>Other assets</b>		
Regulatory assets	6,482,265	6,603,165
Nonfederal nuclear decommissioning trusts	297,316	282,655
Deferred charges and other	350,821	449,918
Total other assets	7,130,402	7,335,738
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 25,976,255</b>	<b>\$ 25,548,561</b>
<b>Capitalization and Liabilities</b>		
<b>Capitalization and long-term liabilities</b>		
Accumulated net revenues	\$ 3,446,531	\$ 3,175,668
Debt		
Federal appropriations	3,930,737	3,901,740
Borrowings from U.S. Treasury	4,543,740	4,366,740
Nonfederal debt	6,840,831	6,786,856
Total capitalization and long-term liabilities	18,761,839	18,231,004
<b>Commitments and contingencies (See Note 13 to 2015 Audited Financial Statements)</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Debt		
Borrowings from U.S. Treasury	339,000	282,000
Nonfederal debt	811,829	752,515
Accounts payable and other	480,666	539,747
Total current liabilities	1,631,495	1,574,262
<b>Other liabilities</b>		
Regulatory liabilities	2,203,591	2,259,843
IOU exchange benefits	2,606,005	2,683,866
Asset retirement obligations	189,256	184,784
Deferred credits and other	584,069	614,802
Total other liabilities	5,582,921	5,743,295
<b>Total capitalization and liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 25,976,255</b>	<b>\$ 25,548,561</b>

# Federal Columbia River Power System

## Combined Statements of Revenues and Expenses <sup>(Unaudited)</sup>

(Thousands of dollars)

	Three Months Ended March 31,		Fiscal Year-to-Date Ended March 31,	
	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
<b>Operating revenues</b>				
Sales	\$ 897,090	\$ 938,617	\$ 1,718,826	\$ 1,778,699
U.S. Treasury credits	19,426	14,997	47,756	41,306
Miscellaneous revenues	21,531	15,200	40,570	31,562
<b>Total operating revenues</b>	<b>938,047</b>	<b>968,814</b>	<b>1,807,152</b>	<b>1,851,567</b>
<b>Operating expenses</b>				
Operations and maintenance	492,758	473,062	962,541	959,284
Purchased power	34,176	573	67,433	7,678
Nonfederal projects	64,599	98,964	129,197	198,241
Depreciation and amortization	116,168	112,579	230,139	224,324
<b>Total operating expenses</b>	<b>707,701</b>	<b>685,178</b>	<b>1,389,310</b>	<b>1,389,527</b>
<b>Net operating revenues</b>	<b>230,346</b>	<b>283,636</b>	<b>417,842</b>	<b>462,040</b>
<b>Interest expense and (income)</b>				
Interest expense	87,824	88,135	173,958	176,376
Allowance for funds used during construction	(11,027)	(12,885)	(23,721)	(26,207)
Interest income	(2,032)	(2,464)	(3,258)	(5,488)
<b>Net interest expense</b>	<b>74,765</b>	<b>72,786</b>	<b>146,979</b>	<b>144,681</b>
<b>Net revenues</b>	<b>\$ 155,581</b>	<b>\$ 210,850</b>	<b>\$ 270,863</b>	<b>\$ 317,359</b>

**APPENDIX C**

**FORM OF OPINION OF ORRICK, HERRINGTON & SUTCLIFFE LLP**

(Date of Closing)

Port of Morrow  
2 Marine Drive  
P.O. Box 200  
Boardman, Oregon 97818

Re: Port of Morrow  
Transmission Facilities Revenue Bonds  
(Bonneville Cooperation Project No. 5)  
Series 2016-2 (Federally Taxable)

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have acted as special counsel to the United States of America, Department of Energy, acting by and through the Administrator of the Bonneville Power Administration (“Bonneville”) in connection with the issuance by the Port of Morrow (the “Issuer”) of \$115,085,000 aggregate principal amount of the Issuer’s Transmission Facilities Revenue Bonds (Bonneville Cooperation Project No. 5), Series 2016-2 (Federally Taxable) (the “Series 2016-2 Bonds”), issued pursuant to an Indenture of Trust, dated as of June 1, 2016 (the “Indenture”), between the Issuer and U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee (the “Trustee”). The Series 2016-2 Bonds are issued for the purpose of refinancing indebtedness issued to finance a portion of the cost of acquiring, constructing, improving and equipping certain transmission facilities to be owned by the Issuer and leased to Bonneville pursuant to the Lease-Purchase Agreement, dated June 29, 2016 (the “Lease-Purchase Agreement”), between the Issuer and Bonneville. Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Indenture.

In such connection, we have reviewed the Indenture, the Lease-Purchase Agreement, opinions of counsel to Bonneville, the Trustee and the Issuer, certain resolutions of the Issuer, certificates of the Issuer, the Trustee, Bonneville and others and such other documents, opinions and matters to the extent we deemed necessary to render the opinions set forth herein, including the judicial validation the Issuer received pursuant to an Order, dated March 15, 2012, which, among other things, confirms the valid, legal and binding effect of the proceedings of the Issuer providing for and authorizing the issuance, sale, execution and delivery of the Series 2016-2 Bonds and the funding of the Project. With respect to the due organization and existence of the Issuer and the adoption of the authorizing resolution of the Issuer related to the Series 2016-2 Bonds, we have relied upon the opinion of Monahan, Grove & Tucker.

The opinions expressed herein are based on an analysis of existing laws, regulations, rulings and court decisions and cover certain matters not directly addressed by such authorities. Such opinions may be affected by actions taken or omitted or events occurring after the date hereof. We have not undertaken to determine, or to inform any person, whether any such actions are taken or omitted or events do occur or any other matters come to our attention after the date hereof. Accordingly, this letter speaks only as of its date and is not intended to, and may not, be relied upon or otherwise used in connection with any such actions, events or matters. Our engagement with respect to the Series 2016-2 Bonds has concluded with their issuance, and we disclaim any obligation to update this letter.

We have assumed the genuineness of all documents and signatures presented to us (whether as originals or as copies) and the due and legal execution and delivery thereof by, and validity against, any parties other than the Issuer.

We have assumed, without undertaking to verify, the accuracy of the factual matters represented, warranted or certified in such documents, and of the legal conclusions contained in the opinions referred to in the second paragraph hereof. Furthermore, we have assumed compliance with all covenants and agreements contained in the Indenture and the Lease-Purchase Agreement.

We call attention to the fact that the rights and obligations under the Series 2016-2 Bonds, Indenture and the Lease-Purchase Agreement and their enforceability may be subject to bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership, reorganization, arrangement, fraudulent conveyance, moratorium and other laws relating to or affecting creditors' rights, to the application of equitable principles, to the exercise of judicial discretion in appropriate cases and to the limitations on legal remedies against port districts in the State of Oregon. We express no opinion with respect to any indemnification, contribution, liquidated damages, penalty (including any remedy deemed to constitute a penalty), right of set-off, arbitration, choice of law, choice of forum, choice of venue, non-exclusivity of remedies, waiver or severability provisions contained in the foregoing documents, nor do we express any opinions with respect to the state or quality of title to or interest in any of the real or personal property described in or as subject to the lien of the Indenture or the Lease-Purchase Agreement or the accuracy or sufficiency of the description contained therein of, or the remedies available to enforce liens on, any such property. Our services did not include financial or other non-legal advice. Finally, we undertake no responsibility for the accuracy, completeness or fairness of the Official Statement or other offering material relating to the Series 2016-2 Bonds and express no opinion with respect thereto.

Based on and subject to the foregoing, and in reliance thereon, as of the date hereof, we are of the following opinions:

1. The Series 2016-2 Bonds constitute the valid and binding limited recourse obligations of the Issuer, payable solely from the Trust Estate.
2. The Indenture constitutes the valid and binding obligation of the Issuer. The Indenture creates the valid pledge of the Trust Estate, subject to the provisions of the Indenture permitting the application thereof for the purposes and on the terms and conditions set forth in the Indenture.
3. The Lease-Purchase Agreement constitutes the valid and binding agreement of the Issuer.
4. Interest on the Series 2016-2 Bonds is not excluded from gross income for U.S. federal income tax purposes pursuant to Section 103 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. Interest on the Series 2016-2 Bonds is exempt from present State of Oregon personal income taxation.

Very truly yours,

ORRICK, HERRINGTON & SUTCLIFFE LLP

**APPENDIX D**

**FORM OF CONTINUING DISCLOSURE CERTIFICATE**

**CONTINUING DISCLOSURE CERTIFICATE**

**\$115,085,000**

**PORT OF MORROW, OREGON  
Transmission Facilities Revenue Bonds  
(Bonneville Cooperation Project No. 5)  
Series 2016-2**

This Continuing Disclosure Certificate (the “Certificate”) is executed and delivered by the Bonneville Power Administration (“Bonneville”) as the obligated person for whom financial and operating data is presented in the official statement for the Port of Morrow, Oregon (the “Issuer”) Transmission Facilities Revenue Bonds (Bonneville Cooperation Project No. 5) Series 2016-2 (the “Bonds”).

Section 1. Purpose of Certificate. This Certificate is being executed and delivered by Bonneville for the benefit of the holders of the Bonds and to assist the underwriters of the Bonds in complying with paragraph (b)(5) of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c2-12 (17 C.F.R. § 240.15c2-12) as amended (the “Rule”). This Certificate constitutes Bonneville’s written undertaking for the benefit of the owners of the Bonds as required by paragraph (b)(5) of the Rule.

Section 2. Definitions. Unless the context otherwise requires, the terms defined in this Section shall, for purposes of this Certificate, have the meanings herein specified.

“Beneficial Owner” means any person who has the power, directly or indirectly, to vote or consent with respect to, or to dispose of ownership of any Bonds, including persons holding Bonds through nominees or depositories.

“BPA Annual Information” means financial information and operating data generally of the type included in Appendix A of the Official Statement under the heading “POWER SERVICES” in the tables titled “Bonneville Power Services’ Ten Largest Customers by Sales” and “Historical Average PF Preference Rates,” under the heading “TRANSMISSION SERVICES” in the table titled “Transmission Services’ Ten Largest Customers By Sales,” and under the heading “BONNEVILLE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS” in the tables titled “Historical Capital Spending by Program by Fiscal Year,” “Historical Capital Funding by Source and Fiscal Year,” “Historical Federal System Operating Revenue and Operating Expense Compared to Historical Streamflows,” “Federal System Statement of Revenues and Expenses,” “Statement of Non-Federal Debt Service Coverage and United States Treasury Payments” and “Bonneville’s Fiscal Year-End Financial Reserves.”

“Commission” means the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

“FCRPS” means the Federal Columbia River Power System.

“FCRPS Fiscal Year” means the fiscal year ending each September 30 or, if such fiscal year end is changed, on such new date; provided that if the FCRPS Fiscal Year end is changed, Bonneville shall provide written notice of such change to the MSRB.

“MSRB” means the United States Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board or any successor to its functions.

“Official Statement” means the final official statement for the Bonds dated June 21, 2016.

“Rule” means the Commission’s Rule 15c2-12 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as it has been and may be amended.

Section 3. Financial Information. Bonneville agrees to provide or cause to be provided to the MSRB, no later than 180 days after the end of each FCRPS Fiscal Year, commencing with the FCRPS Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2016:

- i. the BPA Annual Information for the FCRPS Fiscal Year; and
- ii. annual financial statements of the FCRPS for the FCRPS Fiscal Year, prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles; and
- iii. if the annual financial statements provided in accordance with subparagraph (ii) above are not the audited annual financial statements of FCRPS, Bonneville shall provide such audited annual financial statements when and if they become available.

Bonneville will notify the Issuer when the financial information in this section has been provided to the MSRB.

Bonneville agrees to notify the MSRB in a timely manner of any failure to provide the information described in Section 3 on or prior to the date set forth in the preceding paragraph.

Section 4. Events Notices. Bonneville agrees to provide to the MSRB and the Issuer in a timely manner not in excess of ten business days after the occurrence of the event, notice of any of the following events with respect to the Bonds:

1. principal and interest payment delinquencies;
2. non-payment related defaults, if material;
3. unscheduled draws on debt service reserves reflecting financial difficulties;
4. unscheduled draws on credit enhancements reflecting financial difficulties;
5. substitution of credit or liquidity providers or their failure to perform;
6. adverse tax opinions, the issuance by the Internal Revenue Service of proposed or final determinations of taxability, Notices of Proposed Issue (IRS Form 5701-TEB) or other material notices or determinations with respect to the tax status of the Bonds, or other material events affecting the tax status of the Bonds;
7. modifications to the rights of Bondholders, if material;
8. bond calls, if material, and tender offers;
9. defeasances;
10. release, substitution or sale of property securing repayment of the Bonds, if material;
11. rating changes;
12. bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or similar event of the obligated person (Note: For the purposes of the event identified in this paragraph 12, the event is considered to occur when any of the following occur: The appointment of a receiver, fiscal agent or similar officer for an obligated person in a proceeding under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code or in any other proceeding under state or federal law in which a court or governmental authority has assumed jurisdiction over substantially all of the assets or business of the obligated person, or if such jurisdiction has been assumed by leaving the existing governing body and officials or officers in possession but subject to the supervision and orders of a court or governmental authority, or the entry of an order confirming a plan

of reorganization, arrangement or liquidation by a court or governmental authority having supervision or jurisdiction over substantially all of the assets or business of the obligated person);

13. the consummation of a merger, consolidation, or acquisition involving an obligated person or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the obligated person, other than in the ordinary course of business, the entry into a definitive agreement to undertake such an action or the termination of a definitive agreement relating to any such actions, other than pursuant to its terms, if material;

14. appointment of a successor or additional trustee or the change of name of a trustee, if material.

Section 5. Termination. Bonneville's obligations to provide notices of the above-listed events shall terminate upon the legal defeasance, prior redemption or payment in full of all of the Bonds. In addition, Bonneville may terminate all or any portion of its obligations under this Certificate if Bonneville (a) obtains an opinion of nationally recognized bond counsel to the effect that those portions of the Rule which require this Certificate, or any provision of this Certificate, are invalid, have been repealed retroactively or otherwise do not apply to the Bonds; and (b) notifies the MSRB of such opinion and the termination of its obligations under this Certificate.

Section 6. Amendment. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Certificate, Bonneville may amend this Certificate, provided that the following conditions are satisfied:

A. If the amendment relates to the provisions of Sections 3 or 5 hereof, it may only be made in connection with a change in circumstances that arises from a change in legal requirements, change in law, or change in the identity, nature or status of Bonneville with respect to the Bonds, or the type of business conducted; and,

B. If this Certificate, as amended, would, in the opinion of nationally recognized bond counsel, have complied with the requirements of the Rule at the time of the original issuance of the Bonds, after taking into account any amendments or interpretations of the Rule, as well as any change in circumstances; and

C. The amendment either (i) is approved by the owners of the Bonds pursuant to the terms of the governing instrument at the time of the amendment or (ii) does not materially impair the interests of the owners or Beneficial Owners of the Bonds as determined by a party unaffiliated with the obligated person.

In the event of any amendment of a provision of this Certificate, Bonneville shall describe such amendment in its next annual filing pursuant to Section 3 of this Certificate, and shall include, as applicable, a narrative explanation of the reason for the amendment and its impact on the type (or in the case of a change of accounting principles, on the presentation) of financial information or operating data being presented by Bonneville. In addition, if the amendment relates to the accounting principles to be followed in preparing financial statements, (i) notice of the amendment shall be given in the same manner as for a listed event under Section 4 hereof, and (ii) the annual report for the first fiscal year that is affected by the change in accounting principles should present a comparison (in narrative form and also, if feasible, in quantitative form) between the financial statements as prepared on the basis of the new accounting principles and those prepared on the basis of the former accounting principles.

Section 7. Bond Owner's Remedies Under This Certificate. The right of any owner of Bonds or Beneficial Owner of Bonds to obtain legal redress for Bonneville's failure to comply with provisions of this Certificate, or for any breach or default by Bonneville of this Certificate, shall not include monetary damages and any failure by Bonneville to comply with the provisions of this Certificate shall not be an event of default with respect to the Bonds. Specific performance is not available as a remedy against Bonneville for any breach or default by Bonneville under this Certificate. Any owner of Bonds or Beneficial Owner of Bonds shall have only such other rights and remedies available to it under federal law with respect to Bonneville.

Section 8. Form of Information. All information required to be provided under this certificate will be provided in an electronic format as prescribed by the MSRB and with the identifying information prescribed by the MSRB.

Section 9. Submitting Information Through EMMA. So long as the MSRB continues to approve the use of the Electronic Municipal Market Access (“EMMA”) continuing disclosure service, any information required to be provided to the MSRB under this Certificate may be provided through EMMA. As of the date of this Certificate, the web portal for EMMA is [emma.msrb.org](http://emma.msrb.org).

Section 10. Choice of Law. This Certificate shall be governed by and construed in accordance with federal law, including federal securities laws and official interpretations thereof.

Dated as of the 29<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2016.

**Bonneville Power Administration**

---

Authorized Official



