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3 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
4 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
5 BEFORE THE
6 BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION
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9 2014 WHOLESALE POWER RATE)
10 ADJUSTMENT PROCEEDING) Docket Number BP-14
11)
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15 **PETITION TO INTERVENE**

16 **For**

17 **David Galle**

18 **RESPONSE TO MOTION**

19
20 This being my first application to intervene in a Bonneville Power
21 Administration (BPA) rate case, I patterned my Petition similarly to the Petitions
22 of other intervenors. Apparently I was too brief and omitted some pertinent
23 information in my original Petition.
24

25 As a retail customer of Mason County Public Utility District #1 (Mason 1), I
26 have attended not less than 100 PUD meetings (of Mason 1 and others, all
27 wholesale customers of BPA), not less than 20 BPA pre-rate case workshops,
28 and not less than 10 ColumbiaGrid (CG, of which BPA is a member) planning
29 meetings, driving from my home (between 13 and 80 miles each way for various
30 PUDs, 150 miles each way for BPA, and 140 miles for CG) at my own expense.

Response to Motion

1 In the event of several consecutive days of meetings, I have stayed at a Portland
2 area hotel, also at my own expense. The purpose of these travels has been to
3 more fully understand the development of BPA rates, the issues surrounding that
4 rate development, to listen to the discussion of the issues by principals of the
5 electric utility industry, and to understand the motivations of the various parties
6 represented at those meetings. In addition, I am particularly interested in the
7 integration of renewable energy sources with the existing utility infrastructure in
8 the BPA region, the financial costs of that integration, the environmental impacts
9 of the existing infrastructure and possible modifications to it, the reliability of the
10 existing infrastructure and those associated costs, and the future planning for
11 various generation sources (conventional and renewable) and necessary
12 transmission upgrades.

13

14 The Mason 1 Commissioners were opposed to Washington's Initiative 937
15 (I-937) (which established the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard), would like
16 to weaken or repeal its codified form (Washington's Energy Independence Act
17 (EIA)), and would like to weaken the United States Endangered Species Act
18 (ESA) as it may apply to some hydroelectric dams. My experience at Grays
19 Harbor, Lewis and Clallam PUD commission meetings indicates that most of the
20 electric utility industry in Washington is of the same mindset. Consequently, I
21 have concluded that a majority of the utilities represented by the Washington
22 Public Agencies Group (WPAG) share those views. WPAG is a private group

1 and their meetings are not open to the public, so I have no way of knowing all of
2 what the group that purports to represent me may support or oppose.

3

4 In contrast to those views, I believe renewable energy generation is a vital
5 component of the future electric infrastructure of the region, and recognize the
6 need to protect species imperiled by habitat destruction as the ESA was
7 designed to do. Consequently, I supported I-937, support strengthening the EIA,
8 and support the ESA in its current form. Thus, my sentiments are opposite those
9 of Mason 1, and my interests are not adequately represented by WPAG.

10

11 Intervention will allow me to access the rate case website, so that I can
12 read all of the submittals by the parties. Without being granted intervenor status,
13 I will not be able to read those documents, participate in rate case proceedings,
14 or fully understand the case as it develops.

15

16 The rules regarding intervention require a sufficient interest in the outcome
17 of the rate case. As a Mason 1 customer I will pay the rates charged by BPA for
18 the electricity the PUD supplies to me. I hope to use the knowledge gained from
19 my intervention to inform other customers in the region of what they're really
20 paying for in their electric bills, and to convince the Mason 1 Commissioners and
21 management to moderate their unrealistic positions on renewable energy and
22 environmental issues, even if those positions are politically popular in my district.
23 Given that Washington has just this month elected a Governor who openly

1 supports the expansion of renewable energy in the State and is sympathetic to
2 environmental issues, the topics to be addressed in these rate case proceedings
3 are particularly relevant now.

4

5 Historically, BPA has allowed individual customers to intervene on the
6 condition that they do not unduly delay the proceedings. As any of the other
7 intervenors and BPA and CG staff will surely verify if queried on the subject, I
8 have never unduly delayed any of the PUD, BPA or CG meetings and workshops
9 I have attended. I have no intention of unduly delaying these rate case
10 proceedings in any manner either.

11

12 THEREFORE, David Galle requests that the Hearing Officer grant him full
13 party status.

14

15 Dated this 20th day of November, 2012.

16

17 /s/ David Galle

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