

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Ridge virtually attended the Public Power Council (PPC) meeting on Thursday, March 6. She reported that the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) announced their preliminary decision to select the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) Markets+ option over the California Independent System Operator's (CAISO) Extended Day-Ahead Market (EDAM). PPC supported the decision stating that the selected market best serves the interests of Northwest ratepayers including those communities served by public power. BPA's final decision is expected in May. BPA provided a status update on staffing issues and the Administration's workforce reductions that occurred in February. Many of the probationary employees have been hired back due to a reversal in the reduction. Those who chose retirement will not be coming back. PPC reported that public power and BPA have reached a settlement on power rate issues in the BP-26 proceeding. The settlement includes a maximum Tier 1 average non-slice rate increase of 8.3% compared to 9.8% in BPA's initial proposal. This represents a \$30 million per year reduction in Tier 1 rates for public power in the BP-26 rate period. PPC Staff provided an update on the Columbia River Treaty reporting that State Department officials stated that Treaty negotiations will be on pause for the foreseeable future.

Commissioner Ridge and Commissioner McCall will be virtually attending Washington PUD Association meetings March 19-21.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.