

Northwest Public Power Association (NWPPA)
Western Energy Resource Committee (WERC)
Talking Points - September 2007

Support for Energy Efficiency

Key Messages:

To ALL: Thank the Governors for their unified, bipartisan recognition of the importance of energy efficiency (See WGA Policy Resolution 07-16 – Transitioning the West to Clean Energy and Energy Security).

NWPPA has [Resolutions 07-4, 07-5 and 07-11](#) that support Energy Efficiency.

WGA Positions:

- In the WGA Policy Resolution 07-16 (policy statement #4), the Western Governors' state their support for giving utilities incentives to implement energy efficiency programs that limit the need to construct new generating facilities.
- The Resolution also says, "States should have flexibility to determine the appropriate mix of demand side efficiencies and supply side renewable resources. Reductions in energy demand can provide valuable time to solve issues related to transmission or emerging technologies."
- The CDEAC Report also includes several regional and national policy recommendations to encourage energy efficiency for buildings, appliances, utilities and energy markets.

NWPPA Positions:

- NWPPA supports energy efficiency as a way to make the region more energy independent and to sustain a viable, domestic energy supply. Energy efficiency can help accomplish both of these goals, while stimulating the economy and protecting the environment.
- NWPPA firmly believes in *local control* and has instituted robust energy efficiency and conservation programs throughout the West without government mandates. NWPPA is strongly opposed to any effort, nationally, regionally or by states, that would move from traditional and historical *local control* to mandate the imposition of unwarranted energy efficiency regulation on consumer-owned utilities. For all types of consumer-owned utilities, elected officials are responsible for the proper function of their utilities and are directly accountable to the ratepayers.
- Like states, consumer-owned utilities should have flexibility to determine the appropriate mix of demand-side efficiencies and supply-side renewable resources without mandates.
- NWPPA supports incentives to all utility sectors to promote advanced energy saving technologies.
- NWPPA supports enhanced and immediate economy-wide focus on energy efficiency for all energy uses.
- NWPPA also supports increased energy efficiency research and development programs with consumer incentives for new product use as a way to reduce dependence on foreign fuels and to increase national security.

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WGA Management Directive:

WGA's Policy Resolution 07-16 includes a series of management directives.

Directive #1 – “The Western Governors direct the WGA staff to conduct a workshop to determine the most expeditious way to achieve energy efficiency savings from new and existing residential and commercial/public buildings.”

- Many NWPPA member utilities have instituted robust energy efficiency and conservation programs and representatives of these utilities can be identified to make presentations at a WGA workshop examining how to expeditiously achieve energy efficiency savings.