

1 **NORTHWEST PUBLIC POWER ASSOCIATION**

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3 **RESOLUTION 08-3**

4 **IN SUPPORT OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

5 In light of several recent catastrophic events, in particular the
6 devastating hurricanes in the Gulf Coast region in 2005, it is clear that
7 America must become more energy independent and do everything it can
8 to sustain a viable, domestic energy supply. Energy efficiency can
9 accomplish both of these goals, while stimulating the economy and
10 protecting our environment.

11 Because of America's commitment to energy independence, energy
12 efficiency has already made a significant contribution to our economy
13 and our energy mix. Efficiency has allowed per capita energy use to
14 remain constant for nearly three decades, while our economic output
15 (GDP) per capita has increased over 74 percent. Also as a result of
16 energy efficiency, our energy use per unit of GDP has fallen about 32
17 percent since 1973. Federal appliance and equipment standards alone
18 have reduced U.S. electricity use by 2.5 percent displacing over 70,000
19 MW of generating capacity. In 2000, these standards saved the
20 American consumer over \$9 billion in energy bills. ¹

21 At the same time, there is much more energy efficiency that can be
22 cost-effectively captured. Estimates show that feasible energy efficiency
23 measures over the next 20 years could yield a 10 to 40 percent reduction
24 of our current energy use. New and expanded appliance efficiency
25 standards alone can cost-effectively eliminate the need for 40 to 50 new
26 power plants. ¹

27 In the Pacific Northwest and California, energy efficiency was one
28 of the key reasons a more catastrophic energy crisis in 2000-2001 was
29 averted. Reductions in demand for electricity in California resulting from
30 energy efficiency, behavioral changes and curtailment, reduced
31 consumption by approximately 12 percent, which primarily prevented
32 the West from going dark. When prices skyrocketed, past investments in
33 energy efficiency saved consumers millions of dollars they would have
34 otherwise paid for electricity. ²

35 Energy efficiency is not only affordable and abundant; it has
36 additional advantages, such as being cleaner than traditional resources.
37 It also creates more jobs per dollar invested than any other energy
38 resource and technological improvements are constantly increasing
39 efficiencies while decreasing costs.

40 However, while energy efficiency has a well-established delivery
41 infrastructure, investments in new energy efficiency technologies suffer
42 from unstable funding which hinders its systematic and cost effective
43 acquisition. Funding that changes year-to-year and swings widely

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46 depending on the price of a volatile market wreaks havoc on the ability to
47 sustain the delivery infrastructure and the public's interest in programs.

48 Therefore, the Northwest Public Power Association continues to
49 express its support for increased energy efficiency measures, and calls on
50 Congress and the President to aggressively implement and promote:

- 51 • Long-term energy efficiency measures as a cornerstone of America's
52 energy policy;
- 53 • The timely implementation of all cost-effective energy efficiency
54 programs at the utility, State, and federal level;
- 55 • Adequate funding and program implementation, as a result of the
56 enactment of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPAct 2005) and the
57 Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (HR 6), for DOE's
58 energy efficiency measures, including federal building energy
59 reduction programs, the Rural and Remote Community Electrification
60 Grant program, state and local energy efficiency programs, the
61 expansion of the Energy Star Program, as well as the establishment of
62 energy efficiency appliance standards; and
- 63 • Tax incentives in EPAct 2005 and HR 6, including those for
64 commercial buildings, new homes and residential energy property,
65 which promote advanced energy saving technologies.

66 Additionally, NWPPA strongly urges its membership to make energy
67 efficiency a high priority in resource policy and funding.

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71 Origination Date: 1/2002 Submitted by Emerald People's Utility District

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73 1. ACEEE Web site, "Energy efficiency progress and potential" fact sheet,

74 <http://www.aceee.org/energy/effact.htm>

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76 2. "Energy Efficiency Leadership In a Crisis: How California Is Winning", Silicon Valley
77 Manufacturing Group and NRDC, August 2001,

78 <http://www.nrdc.org/air/energy/eeca/eeca.pdf>

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80 Revised: March 2005