

1 **NORTHWEST PUBLIC POWER ASSOCIATION**

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3 **3-05 Archive Resolution**

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5 **IN OPPOSITION TO EFFORTS TO DENY DISASTER RELIEF TO**
6 **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES**
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8 The Northwest Public Power Association opposes congressional
9 efforts to amend the Stafford Act to prevent municipal electric utilities
10 and rural electric cooperatives from being eligible for Federal Emergency
11 Management Agency (FEMA) disaster assistance.

12 In recent years, the Northwest has been hit by several severe
13 storms that created widespread power outages and caused millions of
14 dollars of damages to essential utility facilities. Receipt of federal
15 disaster relief payments was critical in helping a number of public
16 utilities restore electric service for their customers.

17 The Northwest Public Power Association opposes efforts to place
18 the full burden of the costs associated with future storms and/or
19 disasters under the responsibility of state and local government agencies;
20 denying public electric systems much needed disaster relief. This shift in
21 responsibility would come at great cost to the infrastructure and ability
22 of public utilities to repair damaged facilities expediently and restore
23 essential electric service to customers.

24 The Northwest Public Power Association opposes any effort to deny
25 municipal and cooperative electric systems from receiving federal
26 disaster relief. Excluding public utility systems from eligibility for FEMA
27 disaster assistance would severely hinder their ability to restore essential
28 electric service to thousands of customers. The NWPPA urges Congress
29 to continue to make disaster relief payments through FEMA available to
30 municipal and rural cooperative electric systems.

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32 **NORTHWEST PUBLIC POWER ASSOCIATION**

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34 Origination Date: 1998

35 Archived: 2005