

1 **Northwest Public Power Association**
2 **Resolution 2018-02**
3 **In Support of All Hydropower as a Renewable Resource**
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5 **Background**
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7 NWPPA supports hydropower, the foundation of the Northwest region’s energy supply, as a
8 clean renewable, cost-effective, carbon-free and safe energy resource. Multi-purpose dams
9 conserve and manage water to meet the needs of the people and the Nation’s economy
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11 In addition to energy, hydropower provides valuable services to the electric grid which support
12 reliability and the integration of renewable resources including wind and solar through
13 capacity, flexibility, ramping, and frequency response. Hydroelectric generation also keeps the
14 air and water clean with zero carbon emissions, thus by reducing the need to burn and import
15 additional fossil fuels.
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17 Hydropower is the Nation’s largest renewable and carbon-free resource, represents a
18 significant portion of electrical generation capacity, and its expansion can be a major source of
19 job creation in the United States. It is imperative to preserve and continue building a substantial
20 hydropower system that is integral to our Nation’s quality of life.
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22 **NWPPA’s Position**
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- 24 • NWPPA supports Congress recognizing all hydropower, not just new, small, or
25 incremental hydropower, as a renewable resource.
- 26 • NWPPA supports recognition of the value of hydropower’s attributes, including its
27 baseload availability, ramping capability, ancillary services value and, lack of emissions.
- 28 • NWPPA supports federal incentives for renewable energy that are equally available to
29 hydropower and accessible to public power utilities and rural electric cooperatives.
- 30 • NWPPA supports efforts by Congress to modernize hydropower licensing by passing
31 legislation that requires the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to recognize early
32 investments made by a licensee when setting a new license term.
- 33 • NWPPA supports reducing the time required for hydropower licensing process by better
34 coordinating federal authorizations, adding schedule discipline, improving trial-type
35 hearings and fact-finding, requiring agencies to equally consider other public purposes
36 of a project when setting conditions, and reducing duplicative study requests and those
37 not tied to project operations.

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- NWPPA supports hydropower regulatory reforms that require mandatory conditions and prescriptions be accompanied by written rationale tied to each prescribed project nexus.
 - NWPPA supports federal investments in advanced hydropower technologies through research, development, and incentives.
 - NWPPA opposes efforts to remove safe and productive dams that provide, or have the potential to provide, economic hydropower generation.

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46 Origination Date: 1997. Revised in 2011, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2017 and 2018.