

EXTEND CLEAN ENERGY TAX CREDITS WITH A DIRECT PAY OPTION

NWPPA members are consumer-owned, not-for-profit utilities that cannot directly avail themselves of clean energy tax incentives under current law. These tax credits are important incentives for clean energy deployment and should be made available to all project developers regardless of business model.



NWPPA supports extending these tax credits with a direct pay option. Direct pay is the best mechanism to make these incentives available to municipal utilities, people's/public utility districts, and electric cooperatives.

Further, NWPPA supports freeing up capital by allowing advance refunding of municipal bonds (H.R. 2288, S. 479) and RUS loan repricing (H.R. 2244, S. 978).

SUPPORT CONSUMER-OWNED BROADBAND NETWORKS

Consumer-owned utilities play an important role in expanding broadband access as providers. Our not-for-profit business model successfully electrified these often hard-to-serve areas decades ago and our close relationship with the residents we serve makes us ideal entities to deliver high-quality, low-cost broadband service.



We are concerned about the narrative that consumer-owned networks are inferior or not worthy of federal investment, and about a new proposal from the Federal Communications Commission that indicates the FCC intends to regulate how the costs of replacing utility poles should be allocated and how to resolve pole attachment disputes.

REFORM HYDROPOWER LICENSING TO MAINTAIN A CRUCIAL, RENEWABLE RESOURCE

NWPPA strongly supports hydropower as a zero-emissions, renewable electricity generation resource. Hydropower is a key tool to promote emissions reductions, grid reliability, resilience, and effective integration of other renewable resources like wind and solar power.



We urge Congress to reform and modernize the hydropower permitting process to reduce the length of time and the costs required to license and relicense hydropower facilities.

NWPPA urges support for H.R. 1588, the Hydropower Clean Energy Future Act, sponsored by Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-Wash.).

NWPPA also supports S. 2306, the Maintaining and Enhancing Hydroelectricity and River Restoration Act, to create a 30% clean energy tax credit (with a direct pay option for public power) to support upgrades at existing hydropower dams for dam safety, environmental improvements, and grid resilience enhancements.

FUND FOREST MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES TO REDUCE WILDFIRES AND PROTECT ELECTRIC INFRASTRUCTURE

Wildfires are devastating to natural resources, property, and lives—including essential services such as power facilities and electric service personnel.



Preventing and responding to wildfires is a shared responsibility that requires smart forest management policies and adequate funding from Congress.

NWPPA urges federal land managers to work with utilities in implementing the 2018 vegetation management law and when considering forest management actions near utility rights of way on federal lands.

NWPPA supports continued funding for forest treatments, wildfire prevention, and fire suppression as well as administrative actions to prevent wildfires on federal lands.

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ABOUT PUBLIC POWER IN THE GREATER NORTHWEST

- **NWPPA's members are community-based, local utilities:** over 150 municipalities, cooperatives, people's/public utility districts, and Crown corporations across nine western states (Alaska, California, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming) and British Columbia. While the business models may differ, all NWPPA member utilities are owned by the customers they serve and deliver power on a not-for-profit basis.
- **Key infrastructure funding tools for NWPPA members include tax-exempt municipal bonds and Rural Utility Service (RUS) programs.** NWPPA supports the restoration of advance refunding of municipal bonds and allowing RUS borrowers to reprice their loans.
- **NWPPA members include preference customers of the federal power marketing administrations.** NWPPA opposes efforts to remove productive dams that provide, or have the potential to provide, economic hydropower generation.
- **NWPPA members are actively working to prevent, prepare for, and respond to cyber and physical threats to the grid.** NWPPA supports the existing standards-setting process that includes industry expertise and calls on the federal government to address supply chain vulnerabilities and disruptions holistically.
- **NWPPA members are predominantly small electric utilities with over 50% serving less than 10,000 customers.** This raises unique challenges in providing electric service to customers. NWPPA urges the consideration of the economic hardships to rural and remote utilities from any new regulations, including implementation of the Endangered Species Act and National Environmental Policy Act.
- **NWPPA members are decarbonizing their generation portfolios and facilitating beneficial electrification of the building and transportation sectors.** NWPPA supports model building codes and policies that incentivize electric vehicle adoption. With respect to greenhouse gas regulation of the electric sector, NWPPA asks that lawmakers consider providing time, flexibility, and assistance to meet targets while managing reliability impacts and consumer costs.



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