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## **Extensive Study Shows BPA Central to Meeting Current and Future Climate Goals**

BPA's clean and renewable hydropower fleet serves millions of people in the West and is vital to Northwest's energy future

The Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS) published this month a paper evaluating emissions from U.S. electricity providers. Among the country's 20 largest electric regions, the Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) hydropower-based system resulted in the Pacific Northwest region producing and using the cleanest energy in the nation.

"Hydropower is a 24/7 clean renewable that keeps our homes and businesses humming around the clock, and now we have verifiable data confirming that BPA's renewable fleet is the backbone of the nation's least carbon intense electricity area among large electricity suppliers," said Scott Simms, executive director of the Public Power Council, which represents the interests of the non-profit, consumer-owned utilities that purchase most of the electricity sold by BPA. Together, these utilities serve millions of residents in large and small communities across five Western states.

"This flexible, carbon-free resource not only meets today's demand for clean energy but also provides the platform for meeting the region's future goals by integrating intermittent renewable resources like wind and solar onto our grid," said Simms. The U.S. Energy Information Administration reports that in addition to clean hydro, Oregon and Washington are home to over 6,500 MW of solar and wind generation, and roughly 45% of those resources are located in the BPA area. In addition, 1080 MWs of proposed solar and wind generation plan to locate in the BPA area.<sup>1</sup>

Simms said this PNAS study could not come out at a more important time, as the federal government will soon release its draft analysis on how the Columbia River Basin should be operated in the future. "We can't look at the river myopically. PPC members are committed to a successful fish mitigation plan and shouldering our fair share of the associated financial responsibility. However, fish runs will not thrive if we don't address climate change, and the federal hydro system is an integral element of any climate plan. The low carbon aspect of BPA's portfolio should be properly considered in the context of the government's review, and this PNAS report helps, especially as global carbon concerns continue to mount."

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<sup>1</sup> EIA Preliminary Monthly Electric Generator Inventory [data](#), September 2019.

To see the PNAS report in full, click [here](#).

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### **About the Public Power Council**

The Public Power Council, established in 1966, is an association that represents over 100 consumer-owned electric utilities in the Pacific Northwest. PPC's mission is to preserve and protect the benefits of the Federal Columbia River Power System for consumer-owned utilities. PPC is a key forum to identify, discuss and build consensus around energy and utility issues.

A listing of PPC members categorized by state is attached. For more information, please visit us on the web at [www.ppcpdx.org](http://www.ppcpdx.org).

## Public Power Council Members

### Idaho:

City of Bonners Ferry  
Clearwater Power Company  
Fall River Rural Electric Cooperative  
Idaho County Light & Power  
Idaho Falls Power  
Kootenai Electric Cooperative  
Lost River Electric Cooperative  
Northern Lights, Inc.  
Raft River Rural Electric Cooperative  
Rupert Electric Department  
United Electric Co-op

### Montana:

Flathead Electric Cooperative  
Lincoln Electric Cooperative  
Missoula Electric Cooperative  
Ravalli County Electric Cooperative  
Vigilante Electric Cooperative

### Nevada:

Wells Rural Electric Company

### Oregon:

City of Ashland  
City of Bandon  
Blachly-Lane County Electric Coop.  
Canby Utility  
City of Cascade Locks  
Central Electric Cooperative  
Central Lincoln PUD  
Clatskanie PUD  
Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative  
Columbia River PUD  
Consumers Power, Inc  
Coos-Curry Electric Cooperative  
Douglas Electric  
Emerald PUD  
Eugene Water & Electric Board  
City of Forest Grove  
Harney Electric Cooperative  
Hermiston Energy Services  
Hood River Electric Cooperative  
Lane Electric  
McMinnville Water & Light  
Midstate Electric Cooperative  
Milton-Freewater City Light & Power  
Monmouth Power & Light  
Northern Wasco County PUD

Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative  
PNGC Power  
Salem Electric  
Springfield Utility Board  
Tillamook PUD  
Umatilla Electric Cooperative  
Wasco Electric Cooperative  
West Oregon Electric Cooperative

### Washington:

Asotin County PUD  
Benton PUD  
Benton Rural Electric Association  
Big Bend Electric Cooperative  
Centralia City Light  
Chelan County PUD  
City of Cheney  
Clallam County PUD  
Clark Public Utilities  
Columbia Rural Electric Association  
Ferry County PUD  
Franklin PUD  
Grant PUD  
Grays Harbor PUD  
Inland Power & Light  
Jefferson PUD  
Kittitas PUD  
Klickitat PUD  
Lewis County PUD  
Mason County PUD #1  
Mason County PUD #3  
Modern Electric Water Company  
Okanogan County Electric Cooperative  
Okanogan County PUD  
Orcas Power and Light  
Pacific County PUD #2  
Pend Oreille County PUD  
Peninsula Light Company  
Port of Seattle  
Richland Energy Services  
Seattle City Light  
Skamania PUD  
Snohomish County PUD  
City of Sumas  
Tacoma Power  
Vera Water & Power  
Wahkiakum PUD  
Whatcom County PUD #1  
Yakama Power