

To: Rocky Reach Full Relicensing Team  
From: Gregg Carrington  
Re: Concept paper describing Policy Guidance Committee  
Date: March 12, 2003

**Policy Guidance Committee Concept Paper  
for Relicensing the Rocky Reach Hydroelectric Project (No. 2145)**

**Background:** Results from field studies for the relicensing of the Rocky Reach Project are largely in hand, and stakeholders are in the process of identifying Protection, Mitigation, and Enhancement (PME) measures to address the Project's impacts. Over the next nine or so months, stakeholders in the Alternative Relicensing Process will attempt to negotiate a settlement agreement based largely on a mutually acceptable set of PME measures. Many stakeholders are large, multi-level organizations which typically are represented in the Full Relicensing Team by staff who are expert in the relevant scientific and technical matters. As negotiations commence, however, it is vitally important to ensure that any policy requirements or constraints get identified early. Failure to do so could jeopardize a tentative settlement after months of arduous negotiations.

Recognizing the desirability of engaging "policy-level" representatives more directly in the relicensing, Chelan PUD has drafted a concept paper for review and comment. The Policy Guidance Committee concept was also used in the Lake Chelan relicensing process.

**Function:** The proposed group, tentatively called the Policy Guidance Committee (PGC), would provide policy oversight to guide the activities of the Full Relicensing Team (the Team). To this end, the PGC would meet (as needed but infrequently) to receive briefings on the progress of the Team, especially at certain key times. Further, PGC members would identify and alert other members to potential conflicts with his/her organization's policies.

**Organization and Operation:** Clearly, not every stakeholder is an organization in which multiple levels or geographically separated offices suggest the need for additional liaison with the Full Relicensing Team. We believe the following organizations are likely candidates for representation on the Policy Guidance Committee but will confirm this by canvassing them by telephone or electronic/hard copy mailing:

Chelan County PUD  
City of Entiat  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
U.S. Dept. of the Interior—Office of the Solicitor  
U.S. Dept. of the Interior—Bureau of Land Management  
U.S. Dept. of the Interior—U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
U.S. Forest Service  
Washington Dept. of Ecology  
Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

Washington Dept. of Parks and Recreation  
Yakama Nation  
Confederation Tribes of the Colville Reservation  
American Rivers  
Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission

Other organizations may be added to the PGC if the Full Relicensing Team finds that the organizations are sufficiently complex so as to need additional liaison with the relicensing process.

A representative to the PGC typically should be a person whose responsibilities, within their respective organizations, would include, or be likely to include, the review and/or approval of a future settlement agreement. While the representative need not be the ultimate decision maker for his/her organization regarding this relicensing proceeding, he/she ought to at least play a key role in recommending for (or against) approval. A representative should thus have a sufficient understanding of his/her organization's policies, and the implementation of those policies, to avoid problems later with internal approvals.

Meetings of the PGC would be open to the public. Stakeholders not represented on the PGC would be welcome, at selected times in PGC meetings, to make comments or ask questions of the Committee members.

Subject to the approval of the PGC, meetings may be facilitated, or as the PGC alternatively decides.

**Action:** Moving this concept to implementation requires the following actions.

1. Review this Concept Paper for acceptability. If you have comments, please send them on or before April 18, to Gregg Carrington, Chelan PUD, where they can be posted with other relicensing correspondence on the Rocky Reach relicensing Web site.
2. Identify and obtain the approval of the appropriate individual to represent your organization on the Policy Guidance Committee. Please notify Gregg Carrington of the representative's name, title (if applicable), address, telephone, and e-mail address (if any).
3. Reserve the date of **Thursday, April 24**, for an initial meeting to be held at the Chelan PUD's auditorium in Wenatchee from 1:00 to 3:30. A regularly scheduled meeting of the Full Relicensing Team will be held the same day.