

**Renewable  
Northwest  
Project**

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*Ben Ack  
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IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION



Renewable Northwest Project

April 12, 2005

Commissioner Kjellander  
Commissioner Smith  
Commissioner Hansen  
Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
P O Box 83720  
Boise, Idaho 83720-0074

**RE: PAC-E-05-03 PacifiCorp application for approval of a new, voluntary renewable energy bulk-purchase option tariff.**

The Renewable Northwest Project (RNP) appreciates the opportunity to submit comments supporting PacifiCorp's proposal to allow commercial and industrial customers to purchase renewable energy through the Blue Sky QS program [PAC-E-05-03]. RNP, established in 1994, is a unique coalition of energy companies, consumer groups and environmental groups that supports the responsible development of renewable energy in the Pacific Northwest.

PacifiCorp's Blue Sky QS (quantity savings) product would allow commercial customers to purchase renewable energy from Utah Power for less than the usual \$1.95 per block, providing they purchase at least 101 blocks of Blue Sky per month for a year. Blue Sky is sold in 100-kilowatt hour increments, and this Blue Sky QS option has already been approved in Oregon, Washington, Utah and Wyoming.

The quantity savings option is an incentive for large energy consumers to buy more clean power from renewable resources. The following are some examples of prominent commercial customers in Oregon that have increased their renewable energy purchases as a result of the Blue Sky QS program: Ashforth Pacific, Bonneville Power Administration, Columbia Steel, FedEx Kinko's, Hewlett-Packard, Port of Portland, the Oregon Convention Center and Xanterra Parks and Resorts.

Additionally, the Blue Sky QS product allows customers with multiple sites within PacifiCorp service territory to aggregate their purchases to meet the minimum purchase amount. FedEx-Kinko's is taking advantage of this for their Oregon and Utah stores. PacifiCorp has made it easy for customers to calculate costs and environmental benefits with their online calculator and enrollment information.

Even the minimum Blue Sky QS purchase has significant environmental benefits: Purchasing 101 blocks of Blue Sky per month for a year offsets 121 tons of carbon dioxide, which is equivalent to taking 21 cars off the road for a year or planting 48 acres of trees. Also, with every kilowatt-hour of renewable energy purchased through Blue Sky, two pounds of carbon dioxide emissions are offset.

More and more residential and commercial customers are participating in utility-offered green power programs. These programs allow consumers to express their support for clean energy directly. In the Northwest, more than 8 5,000 customers are purchasing green power from their utility.

In Idaho, over 500 Utah Power customers are enrolled in the Blue Sky program, including several businesses. Approval of this product could stimulate new interest among commercial customers and would provide another opportunity to inform Utah Power customers about their renewable energy options.

The Blue Sky QS product is a good choice for customers interested in large green power purchases. It is a simple, effective tool for commercial customers in other states, allowing them the opportunity to purchase more clean, renewable power at a reasonable cost. We hope you will allow Utah Power to offer this product to their Idaho customers.

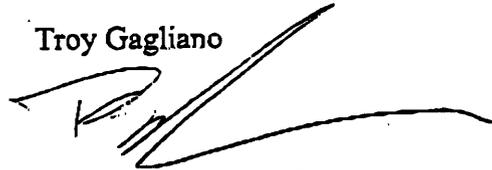
Thank you for your consideration.

Diane Zipper



Director of Green Power Programs

Troy Gagliano



Senior Policy Associate