

OWNED BY THOSE WE SERVE

DOUGLAS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC.,
ROSEBURG, OREGON
PHONE (541) 673-6616
(800) 233-2733

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT TERRY NELSON
VICE PRESIDENT . . . ROBERT POAGE
SECRETARY SHIRLEY CAIRNS
TREASURER DICK McHAFFIE
DIRECTOR LARRY SHIPLEY
DIRECTOR ROY ELLIS
DIRECTOR CAREY WEATHERLY

MANAGER

DAVE SABALA
541-673-6173

SUPERINTENDENT

MARK DOTY
541-667-9720

OFFICE MANAGER

PAUL LEONARD

MEMBER SERVICES

TODD C. MUNSEY

Mission Statement

“The mission of Douglas Electric Cooperative, a member-owned and operated cooperative, is to provide affordable, reliable electric and other compatible services that enhance the quality of life for its members, using progressive marketing in conjunction with sound financial and management principles.”

DOUGLAS
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE



Renewing Our Commitment to Clean Sources of Electricity

Electric Cooperatives in the Northwest are long-time supporters of renewable power. Douglas Electric Cooperative is fortunate to be able to purchase over 70 percent of our wholesale energy from one of the worlds largest renewable power systems: the Federal Columbia River Power System.

Northwest cooperatives have been carefully watching the development of - and in some cases, investing in - power generated by renewable technology. Electricity from renewable energy refers to forms of power generation (such as wind, solar, geothermal, or landfill gas) that are not based on fossil fuel sources and do not have significant air emissions. Large-scale hydropower produces zero emissions and is by definition, a renewable resource.

Four key points should govern any discussion of renewable standards:

- Mandates will increase customer rates. Local utility officials should be allowed to continue to make decisions to control rate increases for their customers.
- Existing hydroelectric power produces no emissions, and should be eligible in any legislative package.
- Reliability must not be threatened. Dependable, firm energy must be a top priority for utilities. Mandates based on politics and not science or economics threaten reliability.
- Plans for our state should encourage renewables through incentives, rather than mandates.

Oregon's Governor has introduced a renewable portfolio standard (RPS) bill that is being considered by the legislature. Some of the resources chosen to meet future needs will inevitably be renewable. But, state mandates forcing specific power purchase decisions onto utilities has the potential to raise rates and take away the ability of utilities to choose the best mix of generation resources for their individual needs and priorities. Proper incentive-based policies regarding renewable power, including hydropower, is a more viable solution, now and far into the future.

Best Regards,

Dave Sabala
General Manager

Visit our Web site at www.douglaselectric.com

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