

OWNED BY THOSE WE SERVE

DOUGLAS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC.,
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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

PNGC Power
Smart. Local. Connected.

Climate Change and Increasing Regulation

Dear Member,

We hear a lot about climate change, global warming, renewable portfolio standards and greenhouse gases these days.

Some think that the electric power industry worldwide is a major contributor to greenhouse gas production because of fossil fuel-burning electricity generation plants, including coal plants.

Most of our power in the Northwest comes from clean, renewable hydroelectric generation. Douglas Electric Cooperative buys wholesale power from the federal hydroelectric system marketed by the Bonneville Power Administration. However electricity demands in the Northwest soon will exceed capacity, forcing us to find other generation resources.

Coal-fired power may be the most cost-effective resource to make up the difference between electric loads and capacity. But we're unsure about the future of coal generation, given the climate change debate and uncertainty about future regulations.

If coal plants are not built, natural gas-fired generation and, to some degree, wind power will probably fill the gap. But wind power is intermittent and needs to be backed up with other generation - probably natural gas. And nuclear power has its own set of challenges.

So the climate change debate and future regulation of greenhouse gas emissions makes future electric generation, sources and costs uncertain. One thing is certain: to meet future growth, the Northwest will need to develop other sources of generation.

Douglas Electric Cooperative is a member of PNGC Power, who has developed a climate change policy intended to guide us as we strive to meet current and future load growth. The policy encourages future energy resources to be evaluated regarding diversity, reliability, efficiency and economic and environmental sustainability. The goal is to retain the benefits of the NW hydroelectric system while exploring other sustainable resources for the future. We are working with PNGC Power to ensure that we have more choice and more control over resource acquisition.

Best Regards,

Dave Sabala
General Manager

Visit our Web site at www.douglaselectric.com

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