



# Draft Provider of Choice Policy Overview

July 26, 2023

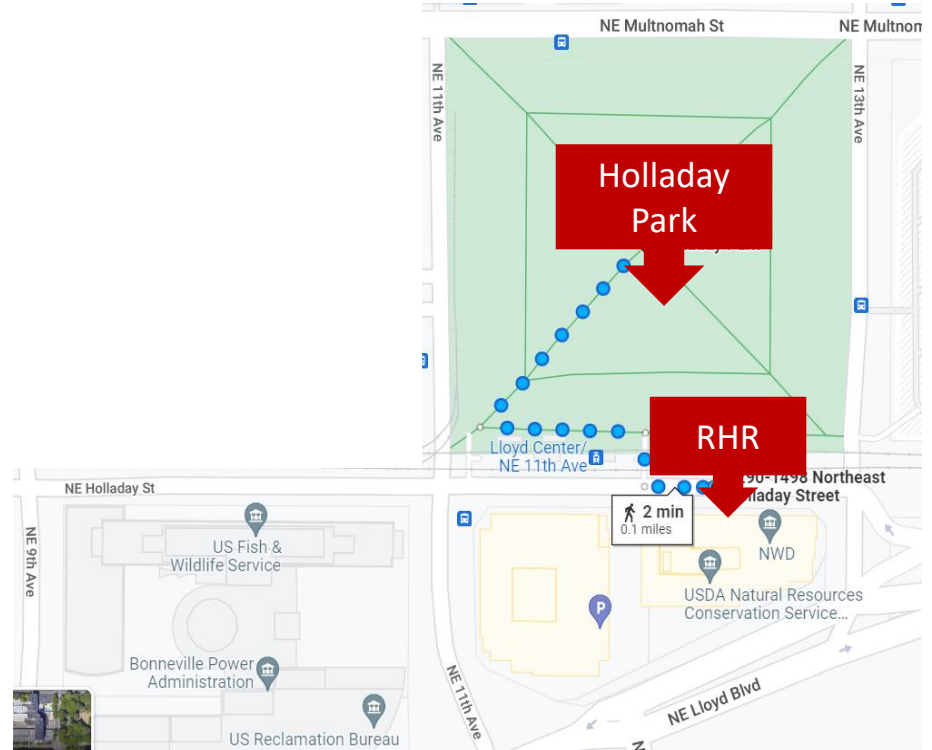
**PROVIDER** OF CHOICE

POST  
**2028**



# Safety Moment

- The Rates Hearing Room has two exits.
- In the event an alarm sounds, please meet at Holladay Park across the street.



# Format

- Presenters will take pauses throughout the meeting.
  - **In-person:** Raise your hand in Webex or physically raise hand; when called on, use microphone to speak.
  - **Webex:** Write it in the Webex chat or raise your Webex hand; when called on, mute/unmute yourself.
- Questions will be addressed in the order received.
- Please state your name and organization.

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**Welcome and Notices**  
**Michelle Lichtenfels**  
**Provider of Choice Program Manager**

# Meeting Objectives

Promote understanding of draft Provider of Choice Policy and provide opportunity to ask clarifying questions.

- Please see the draft Provider of Choice Policy for details.

# Notice: Formal Comment Period

- Please direct all formal comments to the BPA public comment page: [Public Comments \(bpa.gov\)](https://bpa.gov).
- Comments received via the public open comment process will be considered as part of the record of decision.
  - The open comment period will remain open through the end of the day on October 13, 2023.



# Agenda

Time Start	Time End	Draft Policy Section	Topic	Presenter(s)
9 am	9:10 am	-	Welcome and Notices	Michelle Lichtenfels, Provider of Choice Program Manager
9:10 am	11 am <small>(Includes 15 min break)</small>	1	Introduction	Kim Thompson, VP Northwest Req'mts Marketing
		2	Provider of Choice Fundamental Elements	Sarah Burczak, Provider of Choice Policy Lead
		2.4	Contract High Water Marks	Sarah Burczak, Provider of Choice Policy Lead
11 am	12 pm	3	Products and Services at Priority Firm Rates	Rob Burr, Provider of Choice Policy Specialist
		3.5	Above-CHWM Load Service	Daniel Fisher, Power Rates Manager

# Agenda (Cont)

Time Start	Time End	Draft Policy Section	Topic	Presenter(s)
1:30 pm	(Includes 15 min break)	4	Products and Services at NR Rate and Industrial Firm Power Rate	Sarah Burczak, Provider of Choice Policy Lead
		5	Rate Discounts	Nancy Schimmels, Manager, Eastern Cust. Services
		6	Power Delivery and Transfer Service	Paul Garrett, Manager, Power Account Services
		7	Carbon	Alisa Kaseweter, Climate Change Specialist
		8	Long Term Cost Management	Sarah Burczak, Provider of Choice Policy Lead
		9	Conservation	Dave Moody, EE Planning & Evaluation Manager
		10	Residential Exchange Program	Paulina Cornejo, REP Lead
		11	New Long-Term Contracts	Kelly Olive, Provider of Choice Contract Lead
3:50 pm	4 pm	-	Notices and Next Steps	Michelle Lichtenfels, Provider of Choice Program Manager



# Draft Provider of Choice Policy

The draft Provider of Choice Policy is the culmination of a years-long regional engagement designed to shape Bonneville's long-term power sales policies and contracts following the **expiration of Regional Dialogue contracts in September 2028**.

The draft Policy reflects the work of an **extensive, iterative public process** involving Bonneville's customers and interested parties. Participants provided valuable feedback on a variety of important and challenging issues.

# Provider of Choice Timeline

## Public comment period on draft Policy

- Through October 13, 2023

## Final Policy and record of decision

- Est'd February 2024

## Policy implementation & contract development

- 2024 to Summer 2025
- Goal to execute contracts by late 2025

## System readiness processes

- 2026 through 2028

## Power deliveries start

- October 1, 2028



# 1. Introduction

Kim Thompson

VP Northwest Requirements Marketing



# Provider of Choice Principles

***Necessary elements** weighed when developing  
Provider of Choice policy and contracts.*

1. Tier 1 firm power rates are set at the **lowest possible** rates consistent with sound business principles.
2. Provider of Choice policy and contracts are **consistent** with Bonneville's statutes.
3. Contracts provide long-term supply of electric power through **standardized** products and services and **transparent** processes.
4. Provider of Choice policy and contracts provide **financial stability** for Bonneville and support Bonneville's regional obligations and commitments.

# Provider of Choice Goals

***Aspirations** for the Provider of Choice policy and contracts.*

1. **Regionally supported** Provider of Choice policy and contracts.
2. The Federal Base System is **fully subscribed** to supply customers' net requirements.
3. Product and service offerings **are equitable**.
4. Contracts offer customers **flexibility** to invest in and integrate non-federal resources.
5. Contracts **support** customers meeting national and regional objectives.
6. Administratively **straightforward and implementable** contracts.
7. Provider of Choice policy and contracts **build on a long history** of stewardship and regional relationship.

# 1.2 Emerging Landscape

Known changes coming to the energy landscape for the post-2028 time period include:

- Western Resource Adequacy Program.
- Day-ahead Markets.
- Regional Transmission Organization.
- Decarbonization.





## **2. Provider of Choice Foundational Elements**

**Sarah Burczak, Provider of Choice Policy Lead**

## 2.1 Net Requirements Calculations

- Bonneville is authorized to sell power to serve an eligible customer's firm power load that is not otherwise served by the customer's resources.
  - Often referred to as net requirements.
- The same net requirements calculations are applied regardless customer product selection.

## 2.1.1 Energy Net Requirements Calculation

### *Total Retail Load – Dedicated Resources*

**Energy Net Requirements includes:**

**Total Retail Load** = P50 forecasted energy load on an annual basis

**Dedicated Resource** = Forecasted firm energy output from dedicated resource on an annual basis (as established in contracts)



## 2.1.2 Peak Net Requirements Calculation

*Total Retail Load – Dedicated Resources Peaking Capability*

**Peak Net Requirements includes:**

**Peak TRL** = P50 forecasted peak hour load on a monthly basis

**Dedicated Resources Peaking Capability** = WRAP Qualified Capacity Contributions – ((0.5 x (Planning Reserve Margin – Contingency Reserves\*)) x WRAP QCC)

*\*Contingency reserves (CR) only included in the calculation if Bonneville is supplying a customer's CR.*

## 2.2. Tiered Rate Construct

- Tiers Priority Firm (PF) rates for sales of firm power.
  - The tiered rate design will consist of two tiers of firm requirements power at PF rates.
- Tiering rates is a policy decision.
- Bonneville will formally establish the tiered rate design as part of the **2029 Public Rate Design Methodology (PRDM)** process.



## 2.3 Serving Load

*2.3 Serving Load* describes how Bonneville plans to track costs associated with resources under the tiered rate construct, including if resource acquisition is required, and how non-federal resources fit in the construct.



## 2.3.1 Power at Priority Firm Tier 1 Rates

- A CHWM sets the amount of power a customer is eligible to purchase at a PF Tier 1 rate constant for the duration of the Provider of Choice contract.
- Determining how much power is available to customers at a PF Tier 1 rate was often referred to as setting the **Tier 1 system size** under Regional Dialogue.

## 2.3.2 Augmentation

Bonneville will acquire additional resources if its firm load obligations exceed its firm resource capability. Describes the statutory requirements as well as the role of Bonneville's Resource Program.

## 2.3.2.1 Billing Credits

- Seeks to include a provision in the Provider of Choice contracts under which customers agree to waive their ability to request billing credits, for both non-federal resources and conservation.
- Describes other new provisions that support the development of non-federal resources as well as how non-federal resources could fit into Bonneville's resource acquisition strategy if needed.



## 2.3.3.1 Tier 1 Non-federal Resource Allowance

- Provides an allowance for customers to add qualifying non-federal resources to offset load that would have otherwise been served by federal power priced at a PF Tier 1 rate or would have been subject to take-or-pay provisions.
- Adds up to an aggregate of 5 megawatts (MWs) of non-federal resources or 50% of their CHWM, whichever is less.
- Does not reduce a customer's CHWM.

## 2.3.3.2 Non-fed Resource Min. Threshold

- Raises the minimum threshold required for a customer's non-federal resource to be included and tracked in the power sales contracts from a nameplate of 200 kilowatts to 1 MW.
- Requires compliance with any requirements outlined in a customer's transmission contracts, including any meter requirements.

# Other Non-fed Resource Considerations

## Section 2.3.3.3 Above-CHWM Non-federal Resources

- Gives customers the option to serve their Above-CHWM load with non-federal resources. More details in Section 3.5.


## Section 2.3.3.4 Additional Resource Considerations

- Anticipates the 5(b)9(c) policy will need to be updated to reflect the transition from Regional Dialogue to the Provider of Choice Policy and contracts.

## Section 2.3.3.5 Resource Support Services

- Maintains allocating costs associated with integrating and shaping a customer's non-federal resources to meet their loads directly to the customer.





## 2.4 Contract High Water Marks

- CHWMs set a PF customer's maximum eligibility to purchase power priced at a PF Tier 1 rate.
- CHWMs are independent of net requirements calculation, which determines the actual amount of power a customer is able to purchase.

## 2.4.1 CHWM Calculation

*CHWM =*

*Base Allowance – Headroom Adjustment +  
Conservation Adjustment + New Specified Resource  
Adjustment + Load Growth Adjustment + Proportional  
Share Adjustment*

Bonneville will hold a one-time CHWM process to calculate CHWMs in FY 2026.

# CHWM Calculation (Cont.)

CHWM Calculation	Description
2.4.1.1 Index Year	Uses an index year, FY 2023, to establish PF-eligible load.
2.4.1.2 PF-eligible Load	<p>Defines PF-eligible load as total retail load minus New Large Single Loads minus dedicated resources where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>TRL</b> will be based on actual loads. A one-time increase could be granted via economic adjustment.</li><li>• <b>NLSLs</b> will be based on actual loads.</li><li>• <b>Dedicated resources</b> will be based on FY 2023 dedicated resource amounts. If a resource removal is requested and approved ahead of the CHWM calculation, the resource will not be included.</li></ul>



# Economic Adjustment

**To qualify, a customer must have:**

A single retail consumer load that in ***FY 2023 is at least 10 aMW below its historical high load, or the consumer's lost load in FY 2023 represents a 10% reduction of the customer's TRL relative to the highest 12-month consecutive TRL from FY 2019 through FY 2022.***

**Maximum adjustment:**

***Historical High Load (highest 12-month consecutive load from FY 2019 through FY 2022) – Load in FY 2023***

**Actual adjustment will be based on:**

***Highest 12-month consecutive load in FY 2024 and FY 2025, with the condition the load is still online in FY 2026.***

# CHWM Calculation (Cont.)

CHWM Adjustment	Description
2.4.1.3 Base Allowance	Begins CHWM calculation with a base allowance, 2024 Rate Period High Water Marks (RHWMs), from which all adjustments are added or subtracted.
2.4.1.4 Headroom Adjustment	Removes any headroom from a customer's base allowance if a customer's FY 2023 PF-eligible load is lower than its 2024 RHWM.
2.4.1.5 Conservation Adjustment	Adds 50% of self-funded conservation achievements approved by Bonneville from FY 2012 through FY 2023.
2.4.1.6 New Specified Resource Adjustment	Adds 50% of the aMW of new specified resources dedicated to load in FY 2023 to eligible customers.

# CHWM Calculation (Cont.)

CHWM Adjustment	Description
2.4.1.7 Load Growth Adjustment	Adds 25% of load growth from the Regional Dialogue contract period if a customer's FY 2023 eligible load is greater than its 2024 RHWM.
2.4.1.8 Proportional Share Adjustment	Adds up to 200 aMW to be proportionally shared among customers. Adjusts individual CHWMs by an amount equal to the customer's pro rata share of the proportional share adjustment. Limits the adjustment so that aggregate CHWMs, based on steps defined in section 2.4.2.1 through 2.4.1.7, do not exceed 7,250 aMW.
2.4.1.9 Returning Public Utility Treatment	Describes how Bonneville will calculate a CHWM for an existing public utility that did not establish a CHWM under Regional Dialogue.

## 2.4.2 Subsequent CHWM Adjustment Categories

- Certain conditions merit an increase to the amount of power a customer can purchase at a PF Tier 1 rate (or increase a customer's CHWM) after Provider of Choice CHWMs are set.
- These subsequent adjustments would be made on a rate period by rate period basis.
  - Bonneville would commit to a process and timing as part of PRDM process to ensure best fit with future rate design.



# Adjustment Categories

Adjustment Category	Description
2.4.2.1 Small Utility	Increases a small utility (CHWM is less than 5 aMW) customer's up to the lesser of 5 aMW or double their initial CHWM.
2.4.2.2 New Public Utility	Allows a new public utility to purchase power at a PF Tier 1 rate. Capped to 200 aMW in aggregate and 50 aMW a rate period.
2.4.2.3 Tribal Utility	Increases a tribal utility's CHWM for newly annexed load. Limited to 40 aMW and counts toward 200 aMW new public utility cap.
2.4.2.4 DOE Vitrification Load	Increases DOE Richland's CHWM to serve the vitrification plant load up to 70 aMW, inclusive of any load online today.



# **3. Products and Services at Priority Firm Rates**

**Rob Burr, Policy Specialist**



# 3.1 Product Basics

- Describes which product options Bonneville intends to offer PF customers at a PF Tier 1 rate or PF Tier 2 rate.
  - Bonneville intends to offer contracts for the following products: Load Following, Block, and Slice/Block.
- Describes the difference between Load Following and planned products (how Bonneville often refers to the Block and Slice/Block products).
  - Including differences in non-federal resource flexibility and determining planning obligations.
- Bonneville is open to exploring a standalone Planning Reserve Margin product for planned product customers if firm surplus capacity is available.

# Additional Product Details

## Section 3.1.1 Product Switching

- One-time right for customers to request a change to their product election during the term of the contract.

## Section 3.1.2 Emerging Markets

- Bonneville will design products to operate and accommodate potential changes that future market developments may bring.
- Bonneville may need to address foundational product viability as changes necessary to align products with emerging market requirements unfold.



## 3.2 Load Following

- Bonneville will offer the Load Following product, which will serve a customer's net requirement load, including peak load.
- To ensure that customer resource decisions do not shift costs or benefits to other customers, Bonneville will require shaping services for resources.
- Bonneville anticipates no major changes to the product.

## 3.3 Block

- Bonneville will offer the Block product, which provides firm power each month on a planned annual basis to meet a customer's planned annual net requirement load in pre-defined quantities and shapes.
- Two shapes: 1) Flat block across the year or 2) Shaped block that shapes into monthly amounts.
  - Bonneville is evaluating if it will offer monthly amounts in equal amounts across all hours instead of in heavy load hour and light load hour splits.
- Bonneville will allow customers one recalculation of their block shape during the contract period.

## 3.3.1 Block with Shaping Capacity Option

- **Bonneville will offer a Block with Shaping Capacity option:**
  - Allows customers to reshape their hourly block amounts based on the monthly characteristics of their net requirement load.
- **Bonneville evaluating a redesign of the product:**
  - e.g. Assessing if a customer can obtain benefits from the product by shifting amounts of their block purchase across the day and the month.

## 3.4 Slice/Block

- Bonneville intends to offer the Slice/Block product that includes:
  - The slice portion, which is a federal system sale of power that includes 1) firm requirements power, and 2) an advance sale of surplus power.
  - The block portion, which provides a planned amount of flat firm power.
- Highlights some of the changes Bonneville needs to tackle in order to offer the Slice/Block product under Provider of Choice, particularly with emerging markets.
  - Bonneville is committed to exploring these challenges with customers in the next phase.





Daniel Fisher

# 3.5 Above-CHWM Load Service

Daniel Fisher

Power Rates Manager

## 3.5 Above-CHWM Load Service

- Bonneville will offer customers the choice to serve Above-CHWM loads with federal power, non-federal resources or a combination of the two.
- Requires customers to make a one-time election to determine what portion of its Above-CHWM load will be served through the **Long-Term Tier 2 Path** and what portion will be served through the **Flexible Above-CHWM Path**.

When contracts are offered, each customer will elect one of these four options:

- A. All Long-Term
- B. Fixed Long-Term then Flexible
- C. Fixed Flexible then Long-Term
- D. All Flexible



## 3.5.1 Long-term Tier 2 Path

- Bonneville will offer one **Long-term Tier 2 rate** to provide certainty and stability of expected rates over the contract period.
- Bonneville will propose that the cost of any firm inventory, inclusive of any augmentation amounts and calculated after all other obligations are considered, is allocated to the Long-Term Tier 2 rate.
  - This could result in a portion, or all, of Long-Term Tier 2 rate being set at a cost equivalent to the cost of power sold at Bonneville's PF Tier 1 rates if sufficient firm inventory is available.
- Bonneville would provide a one-time change option, subject to notice requirements and fees, that would allow customers to cap, or reduce, the amount of its load that is subject to the Long-Term Tier 2 rate.

## 3.5.2 Flexible Above-CHWM Path

Gives customers the choice of how to serve their Above-CHWM load. Choices include:

- Bonneville's Short-Term Tier 2 rate, as elected on a rate period basis.
- Bonneville's Vintage Resource Tier 2 rate, offered only when Bonneville is making an RFO to acquire a resource.
- Customer acquisition of non-federal resources.





## **4. Products and Services at New Resource Rate and Industrial Firm Power Rate**

**Sarah Burczak, Provider of Choice Policy Lead**

## 4.1 5(b) for Investor Owned Utilities

Bonneville will offer IOUs a standalone Block product with similar features to the Block product offered to PF customers but sold at the New Resource (NR) rate.

## 4.2 New Large Single Loads

- Power sold by Bonneville to serve an NLSL will be at the applicable NR rate.
- Bonneville will maintain its current NLSL policy.



## 4.3 Direct Service Industry Customer

Bonneville intends to offer a contract should the one remaining DSI customer (Port Townsend Paper), request one, provided that an economic analysis supports the offering.





## **5. Rate Discounts**

**Nancy Schimmels**

**Manager, Eastern Customer Services**

# 5.1 Irrigation Rate Discount

- Bonneville will offer an IRD under Provider of Choice to continue Bonneville's long-standing tradition of providing irrigation rate mitigation.
- IRD methodology to be determined in the PRDM.

## 5.2 Low Density Discount

- Bonneville will offer LDD consistent with statute.
- Changes to eligibility, discount level, and LDD applicability to load growth purchases to be determined in the PRDM.





## **6. Power Delivery**

**Paul Garrett**

**Manager, Power Account Services**



# Power Delivery and Transmission

## Section 6 Power Delivery

- Customer is responsible for contracting with Bonneville Transmission Services to arrange and contract for the delivery of power purchased under Provider of Choice contracts.

## Section 6.1 Transmission

- Clarifies that the Policy will not address Bonneville Transmission products and services.



## 6.2 Transfer Service

*6.2 Transfer Service* outlines the intent of the section to clarify and define how Bonneville will treat transfer service under Provider of Choice.

## 6.2.1 Administration of Transfer Service

Bonneville will contract directly with third-party transmission providers to procure transmission capacity to meet the obligations of the Provider of Choice contracts.

## 6.2.2 Cost Recovery for Transfer Service for Federal Power

- Bonneville will continue to include the costs of transfer service for federal power sold at any PF rate in the Tier 1 cost pool.
- Bonneville will pass through the costs of transfer service associated with federal power sold at an NR rate, whether serving an NLSL or an IOU, to the individual customer serving the load.



## 6.2.3 Cost Recovery for Non-federal Transfer Service

- Bonneville will propose to include the costs of transfer service in the Tier 1 cost pool for:
  - Non-federal resources serving Above-CHWM load.
  - Non-federal resources serving PF-eligible loads below their CHWM.
- Bonneville will set a limit on transfer service for non-federal power of 41 incremental MWs per year, cumulative, similar to Regional Dialogue.
- Support will also generally be limited to the last leg of third-party transmission required for delivery to the customers' load. Additionally, the non-federal resource must be designated as a network resource with the transfer provider and be delivered on firm transmission.

## 6.2.4 Quality of Service and Similar Cost Treatment

- Bonneville will ensure that quality of service provided by the third-party transmission providers is consistent with established contracts and tariffs.
- Bonneville will require transfer customers to provide timely planning information regarding load and resource forecasts, expansions, or upgrades, as well as load additions or losses.

## 6.2.5 Direct Assignment Guidelines

- Bonneville will work with both the customer and the third-party transmission provider to develop the best overall plan of service.
- Bonneville will use the Direct Assignment Guidelines to propose allocation and recovery of new transfer costs similar to the rate treatment of Transmission cost for customers directly connected to Bonneville's transmission system.

## 6.2.6 Ancillary Services and Losses

- Describes that transfer customers will pay for each ancillary service that directly connected customers are required to purchase from Bonneville Transmission Services.
- Describes that transfer customers will also pay for losses associated with delivered power, similar to how directly connected customers pay for losses.



## 6.2.7 New Utilities and Annexed Load

Bonneville will arrange and pay for the network component of transfer service for power deliveries to serve the load of a newly formed public customer or a transfer customer's annexed load.



# 7. Carbon

Alisa Kaseweter  
Climate Change Specialist

# 7 Carbon

- Bonneville will strive to meet future load needs with cost-effective, carbon-free resources when acquisitions are required.
- Bonneville cannot commit to provide 100% carbon-free power at this time or offer a 100% carbon-free product at this time.



# 7.1 Environmental Attributes

- Bonneville will convey the environmental attributes of the power sold (including emissions and any renewable energy credits (RECs)), commensurate with a customer's firm power purchase amount and rate elections.
- Discusses how REC conveyance and emissions would be attributed to firm power purchases.





# 8. Long Term Cost Management

Sarah Burczak

Provider of Choice Policy Lead

# 8 Long-term Cost Management

Bonneville intends to continue to promote accountability, trustworthiness and transparency to guide its projected costs so that customers continue to have ample opportunities to understand and provide input.





# 9. Conservation

Dave Moody

Energy Efficiency Planning & Evaluation Manager

# 9 Conservation

- Bonneville proposes to maintain its approach to conservation acquisition and does not intend to pursue major changes to its conservation program.
- Bonneville plans to engage customers in a separate public process to discuss potential program changes and update **Energy Conservation Agreements**.





# 10. Residential Exchange Program

Paulina Cornejo

REP Lead

# 10 Residential Exchange Program

The section describes the **Residential Exchange Program (REP)** process underway that will determine if parties pursue a settlement or turn to traditional implementation of REP under Provider of Choice.

# 10.1 REP for Public Customers

Bonneville intends to include a provision in Provider of Choice contracts whereby PF customers would waive their participation in the REP for the contract period to reduce implementation costs and simplify the burden of administering the REP under a tiered rate design.





# **11. New Long-Term Contracts**

**Kelly Olive**  
**Provider of Choice Contract Lead**

# Duration of Contracts & Service

## 11.1 Duration of Contracts

- Bonneville will offer 19-year Provider of Choice contracts, with an expiration date of September 30, 2044.

## 11.2 Duration of Power Service

- Sixteen years of power deliveries starting October 1, 2028.

# 11.3 Standardized Contracts

- Bonneville will offer standardized Provider of Choice contracts with customers and expects that contract provisions will be identical for customers taking the same services
- Describes contract development process and when necessary unique provisions would be negotiated.



# 11.4 Take-or-Pay Requirements for Purchases

Bonneville will include take-or-pay provisions in the contract for the amount of federal power that the customer is obligated to purchase.

# 11.5 Loads and Resource Information Requirement

Bonneville will require specific load and resource information and data from customers that is necessary for the contract.

# 11.6 Flexibility to Amend Contracts and Rates

Provider of Choice contracts will specify under which circumstances the contracts will be amended and revised.



# 11.7 Dispute Resolution

Bonneville will develop dispute resolution procedures for the Provider of Choice contract period and the PRDM based on those procedures created for the Regional Dialogue contract and Tiered Rate Methodology.

# 12 Environmental Analysis

- Bonneville is assessing potential environmental impacts that could result from adoption of Bonneville's proposed Policy consistent with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
- Bonneville will complete its review process and issue its NEPA documentation for this proposal before issuing a final record of decision.



**Notices and Next Steps**  
**Michelle Lichtenfels**  
**Provider of Choice Program Manager**



# August 1 Meeting

August 1, 2023:  
Public meeting to  
answer questions to  
help clarify the draft  
Policy.

Bonneville will not  
be issuing new  
meeting materials  
for the August 1  
meeting.

# Website Updates

The [Provider of Choice website](#) has been updated to include the draft policy and CHWM calculation tool.

2022-2023 policy development materials have been moved to the [“Resources”](#) page.

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*Thank you.*

**Find Us:**

Email: [post2028@bpa.gov](mailto:post2028@bpa.gov)

Web: [Provider of Choice - Bonneville Power Administration \(bpa.gov\)](#)