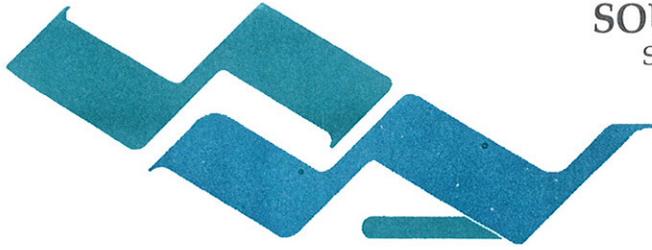


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SOUTHWEST WATER AUTHORITY

SOUTHWEST PIPELINE PROJECT BUILDING

West Industrial Park

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MAY 02 2011

April 29, 2011

Robert J. Harris, Regional Manager
Upper Great Plains Region
Western Area Power Administration
2900 4th Ave. N.
Billings, MT 59101-1266

Dear Mr. Harris:

The Southwest Water Authority (SWA), which manages, operates, and maintains the Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP), wishes to offer its support to the Western Area Power Administration's (WAPA) 2021 Power Marketing Initiative (PMI).

The meeting held on December 16, 2010, in Bismarck, ND, in which the initiative was discussed, was very informative. This is also true of the meeting held in Bismarck, ND, on April 20, 2011. SWA appreciates the efforts being made by WAPA to its firm power contract customers to inform and discuss future plans. SWA also appreciates the opportunity to learn more about WAPA and its future marketing efforts as well as information on rates, its structure, and the outlook for the future in power generation.

SWA would like to offer written comments for the official record dealing with the 2021 Power Marketing Initiative. The 2021 PMI marketing area should remain the same. The keeping of the 30-year contract term would be beneficial to SWA, the SWPP, and the North Dakota State Water Commission (SWC). Long-term commitments for power supply help you and your customers plan for both short-term and long-term needs, rate structure, and financial stability.

The marketing of up to one percent of the marketable resources under contract every 10 years, instead of the current five years, is acceptable. SWA realizes the SWPP is exempt from the provision of possible loss of power. It seems with the responses received when marketable resources are put forth every five years, every 10 years would be a better use of time and resources by WAPA. The Marketable Resource should be updated with newer or more current data, which is incorporated into existing data.



*People and business succeeding with quality water.
Management, Operation, and Maintenance of the Southwest Pipeline Project*

Robert J. Harris, Regional Manager
April 29, 2011
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I do realize WAPA must abide by the Corps of Engineers' Master Manual and the operation of the Missouri River and its main stem dams. This sometimes limits options available for power production.

Using newer data for power modeling is very logical. This should be incorporated into the marketable resource and related energy plans. These would also be considerations for marketing future resources, load factor limits, and withdrawal provisions.

Thank you for giving us an opportunity to comment on this initiative. This is an important opportunity for SWA. Please let me know if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mary Massad". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Mary Massad
Manager/CEO
Southwest Water Authority