

Contact: Heather Kenneson, Communications Manager, PNWA
503-234-8553 direct
heather.kenneson@pnwa.net



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House Subcommittee hearing scheduled to discuss hydropower as a renewable resource

The U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Water and Power is holding a hearing regarding the status of hydropower as a renewable resource. The hearing, entitled "Hydropower: Providing 75% of America's Current Renewable Energy; exploring its role as a continued source of clean, renewable energy for the future" is scheduled for Thursday, June 12th at 2:00 p.m. in Washington, DC. The hearing was initiated by Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA) in an effort to document how the Pacific Northwest benefits from clean, renewable hydropower.

"Up to 70 percent of our electricity in the Northwest is generated by hydropower. This helps to keep the power bills of our residents and businesses considerably lower than those in other regions around the country," said Glenn Vanselow, Executive Director of the Pacific Northwest Waterways Association (PNWA). "We applaud Rep. McMorris Rodgers for working to make her colleagues aware of the significant role this renewable resource plays in our region."

The hydropower projects in our rivers not only provide power to our region's homes and industries, but also generate power for farms, pump water for irrigation and provide effective flood control for Northwest communities. The electricity generated by these dams is done so on-demand, at low cost, and without producing any greenhouse gases or other air pollutants. As one of the most environmentally friendly sources of power in the United States, clarifying hydropower's role as a renewable resource is imperative to the success of our region, as well as to maintaining the nation's economic and environmental welfare.

For additional hearing details, visit

http://resourcescommittee.house.gov/index.php?option=com_jcalpro&Itemid=27&extmode=view&extid=186.

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