October 28, 2010

Marla Rae
Chair, Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission
3406 Cherry Avenue N.E.
Salem, Oregon 97303

Roy Elicker
Director
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
3406 Cherry Avenue N.E.
Salem, Oregon 97303

Dear Chair Rae and Director Elicker,

We understand that the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission agreed to defer consideration of proposed revisions to the Greater Sage-Grouse Conservation Assessment and Strategy for Oregon (Draft Plan Revision).

I want to express my appreciation for making this decision, as it gives Department officials and interested stakeholders more time to collaborate in search of a solution that both enhances sage grouse and sagebrush habitat protection, and enables responsibly sited renewable energy projects in southeastern Oregon.

On behalf of our members, I want to reiterate RNP’s commitment to work with state and federal wildlife officials, and other affected stakeholders, to find a workable and effective plan for sage grouse and sagebrush habitat protection.

Respectfully,

John J. Audley, Ph.D
Deputy Director
Renewable Northwest Project

cc: Brian Shipley, Governor’s Deputy Chief of Staff