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Renewable Advocates Welcome New BPA Administrator Bill Drummond  

Portland, Ore. – The region’s leading renewable energy advocacy organization today welcomed the announcement by US Department of Energy Secretary Steven Chu of Bill Drummond as the new Bonneville Power Administrator. BPA is a federal agency that markets 40% of the region’s power and owns and operates over 70% of the region’s transmission.

“We extend our warm congratulations to Bill Drummond on his new position, and we look forward to working with him to continue the successes of the agency and his predecessor, Steve Wright, to include additional clean, renewable energy in the Northwest electricity supply,” commented Rachel Shimshak, Executive Director of Renewable Northwest Project (RNP).

Shimshak continued, “The BPA Administrator role is more important than ever. Northwest residents are steadily raising expectations for transitioning away from fossil fuels and toward increasing amounts of home-grown, clean energy in the region, which has already contributed billions of dollars of investment and thousands of jobs. A new Administrator provides a unique opportunity at BPA for a fresh perspective and new ideas.

Bill Drummond’s experience on the outside of BPA as a public power representative, and on the inside as BPA’s Deputy Director, provide a balanced perspective necessary to lead the agency forward. His extensive experience in Montana will also be an asset in unlocking the considerable renewable energy potential there.

Bill’s open and honest style will serve him well as the region addresses the challenge of modernizing the electric system to strengthen our current assets and prepare for future clean energy opportunities. We look forward engaging with him on these important issues,” Shimshak concluded.

RNP expresses its gratitude to Steve Wright for his impressive legacy at BPA and commends the Department of Energy for managing a timely and well-structured selection process.

Renewable Northwest Project is a regional nonprofit advocacy organization promoting responsible development of renewable energy resources in the Pacific Northwest. For more information, please visit www.rnp.org.

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