



August 5, 2013

The Honorable Kurt Schrader  
United States Representative  
Oregon Fifth District  
621 High Street  
Oregon City, OR 97045

RE: United States Department of Energy's Alarming Leadership Situation at the Bonneville Power Administration

Dear Congressman Schrader,

I write to protest the audacious July 15, 2013 simultaneous removal of both the Administrator and Chief Operating Officer (COO) for the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) by the United States Department of Energy (DOE) without stating a clear and strong justification. This move decapitated the BPA leadership team and leaves the agency in operational limbo. It leaves the Agency without ongoing vision and guidance on important, timely issues.

I write to request that you strongly advocate for an expedited disclosure justifying the DOE's rash and over-the-top decision to abruptly remove the Administrator and usurp the Administrator's authority to manage his COO.

DOE's actions were destructive and showed disregard for the region's stability. These are the facts of the DOE's actions:

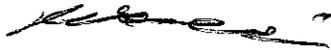
- The personnel practices in question occur from November 2010 to June 2012.
- BPA hires Bill Drummond as Deputy Administrator (not overseeing BPA's general personnel matters) in October 2011.
- DOE details BPA COO Anita Decker to the Western Area Power Administration as Acting Administrator on August 20, 2012 until about April 4, 2013.
- DOE names Bill Drummond BPA Administrator on February 7, 2013.
- DOE physically removes Administrator Drummond and COO Decker from BPA premises on July 15, 2013—**little more than 5 months after the Administrator's appointment.**
- One day later, the DOE Inspector General issues a Management Alert to an agency left in chaos without stable leadership and in shock over the stunning events of the prior day.

These facts alone raise a common sense question: How can abruptly removing a newly-appointed, federal agency chief executive fix an inherited management issue?

While the details of the personnel actions in question are not known, what is known is that the DOE's actions to date against the Administrator and the COO are clearly not in the best interest of the Pacific Northwest's public power community. We ask you as our Congressional voice to carry our outrage and concern to the DOE.

Canby Utility's General Manager, Matt Michel, is available to you and your staff to answer any questions you may have on this issue. You may reach him at 503-263-4320 or [mmichel@canbyutility.org](mailto:mmichel@canbyutility.org) or in our administrative offices located at 154 NW 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue in Canby. Thank you for your prompt attention.

Sincerely,



Bob Cornelius,  
Canby Utility Board Chairman

CC: Senator Ron Wyden  
Senator Jeff Merkley