

# Bonneville

POWER ADMINISTRATION



## WHAT IS THE BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION (BPA)?

The BPA is a federal agency operation in the Pacific Northwest. One of the projects they manage are the 4 Lower Snake River Dams (4LSRD).

## WHAT DO THEY MATTER?

BPA works closely with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers<sup>1</sup>. The Corps built and maintain the 4LSRD.

The BPA is in a tremendous amount of debt. Breaching the 4LSRD will cost BPA nothing and lower their Debt-to-Asset ratio, which is currently at 90%.

<sup>1</sup>BPA Annual Report 2017, pg. 20 <https://www.bpa.gov/Finance/FinancialInformation/AnnualReports/Documents/AR2017.pdf>

## TAKE ACTION

Call these stakeholders and ask to save your tax dollars!

**Contact Governor Inslee**  
(360) 902 - 4111\*

**Contact Senator Murry**  
(425) 259 - 6515\*

\*If you're comfortable doing so, request a meeting

**Contact BPA, Sandy Boardman**  
(503) 230-5102 - ask for Elliot Mainzer

**Contact NOAA, Barry Thom**  
(503) 231-6266

**Contact Corps of Engineers**  
(202) 761-0000

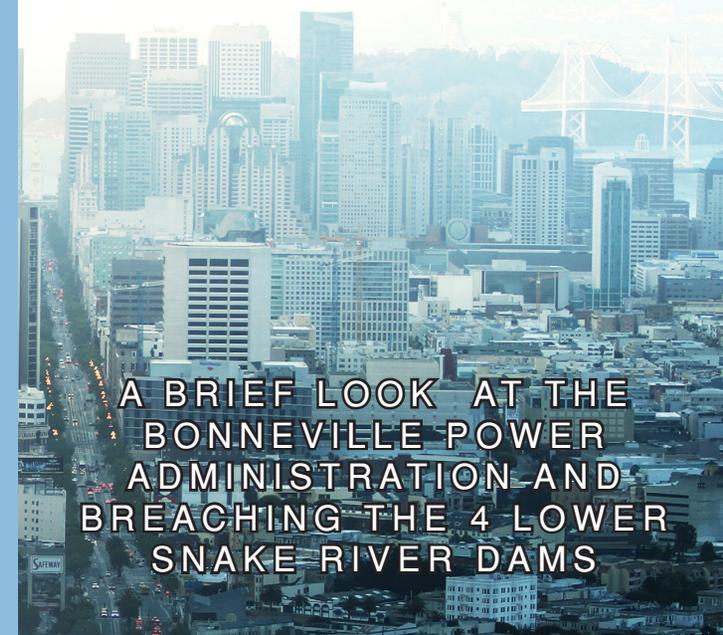
*Say this! But make it your own.*

Hi, I'm tired of paying higher rates to the BPA. They can lower their rates and improve their services if they breach the 4LSRD.

This needs to happen in 2018!

Learn more at [www.damsense.org](http://www.damsense.org)

SALMON  
MONEY  
ORGANIZATION



A BRIEF LOOK AT THE  
BONNEVILLE POWER  
ADMINISTRATION AND  
BREACHING THE 4 LOWER  
SNAKE RIVER DAMS

**"If there is an axis of nonchalance (on one end) to panic (on the other), I think it's important that we don't get into a panic mode, I'm not in a panic mode, but I am in a very very significant sense of urgency mode."<sup>1</sup>**

**Elliot Mainzer, March, 2018  
BPA Admin/CEO**

**BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION'S  
FINANCIAL CRISIS**

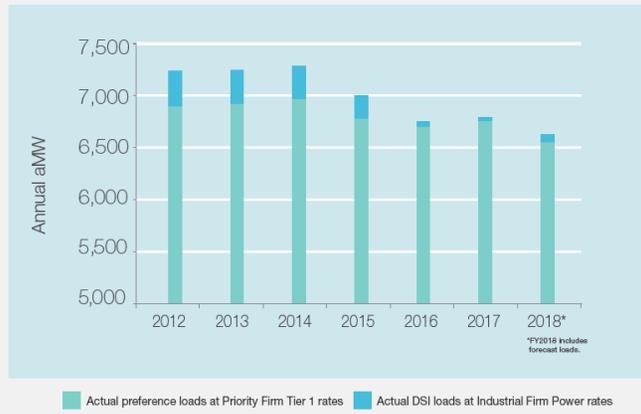
- BPA has nearly zero days cash reserve<sup>1</sup>
- BPA rates have gone up 38% since 2008<sup>1</sup>
- Debt-to-Asset ratio is at 90%<sup>1</sup>
- BPA's total debt load is about \$15-\$16 billion; *interest* payments on the 4 Lower Snake River Dams (4LSRD) are \$43 million.
- The Columbia River Fish Mitigation program spent about **\$1 billion** since 2000 on bypass improvements on the 4 lower Snake River Dams (4LSRD's) to improve endangered salmon survival. It has failed to improve survival rates.
- **Of the last 93,000 hrs of hydro-power produced, only 2 hours were sold to a paying BPA customer!**

Sources:

<sup>1</sup>Elliot Mainzer quote during NW Power & Conservation brief. <https://vimeo.com/260456507>

<sup>2</sup>BPA Factsheet: Myths & Facts about the lower Snake River Dams. <https://www.bpa.gov/news/pubs/FactSheets/fs200611-Myths%20and%20Facts%20about%20the%20Lower%20Snake%20River%20Dams.pdf>

BPA's Preference Customer and Direct-Service Industry Loads



BPA's preference customer and direct service industry loads have steadily declined since 2014. BPA is now selling more surplus power at wholesale prices that are lower than its Priority Firm power rates. This has reduced total revenues and put continued upward pressure on power rates.<sup>4</sup>

**The 4LSRD  
account for only  
13% of federal  
hydro power.<sup>2</sup>**

As whole sale price (blue line) have trended down, BPA's Priority Firm power rates (green line) have trended upward. BPA's pattern of rate increases since 2008 is unsustainable.<sup>4</sup>

Historical Priority Firm Power Rates  
FY 2010 – 2019



**Breach the 4LSRD to  
Save the BPA**

- Breaching saves the BPA \$38-\$83 Million dollars allotted for 2019/2020 Operation & Maintenance fees<sup>3</sup>
- Breaching allows the BPA to use this money elsewhere (where it's really needed)
- 4LSRD do not provide flood control, only 14 farmers use them for irrigation, and are raising YOUR POWER RATES!

**The BPA can mitigate the cost of breaching via the Endangered Species Act, thereby costing them \$0 to breach.**

**BREACHING THE 4LSRD ALSO...**

- DECREASES YOUR POWER RATES!
- Provides BPA the funds for hydro-power plants that matter!
- Allows more fish to survive, thereby increasing stock for fisherman and ocean predators!
- Creates recreational opportunities (like river rafting)!
- Reclaim land once used for commercial vineyards and orchards!

Sources continued:

<sup>3</sup>Lower Snake River Dam and Reservoir Projects – Capital Hydropower Improvement Projects, <https://www.bpa.gov/Finance/AssetMgmt/lsrdp/Pages/Lower-Snake-River-Dam-Projects.aspx>

<sup>4</sup>BPA 2018 - 2023 Strategic Plan, <https://www.bpa.gov/StrategicPlan/Pages/Strategic-Plan.aspx>