

SOA 2010-04

**Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee
Statement of Agreement on
Emergency Contingency exception from Fish Mode**

Submitted to Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee: April 28, 2010

Approved by Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee: June 23, 2010

Statement of Agreement (SOA)

The Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee (PRCC) agrees that upon rare occasions, Grant PUD has the option to utilize the generating capacity of a turbine unit in excess of its maximum operating limit imposed by operation in "Fish Mode" as Emergency Contingency Reserve capability, if and when an "Emergency Contingency" by one of the Priest Rapids Project participants was to occur. In no case shall use of the capacity in excess of that established by Fish Mode be made for a duration in excess of 60 minutes in a single event. The individual turbine units utilized outside of "Fish Mode" at each of the dams (Wanapum and Priest Rapids) will be prioritized for selection, in concurrence with the PRCC, based on fish passage efficiency and passage route survival estimate of each individual turbine unit. The option for use of the Wanapum and/or Priest Rapids turbines for Emergency Contingency Reserve will be limited to three (3) times a "Fish Mode" season. Within 5 business days of an event, Grant PUD shall provide an incident report to the PRCC explaining the incident and all actions taken. At the September PRCC meeting of each year, an annual report of that year's usage of this SOA will be presented for review. The PRCC also reserves the right of evaluating the use and effectiveness of this SOA, with the understanding that authorization for use of these turbine units as Emergency Contingency Reserve during "Fish Mode" season can be withdrawn by a vote from the PRCC.

Background

If the proposal is in place, Fish Mode operations would allow for utilization of the capacity above the Fish Mode maximum output level at all times to serve as Emergency Contingency Reserve. There would (remove the word “not”) be the potential for rare and short term (less than 60 minutes) of generation excursions in excess of Fish Mode capacity range, but these would only occur when an actual significant power system generation or transmission loss has occurred for a Priest Rapids Project Party.

The proposal provides for access to critically important emergency contingency reserves when their availability from other sources is scarce and concurrently allow for a reduced TDG level in the river. During periods other than very high flows, the access to above Fish Mode maximum capacity is not needed because the availability of the emergency contingency reserves is adequate. If an event were to occur, the duration of it shall be no more than 60 minutes for a maximum of three times per juvenile passage season. The expected occurrence of these events is expected to be infrequent.

This proposal provides for reasonable balance between fish protection, enhanced water quality and power system reliability.