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## **Cowlitz County Public Utility District Joins The Energy Authority® as its Seventh Member**

*Jacksonville, Fla. (March 31, 2010)* – The Energy Authority ® (TEA ®), the nation’s leader in Public Power energy trading, announced today that Public Utility District No. 1 of Cowlitz County, Washington (Cowlitz PUD) has become its seventh member. Cowlitz joins existing members City Utilities of Springfield, Gainesville Regional Utilities, JEA, Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia, Nebraska Public Power District, and South Carolina Public Service Authority.

TEA expanded its footprint nationally in 2006 when it acquired Power Resource Managers, Inc. (PRM), located in Bellevue, Washington. Cowlitz has been a Resource Management Partner of TEA since 2007 and recently selected TEA to provide power management, trading and risk management services under the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) Post-2011 “Slice of System” Agreement.

**Brian Skeahan, General Manager, Cowlitz PUD** states, “The Energy Authority has an excellent track record of effectively managing the resource portfolios of public utilities all across the nation, so we are excited about the opportunity to join TEA as a member. Joining TEA establishes one of the PUD’s most important business relationships as we enter into our new 20-year power purchase arrangement with BPA next year.”

“TEA’s Board of Directors is very excited to have its first west coast member,” said **Jim Dickenson, TEA Board Chairman**. “TEA recognizes Cowlitz PUD as a leader in public power in the Pacific Northwest and for its efforts in actively developing renewable generation projects. Cowlitz PUD’s inclusion as one of TEA’s equity owners adds to our reputation for being a leader in progressive public power.”

“Cowlitz joining The Energy Authority enhances TEA’s position as the nation’s leader in power marketing for public power owned electric utilities,” said **Robert T. “Bob” Dyer, President & CEO, The Energy Authority**. “Cowlitz PUD is the first member who will be using our Power Management services. Our expertise in that area, along with other key services Cowlitz will be receiving, demonstrates Cowlitz PUD’s confidence in the TEA business model and the value TEA brings to public power.”

**Cowlitz PUD** is a consumer-owned utility that serves 48,200 electric customers in Cowlitz County, Washington. It owns the 70-megawatt (MW) Swift No. 2 Hydroelectric Project on the North Fork of the Lewis River in southwest Washington, and has partnered with five other Northwest consumer-owned utilities to develop the 205 MW White Creek Wind Project and 100 MW Harvest Wind Project in the Columbia River Gorge in south central Washington.

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The Energy Authority<sup>®</sup> is the nation's leader in public power energy trading and risk management services. It is wholly-owned and directed by its Public Power members who participate in the organization's decision-making. TEA's major service categories include: Power Trading services in bilateral markets, RTO market services, Natural Gas Procurement and Management services, Risk Management and Hedging services, and Power Management services. Today, 45 public power utilities across the nation are TEA members and partners, representing more than 25,000 MW of combined generation assets with all fuel types.

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