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April 10, 2002

The Honorable George W. Bush
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

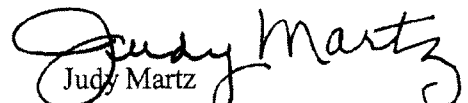
As the past two years have illustrated, the decisions of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission vitally affect the economic well-being of Western states and our residents. Unfortunately, no one from the Western Interconnection has been appointed to the Commission in more than 20 years. Without a Commissioner with experience in regulating the unique Western electricity system – a system that more than others relies significantly on hydro power, includes a mix of public and private utilities, involves transmission over long distances, and involves interdependency in parts of three nations – the Commission has had a difficult time crafting policies that are responsive to the needs of our region.

We appreciate the efforts under FERC Chairman Pat Wood to better understand the unique nature of the Western grid and to expand the Commission's interaction with Western states. The Commission faces a large challenge in making wise regulatory decisions that meet the energy needs of the West and the nation.


With the term of one of the sitting Commissioners expiring and an existing vacancy unfilled, it is important that the full complement of Commissioners be in place in order that the Commission can deal with the extraordinary work load it faces. We strongly urge you to nominate to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission a person with experience with the unique nature of the Western energy system.


Sincerely,



Jane Dee Hull
Governor of Arizona



Judy Martz
Governor of Montana

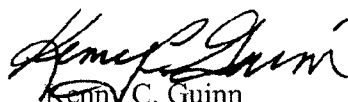

Gray Davis
Governor of California


Carl Gutierrez
Governor of Guam

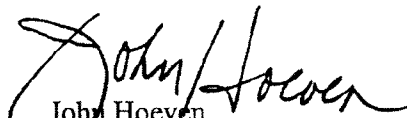

Benjamin J. Cayetano
Governor of Hawaii



Dirk Kempthorne
Governor of Idaho

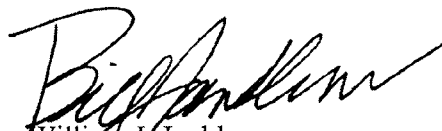

Mike Johanns
Governor of Nebraska



Kenny C. Guinn
Governor of Nevada



Gary E. Johnson
Governor of New Mexico


John Hoeven
Governor of North Dakota

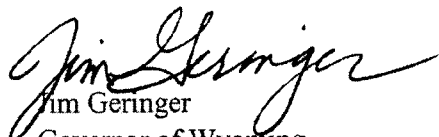

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Governor of South Dakota


Michael O. Leavitt
Governor of Utah


Gary Locke
Governor of Washington

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Jim Geringer
Governor of Wyoming

cc: Western Congressional Delegation

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