**Northwest Public Power Association**

**Resolution 2023-01**

**Energy Efficiency**

**Background**

Energy efficiency can help utilities meet challenges of increased energy demand, costs, and regulation.  Energy efficiency gains can help offset increased costs associated with market power purchases, construction or acquisition of additional generating resources, and increased costs related to state and federal renewable portfolio standards, and potential impacts of climate change legislation.

Energy use in existing buildings and structures represents 40% of energy nationwide and accounts for 38% of global emissions. Energy efficiency investments, improvements in building materials, and grid-interactive appliances and buildings can all help reduce emissions associated with energy use in buildings and structures. Innovative tools can provide other incentives for building owners and utilities to invest in energy efficiency. States and utilities are increasingly leveraging the decarbonization of the electric sector to reduce the carbon footprint of buildings as well. Electrification is a means of energy efficiency that goes beyond incremental efficiency.

Timely implementation of robust energy efficiency standards for buildings nationwide would reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, and save energy for electric consumers. Energy efficiency technologies, applications, and building standards can create jobs, which benefit local economies. New investments and incentives for energy efficiency help to raise awareness of the benefits of energy efficiency, increase consumer installations and savings, and create demand for and development of additional technologies that support energy independence.

**NWPPA’s Position**

* NWPPA urges Congress to support all cost-effective, technically feasible, and achievable energy efficiency measures, including incentives for building electrification.
* NWPPA supports training programs that build an energy efficiency workforce for the future.
* NWPPA supports a coordinated effort at all levels of government to inform the public about the benefits of electrification and cost-effective energy efficiency.
* NWPPA supports national model building codes and appliance standards.
* NWPPA believes that national model building standards must be flexible enough to account for variations among regions in the country with regard to building materials and available technologies.
* NWPPA urges Congress to create a model national building standards program that would not pre-empt more stringent state codes that are in effect.

Origination Date: 2009. Revised in 2011, 2012, 2017,2018, and 2021.