



# 2025 TPU Federal Legislative Priorities and Policies

## Federal Legislative Priorities

### 1. *Agency Wide*

- a. **Infrastructure Financing Tools:** Maintain legislation that promotes the availability of tax-exempt municipal bonds, including legislation that restores the tax-exempt status of advance refund bonds.
- b. **Limited Income Programs:** Support policies and additional funding for programs that help limited-income customers.
- c. **Supply Chain Solutions:** Support policies that adequately address supply chain issues that affect customers and utility operations.

### 2. *Tacoma Power*

- a. **BPA's Competitiveness:** Continue to support federal proposals to maintain and improve BPA's cost competitiveness.
- b. **Carbon Reduction:** Actively engage in and seek to support proposals that decarbonize the economy at reasonable costs. Support policies that recognize hydropower as a carbon-free generating resource.
- c. **Zero Emission Transportation Infrastructure:** Support additional funding for zero emission transportation infrastructure.
- d. **Maintain Pole Attachment Authority:** Support legislation that ensures municipally owned utilities main their historic authority to safely manage attachments on utility poles.
- e. **Update Re-Licensing Policies:** Support streamlining the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's hydropower relicensing efforts and policies.

### 3. *Tacoma Water*

- a. **Howard Hanson Dam:** Support federal approval, funding, and action to complete the Dam and additional water storage project while ensuring current cost-sharing agreements are honored. The Howard Hanson Dam fish passage and the additional water storage project are critical to salmon and orca recovery as a construction ready project with broad impact.
- b. **Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA):** Support appropriations to fully fund the legislation.
- c. **Drinking Water State Fund:** Support adequate appropriations to support the fund.
- d. **PFAS Liability:** Support legislation that exempts drinking water systems from CERCLA liability related to PFAS.

### 4. *Tacoma Rail*

- a. **Infrastructure Funding:** Pursue funding opportunities for investments in locomotive modernization, track upgrades, decarbonization projects, and other improvements.



## **Federal Legislative Policies**

### ***General Comprehensive Policies***

- TPU supports prioritization of equity and anti-racist transformation in policymaking.
- TPU supports consistency between federal, state, and regional policies affecting utilities.
- TPU supports economically sound policies that encourage and reward energy and water conservation that enhance efficiencies in utility delivery and use.
- TPU supports programs that assist limited-income customers.
- TPU supports policies for protection of the natural environment, including stream protection, that supports public stewardship of fishery resources and wildlife habitat.

### ***General Federal Policies***

- TPU supports policies that maintain and protect tax-exempt financing for publicly owned utilities.
- TPU supports federal cybersecurity policies that complement utility actions to prevent cyberattacks.

### ***Tacoma **Power** Federal Policies***

- TPU supports retention of primary authority for energy reliability with the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC).
- TPU supports efficiencies and streamlining of Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) hydropower licensing and relicensing policies.
- TPU supports reasonable regulation of trading markets, under the Dodd-Frank Act, and accommodations for utilities by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC).
- TPU supports regional power markets that provide additional services and value to our customers.
- TPU supports modifications to, or related to, the Columbia River Treaty that would equitably distribute the power benefits gained from the Treaty between the United States and Canada.
- TPU supports policies that appropriately acknowledge and credit on-going ratepayer investments in emission free hydropower generating resources.
- TPU supports federal transmission policies that ensure reliable service and reasonable cost allocation for our customers.
- TPU supports federal actions increasing the parity of hydropower with other renewables, including tax credits to improve environmental and dam safety investments.

### ***Tacoma **Water** Federal Policies***

- TPU supports adequate funding for the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA).
- TPU supports adequate funding for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF).
- TRPU supports maintenance, enforcement, and funding of federal commitments related to the Howard Hanson Dam and downstream fish passage.



### ***Tacoma Rail Federal Policies***

- TPU supports retention and expansion of federal policies that would lead to infrastructure maintenance and construction, such as inclusion of funding programs for short-line rail infrastructure in the Federal Surface Transportation Re-Authorization Act, the tax code (45G), or in stand-alone legislation.

### **Questions?**

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