

Pamela E. Klatt Annual Award



Please return to award@nwhydro.org by 1/10/19

NOMINEE'S INFORMATION

Nominee's Name: Gregg Carrington

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PROPOSER INFORMATION

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CRITERIA FOR NOMINATION

The Pamela E. Klatt Annual Award is presented to an individual within the regional hydro industry who:

- Exemplifies the mission of NWAH:
“NWAH is dedicated to the promotion of the region’s waterpower as clean, efficient renewable energy while protecting the fisheries and environmental quality which characterize our Northwest region.”
- Approaches each project with a strong commitment to the balance between resource protection and resource development;
- Demonstrates a true appreciation for the views and responsibilities of everyone involved;
- Demands the best work, always, from themselves and others; and
- Encourages others’ professional development as mentor and colleague.

RECOMMENDATION

Thank you for this opportunity to nominate a hydropower industry leader for the distinguished Pamela E. Klatt Annual Award. We respectfully recommend Gregg Carrington for this special honor. Gregg has been active in the hydropower industry for over 30 years, demonstrating a long-term dedication to hydropower as an energy technology.

At Chelan PUD, Gregg has served in diverse roles. He is currently the **Managing Director of Energy Resources** at Chelan Public Utility District. His responsibilities include overseeing all aspects of Energy Trading and Planning and managing net wholesale revenues. Prior to his current position, Gregg was the **Managing Director of the Natural Resources Division**, which included FERC compliance, license implementation and fish and wildlife programs, and management of hatchery facilities. He also held the positions of **Director of External Affairs**, **Director of Hydro Services** (engineering) and the **Director of Licensing** (where he led the relicensing of the Rocky Reach and Lake Chelan hydroelectric projects).

Prior to joining Chelan PUD, Gregg managed assignments for a variety of FERC licensing projects in California and the Northwest for Duke Engineering and Services (formerly Northrop, Devine & Tarbell). Early in his career at Morrison-Knudsen Engineering, he worked on projects ranging in size from 200 kW to 1,300 MW for private and public utility companies (directly and as a consultant). As a Project Manager for Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation, he was responsible for all phases of work associated with the preparation of FERC license applications for 11 hydroelectric facilities. He has evaluated over 180 electric generation projects across the United States. Gregg has always taken the time to participate in industry forums or panels, and to mentor students and junior colleagues. He has taken a particular interest in bringing young professionals to the hydropower industry. In 2015, he served as President of the Hydro Research Foundation. In this role, he worked on strategic planning for the organization. Also during his tenure, the organization received Department of Energy grants for fellowships and hired its first full-time Executive Director.

In all of these roles, Gregg has advocated that hydropower is a cost-effective, environmentally sound technology that can provide multiple benefits to the communities it serves. He has been a strong ambassador for hydropower, whether he is negotiating with relicensing stakeholders, interacting with legislators and regulators, or advocating for hydropower to be properly valued in the marketplace for the many benefits and services it provides.

Gregg is solution-oriented. When confronted with a problem, he always looks for ways to solve it. Gregg brings a creative, solution-oriented perspective to the table when confronted with a problem, whether the obstacle originates with a federal or state agency, a non-governmental organization or other stakeholder, or even from conflicting views within a utility. Over his career, he has worked to achieve win-win settlement agreements under the alternative licensing process; ensured that license articles focus on resource outcomes rather than mere prescriptions and processes; and convinced agencies to utilize common-sense compliance timelines.

In order to address institutional obstacles facing the hydropower industry, Gregg always took the time to participate in efforts to improve the existing regulatory process. Over the years, he has been a member of the National Review Group and the Integrated Licensing Process effort. Under his influence, Chelan PUD also actively participated in legislative reform of the hydropower licensing process, advocating for the consideration of applicant-proposed alternatives to mandatory conditions. This reform was ultimately included in the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

During the relicensing of the Lake Chelan Project, Gregg worked with the Department of Ecology to establish and then legally defend a plan to reestablish the bypassed Chelan River in a manner that preserves project benefits while balancing the interests of environmental and recreational stakeholders. As the Director of Licensing, he led Chelan PUD's relicensing team through two successful relicensing processes and Comprehensive Settlement Agreements with resource agencies, tribes and other stakeholders. To this day, innovative resource forums established during the licensing processes provide input into implementing these licenses. Later in his career, Gregg's focus shifted to power markets. As Managing Director of Energy Resources, he is faced with identifying ways to ensure hydropower is valued in developing energy, carbon and environmental attribute markets. Gregg believes that hydropower's value is not always appropriately recognized for its grid services and emission-free attributes. In tackling this problem, he worked on a project to win approval by the Chicago Climate Exchange to designate a portion of generation at the Rocky Reach hydroelectric project as tradable emissions offsets - a first for hydropower generation. In Washington State, Gregg participated in a rulemaking development process that ultimately helped establish all efficiency gains at the Rocky Reach project (from equipment and operational improvements) as eligible renewable resources under the renewable portfolio standard.

Under Gregg's leadership, Chelan PUD also participated in modeling efforts to value of hydropower system benefits from Canadian storage under the Columbia River Treaty. This effort was an important element of identifying and explaining to policy makers how the Treaty should be rebalanced because the U.S. significantly overpays Canada for downstream power benefits. The rebalancing of the Treaty is a key element of the Regional Recommendation to the U.S. State Department to modernize the Treaty.

Gregg's varying career responsibilities demonstrate a firm understanding of the relationship among project engineering, environment and economics. An engineer by training (Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering and Master of Science in Water Resources), Gregg spent his early career as a program or project manager, conducting site and project assessments, feasibility studies, construction monitoring, and oversight of project costs and schedules. Later he oversaw all activities related to relicensing numerous hydropower projects, including energy and economic evaluations of expansion alternatives including pump-storage, new generating units, unit upgrades and life extensions. At Chelan PUD, he has directed divisions as diverse as engineering, external affairs, natural resources, and energy planning and trading. Gregg's diverse background has made him a key voice in Chelan PUD's strategic planning efforts and the utility's emphasis on projects that contribute to a "triple-bottom-line" of economic, environmental and societal benefits.

Several years ago, Gregg worked with the Washington State Department of Ecology to investigate the possibility of water storage projects adjacent to a Chelan PUD hydroelectric project. Ecology had been directed to pursue new water supplies to meet the needs of communities and fish; since Chelan PUD had the expertise to couple those goals with the generation of hydroelectric energy, the study evaluated a limited number of sites as possible multi-purpose projects. The study tried to determine whether a combination of project purposes –

electric generation to meet peak demand, ancillary services, and irrigation and domestic water use supply – would make a project economically feasible. Ultimately, it was determined that such a project is not economic at this time. However, Chelan PUD remains a respected resource in Washington State on integrated water, power and infrastructure issues.

Later in his career, Gregg’s focus turned to valuing hydropower’s economic and environmental benefits in power markets. This includes working to ensure all of hydropower’s environmental attributes, capacity and ancillary services are recognized appropriately in the marketplace. Gregg participated in the Department of Energy’s Market Task Force, which ultimately contributed to the 2016 Hydropower Vision Report.

Under Gregg’s leadership of Energy Resources, Chelan PUD began providing an innovative hydropower product that values and monetizes all aspects of hydropower. Known as “slice” of the system, this flexible, dynamic product can be provided by very few other types of generating resources. The slice product varies with streamflow and incorporates both hydropower’s zero-carbon attributes and flexibility. The goal is to ensure that optimum value can be derived from hydropower.

In addition, Gregg was active on behalf of hydropower as an energy imbalance market (EIM) was considered in the west. When the Northwest Power Pool was examining the benefits of enhanced market and operational tools, Chelan PUD advocated for resource sufficiency standards to protect grid reliability and limit the potential for variable resources to “lean on” hydropower without compensation. And, while Chelan PUD determined it did not make economic sense for it to join the western EIM, Gregg led that investigative effort on behalf of Chelan PUD.

Most recently, Gregg has been overseeing Chelan PUD’s marketing group as they work to obtain appropriate value for Northwest hydropower as California power markets - and regulatory frameworks - change.

Gregg has developed a reputation for being firm but fair when dealing with agencies and stakeholders. With an eye toward relicensing settlement agreements, Gregg always listened to the concerns of affected parties. If a project impact could be demonstrated, he acknowledged the impact and worked to appropriately address it in a settlement agreement. If a project impact could not be demonstrated, Gregg was firm with stakeholders, always emphasizing the importance of tying requests to project impacts. His ability to be fair and frank with all stakeholders, and his respectful relationships with federal and state agencies, went a long way towards mediating the effects of the some potentially egregious license conditions and prescriptions. Gregg’s commitment to fair dealing and plain speaking is demonstrated by the fact that he has overseen the successful negotiation of settlement agreements for 13 hydroelectric projects during his career.

In his role as Managing Director of Energy Resources, Gregg has worked to influence industry efforts to consider least-cost methods for achieving carbon reduction goals. Through this effort,

he has consistently pressed for the studies and data necessary to establish a consistent position for public power generating utilities. Gregg prefers to gather data, commission studies or reports, and share the resulting information broadly.

Gregg has approached his role in the hydropower industry with enthusiasm. Over the years, he has engaged in various leadership activities, including serving on the NHA Board of Directors (April 1999 – April 2001; Vice President 2000-2001) and speaking publicly on a variety of hydropower topics, including regular appearances at NHA's Annual Conferences and Hydrovision. Gregg's dedication to hydropower education and mentorship is represented by his involvement with the Hydro Research Foundation, which he served as President as the organization carried out key initiatives.

Gregg also participated in the National Review Group, a coalition of utilities, federal regulatory agencies and non-government organizations that worked together toward a common goal of improving the relicensing process. Gregg has actively participated in Washington State forums related to climate change and renewable energy in an effort to ensure hydropower is properly recognized for its environmental benefits. He participated in the DOE's Market Task Force and advanced hydropower issues as the Northwest examined the costs and benefits of participating in an EIM. At Chelan PUD, he has focused on providing innovative hydropower products that optimize all aspects of hydropower's value. And, as Washington State considers further carbon regulation, Gregg continues to advance the benefits of hydropower as a low-cost method of achieving emissions reductions.

Gregg's efforts have contributed significantly to efforts by this industry to preserve, protect and enhance the benefits of hydropower assets.

Again, we appreciate this opportunity to bring Gregg's years of enthusiastic service to your attention. We believe his career and personal enthusiasm exemplify dedication to hydropower as an energy resource. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions or comments about this nomination.