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For Immediate Release

NHA Congratulates Snohomish PUD on DOE Funding Award

Tidal turbine project will generate electricity, provide technology performance data

Washington, D.C. (September 14, 2010) – The following is a statement from National Hydropower Association (NHA) Executive Director Linda Church Ciocci on the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) announcement regarding marine and hydrokinetic energy technology development funding awards.

"NHA is pleased to congratulate member company Public Utility District No. 1 of Snohomish County (WA) for receiving \$10.1 million in matching funding from DOE for its tidal turbine project in Puget Sound's Admiralty Inlet. This award creates a strong partnership federal-industry partnership that will yield both clean electricity and important technical and cost data.

"A recent nationwide study commissioned by NHA shows that tidal technologies have the potential to provide an additional 4,000 MW of clean, renewable generating capacity by 2025. Snohomish PUD's project will help the industry reach that goal by advancing the state of the technology and our understanding of tidal energy's potential.

"Through the marine and hydrokinetic energy technology development program, DOE is demonstrating its growing support for developing new hydropower resources and expanding our country's largest renewable energy resource. By seeking this funding through DOE's competitive process, Snohomish PUD and other companies are signaling the industry's strong commitment to working with federal, state, and local officials -- and other stakeholders -- as we work to double America's hydropower capacity.

"NHA is proud of Snohomish PUD's success in this effort, and we applaud their vision and leadership in the ocean-tidal sector. We encourage companies throughout the industry to follow Snohomish PUD's lead and participate in similar federal initiatives."