



# Press Release

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## NHA to testify at Senate hearing on climate change's impact on water supply

**WASHINGTON DC (June 6, 2007)** – The anticipated effects of climate change on the nation's water supply could pose a significant challenge for one of the best climate solutions – hydropower, the nation's largest source of renewable energy with a substantial amount of growth potential still untapped. This flexible, reliable energy source has addressed droughts and climate changes in the past, but global climate change poses a major policy challenge. Reinvestment in water energy research and development has never been more important. Through the application of new technologies, greater efficiencies of the nation's water supply will ensure hydropower will continue to play a vital role in meeting new energy demands – all while conserving what is anticipated to be a significantly constrained resource.

That is the message the National Hydropower Association is offering before the [Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power](#) at a June 6 hearing on the Impacts of Climate Change on Water Supply and Availability in the United States.

**WHEN:** 2:30 p.m. on June 6, 2007

**WHERE:** Energy Committee Hearing Room – Dirksen 366

**WHO:** NHA member Tim Culbertson, general manager of [Grant County Public Utility District, No. 2](#), a consumer-owned utility in rural, central Washington.

“The hydropower industry must remain actively engaged in the discussions on climate change,” Culbertson said. “We have begun, along with state and local partners, to undertake an examination of the issues; to review policies to address them; and to take steps to mitigate potential effects.”

**WHY:** Climate change is causing a rippling effect on our world – impacts to water supply and availability are only one example. To reach and maintain the full potential water offers as a renewable energy resource, our nation needs federal policies that encourage investment and incentives for research, development and deployment of new advanced hydropower technologies.

View the full text of NHA's written testimony: [June 6, 2007 - Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee Hearing](#) (PDF)

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*NHA is a non-profit national association dedicated exclusively to advancing the interests of the U.S. hydropower industry. The association represents 61 percent of domestic, non-federal hydroelectric capacity in the U.S. Its membership consists of more than 140 organizations including public utilities, investor-owned utilities, independent power producers, equipment manufacturers, environmental and engineering consultants, and attorneys.*