

Northwest Energy Policy and the Columbia River

Tuesdays, 5:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Attend in person or through Zoom, or view recordings at your convenience!

Fall Quarter 2026 | September 29-December 8

Join a distinguished team of faculty members and guest speakers in PSU's annual interdisciplinary seminar on [Northwest Energy Policy and the Columbia River](#).

Open to both enrolled graduate students who will receive graduate credit and working professionals or people considering a career change who will receive a non-credit Certificate of Completion, this popular seminar reviews the history, politics, and institutions related to current energy policy and administration, with particular attention to the Pacific Northwest. It then explores some of the Northwest's most important energy policy issues with the help of some of the region's top experts.

Developed at the request of the BPA Administrator in 1984, this seminar has served thousands of energy industry professionals throughout the Northwest and beyond. We are delighted to report that [Dr. Hal Nelson](#) will be the lead professor. He will be supported by a stellar group of guest presenters. Invited speakers include [Travis Kavulla](#), BPA's new Administrator and Chief Executive Officer, [Jeff Hammarlund](#), the course's lead instructor for many years, and other respected energy experts who will help us explore many of the region's most pressing energy policy topics.

The seminar has brought together graduate students from different Northwest university programs and departments and industry professionals from such organizations as the Bonneville Power Administration, the Energy Trust of Oregon, the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance, state energy offices and public utility commissions, and many Northwest utilities, consulting companies, law firms, trade associations, and advocacy organizations. This rich mix of participants has fostered lively class discussions and great professional networking.

It is designed to serve these core audiences:

- **Graduate students** from PSU and elsewhere interested in the history and current state of the critical energy policy issues facing the Pacific Northwest and the nation
- **Mid-career professionals** in energy and other fields seeking career advancement (the Oregon Bar offers Continuing Legal Education credit for this course)

Register Now!

Please contact us! | cps_energy@pdx.edu | 503-725-8081