




**National Rural Electric  
Cooperative Association**

A Touchstone Energy\* Cooperative 

Glenn English  
Chief Executive Officer

July 19, 2011

Senator Barbara Boxer, Chairman  
Committee on Environment and Public Works  
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Jim Inhofe, Ranking Member  
Committee on Environment and Public Works  
456 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators:

On behalf of America's electric cooperatives, I am writing today opposing the nomination of Rebecca Wodder for Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) represents more than 900 not-for-profit electric cooperatives providing retail electric service to more than 42 million consumers in 47 states. Millions of electric cooperative consumers rely on the affordable, renewable hydropower marketed by the federal Power Marketing Administrations (PMAs). The PMA hydropower projects serve multiple purposes that help drive the economies of many states. As Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Ms. Wodder would have great influence over the positions taken by the Department of Interior, which has broad jurisdiction over many areas impacting dam operations.

Because of the importance of the Power Marketing Administrations to our economy, we are strongly opposed to the nomination of Ms. Wodder. Since 1995, Ms. Wodder has served as President of American Rivers, an organization that has made dam removal a central part of its mission. During her tenure, she led efforts to remove the Lower Snake River dams in the Pacific Northwest and opposed the Obama Administration's Biological Opinion for salmon recovery in the Columbia and Snake Rivers. Given her long tenure at an organization with a strong bias for dam removal, her objectivity on issues affecting federal hydropower facilities is questionable.

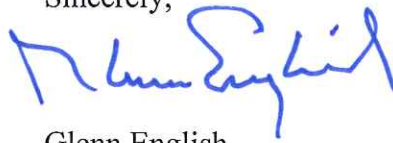
NRECA has long opposed misguided efforts to dismantle our federal hydropower resource. Unfortunately, Ms. Wodder has spent her professional career attempting to eliminate this reliable, affordable, renewable resource from our energy portfolio.



Accordingly, we urge you to oppose the nomination of Ms. Wodder for Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Glenn English", with a stylized, cursive script.

Glenn English

cc:

Senator Lamar Alexander  
Senator John Barrasso  
Senator Max Baucus  
Senator John Boozman  
Senator Ben Cardin  
Senator Tom Carper  
Senator Mike Crapo  
Senator Kirsten Gillibrand  
Senator Mike Johanns  
Senator Frank Lautenberg  
Senator Jeff Merkley  
Senator Bernard Sanders  
Senator Tom Udall  
Senator Jeff Sessions  
Senator David Vitter  
Senator Sheldon Whitehouse