

**News Release****For Immediate Release****Contact: Tom Ivancie (503) 333-4233****Energy Action Northwest Announces Leadership Change**

*(Portland, OR: November 12, 2009)* Energy Action Northwest, a business-labor coalition formed in 2008 to bring balance and objectivity to the region's energy policy debate, has announced a transition in its executive leadership.

Edward Finklea, who has served as the coalition's Executive Director since 2008, has recently decided to return to the practice of law, effective November 1st. Thomas Ivancie, who has provided communications and government relations counsel to the organization for the past year, has accepted the position of Executive Director, replacing Finklea.

During his tenure, Finklea was responsible for development of Energy Action's comprehensive communications and advocacy programs, including events, a website and numerous media interviews.

Energy Action's Board Chairman, Bruce Martin, stated, "we were fortunate to have been able to recruit Ed Finklea to the task of organizing our coalition and, most importantly, articulating its policy platform. We respect his decision to return to the practice of law and wish him well in his new endeavors."

Ivancie has more than fifteen years of experience in communications and legislative relations, as well as in non-profit fundraising. Born and raised in Oregon, Ivancie graduated from Oregon State University. He began his career in journalism, and more recently worked at advocacy organizations in Washington, DC and New York City before returning to Oregon to contribute to addressing the Pacific Northwest's energy infrastructure challenges. "We have to invest in infrastructure and job creation," says Ivancie. "Specifically, we must add the kinds of jobs that point toward our ultimate goal—a green, renewable energy future."

Board Chairman Martin commented, "Tom Ivancie is ideally qualified to build on the early success of Energy Action Northwest. Under his leadership, we will seek to expand our membership base, develop deeper financial support from the private sector and continue to engage actively in the public discussion of our energy future."

Energy Action Northwest is a public policy advocacy group representing businesses and labor organizations in the Pacific Northwest that are concerned about the reliability and affordability of electricity and natural gas. Its members are energy stakeholders who support the organization's objectives recommending energy policies based on sound economics, science, rational environmental stewardship and competitive cost. The organization also provides accurate information and context needed to correct misinformation created by certain opponents to the development of new energy infrastructure in Oregon and Washington.

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***The Job Keepers.***