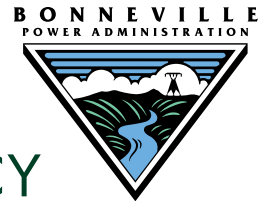


Customer News

ENERGY EFFICIENCY



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Stakeholders Asked to Participate in Post 2011 Energy Efficiency Plan

Bonneville Power Administration is encouraging all regional stakeholders to participate in a public process to develop the most effective BPA post-2011 energy efficiency program for the region. With the recent signing of the new power sales contracts and emerging issues such as climate change, it is timely to discuss how the region has worked in the past and how we can most effectively meet growing regional targets for energy efficiency.

Using information gathered in the public process, BPA will work jointly with regional stakeholders to develop an updated plan that defines the agency's role in meeting public power's share of the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's Power Plan conservation target.

Phase 1 of the public process began with a kick-off meeting on January 27, in Portland. "We were happy with the turnout and the productive discussion at the kickoff meeting," said Mike Weedall, VP for BPA Energy Efficiency. "It was an excellent start to what we hope will be a highly collaborative process to shape BPA's role in Energy Efficiency post-2011." Four regional meetings are scheduled to continue the discussion.

Regional Meetings for EE Post-2011:

February 10, Seattle

Red Lion SeaTac

18220 International Blvd., Seattle, Wash.

1:00 PM to 5:00 PM



Nearly 100 people attended the kick-off meeting on January 27

February 11, Idaho Falls

Shilo Inn and Convention Center

780 Lindsay Blvd., Idaho Falls, Idaho

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

February 12, Spokane

Mirabeau Park Hotel

1100 N. Sullivan Rd., Spokane, Wash.

8:30 AM to 12:30 PM

February 20, Pasco

Best Western Pasco

2811 N. 20th Ave., Pasco, Wash.

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

For more information on the BPA public process, or to submit a comment, please visit the BPA Web site. www.bpa.gov/post2011

— Carrie Nelson

Looking Forward to the Utility Energy Efficiency Summit

The 4th annual Utility Energy Efficiency Summit is scheduled for March 17, 2009. The summit is offering discussions and presentations on topics such as planning for I-937, emerging technologies, data gathering and a variety of additional topics on the agenda. Utilities are encouraged to share a learning experience from this year that provided them insight for accomplishing



continued on next page

Utility Energy Efficiency Summit

(continued from page 1)

energy efficiency. These insights are called “Aha” moments. The summit will take place at the DoubleTree Hotel, 1000 NE Multnomah, Portland, Ore. To reserve a room call 1-800-996-1510.

To register online for the summit visit our registration Web site: www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?eventid=682275

For more information contact your Energy Efficiency Representative.

—Carrie Nelson

Continuing Conservation into Future Rate Periods

In an effort to assist utilities as they transition into a new rate period, BPA Energy Efficiency announced program decisions that were made to enable the continuation of conservation program activity into future rate periods. The mechanisms, which provide for the continuation of program activity, include a Conservation Rate Credit (CRC) early-start option and a new five-year conservation agreement. In addition, these mechanisms will provide for reimbursement of projects transitioned from the current rate period into future rate period(s).

BPA anticipates offering a similar portfolio of energy efficiency programs, funding mechanisms and bilateral contracts in the 2010-2011 rate period as are currently available. However, the exact composition of the new CRC will not be final until the 2010-2011 rates go into effect and the Conservation Acquisition Agreement (CAA) is replaced by the five-year-enabling Energy Conservation Agreement (ECA).

Read the complete announcement at: www.bpa.gov/Energy/N/pdf/CRC-policies_BPA-EE_announcement_01-20-09.pdf

—Carrie Nelson

Improvements to the Planning, Tracking and Reporting System

Last fall, customers who utilize the Planning, Tracking and Reporting (PTR) system were surveyed on their experience with the site. As a result, a number of important changes were added to the PTR. See the November 2008 Brown Bag presentation on BPA’s Web site for a list of updates. www.bpa.gov/Energy/N/Utilities_Sharing_EE/Utility_Brown_Bag_archive.cfm

—Carrie Nelson

INSIDE THIS ISSUE	
FEATURES	
Post 2011 Energy Efficiency Plan	1
Utility Energy Efficiency Summit.....	1
AROUND THE REGION	
Continuing Conservation Across Rate Periods.....	2
Improvements to the PTR	2
Okanogan County Fair	3
Small Utility Task Force	3
Ductless Heat Pump Pilot Program	4
RESIDENTIAL	
Utilities Collaborate With Local Libraries	5
New Opportunities for Residential Programs	6
New CFL Alternative.....	6
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL	
Increased C&I Lighting Incentives.....	7
Commercial Pilot Program.....	8
Dot Foods Becomes Energy Efficient	8
Demand Response in the Northwest	8
Congregations Take on Energy Efficiency.....	9
FEDERAL	
Federal Agencies Become Energy Efficient	10
EER Profile.....	12

Another “Electrifying” Year at the Okanogan County Fair

The Okanogan County Fair had another successful year, attracting local residents to the nearly 100-year-old annual celebration. Okanogan PUD participated in the fair offering live, informative safety demonstrations and new displays. County residents of all ages participated in demonstrations that taught valuable safety rules.



PUD employees offer safety tips

Representatives from the Foundation for Water and Energy Education joined the PUD on Student Day, where kids got to participate in live demonstrations on the physics of moving water and how falling water can generate electricity. Okanogan PUD employees were available to answer questions, offer tips to help lower energy usage and to tell customers about the exciting programs available to assist them. Brochures, booklets, DVDs, and other informational material on

energy safety and conservation were available. Most importantly, it gave Okanogan PUD employees another opportunity to meet directly with their customers.

The PUD’s live safety demonstrations consisted of a pole-top rescue and examples of what happens when different materials come into contact with power lines. Demonstrations included information about what happens when kites, metallic balloons and trees get caught in power lines, and viewers were reminded to watch overhead when moving irrigation pipes. As a result of the live demonstrations and informational materials the Okanogan PUD offered at the fair, they were presented with an educational award for fostering education and increased knowledge of the electrical industry, which they proudly accepted.

Okanogan PUD employees enjoy educating customers about the importance of electricity for heating, air conditioning and how it makes us able to use thousands of other electrically driven items every day.

—Debbie Peters, Okanogan PUD

Small Utility Task Force Provides Recommendations for Increasing Conservation Opportunities

In August 2008 BPA Energy Efficiency, in cooperation with the Public Power Council (PPC), convened a small-utility task force with five PPC-appointed utility representatives. The purpose of the task force was to explore the difficulty that some small, rural and residential-load-dominated utilities experience in spending Conservation Rate Credit (CRC) funds.

Over a two-month period the task force worked with the PPC to identify the conservation-related challenges facing small, rural, and residential load-dominated utilities, and to develop consensus recommendations aimed at addressing these challenges. BPA Energy Efficiency staff facilitated the discussions and results were presented to the Utility Sounding Board (USB) in December 2008.

BPA Energy Efficiency has reviewed those recommendations and will take action by establishing more CFL opportunities, increasing credit and reimbursement incentives, increasing user friendliness of the Planning Tracking and Reporting (PTR) System and more.

For more information on BPA action, and recommendations under review, please read the announcement at www.bpa.gov/Energy/N/Utilities_Sharing_EE/doc/Small-Utility-TF_BPA-EE_announcement_01-20-09.pdf

—Carol Lindstrom

BPA and NEEA Launch the Ductless Heat Pump Pilot Program

The Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (NEEA) launched a Ductless Heat Pump (DHP) Pilot Program this fall to evaluate the energy efficiency, quality and cost-effectiveness of DHPs.

Currently more than 2 million households in the Northwest use electric resistance heat for primary space heating, with another million expected to be added in the Northwest by 2025. DHPs are estimated to use 50 to 60 percent less energy than standard electric resistant heating systems, and have the potential to save the region 100 to 600 (or more) average megawatts by 2025. In addition, DHPs offer increased consumer comfort with quieter functionality, low drafts and better air filtration.

NEEA launched the program after NEEA's Residential Manager, Stephanie Fleming, completed a regional tour where she met with Northwest utilities throughout the region, along with the Oregon Department of Energy and the Washington State University Energy Extension Program. Together, they collaborated on creating a framework that would be adaptable to the specific needs of utilities across the region, while still maximizing the region's economies of scale.

Fluid Market Strategies was selected as the contractor for the pilot program and it continues to build momentum throughout the Northwest. By the end of November 2008, more than 64 utilities from across the Northwest will have partnered with NEEA on the program, and more than 450 contractors have been brought up to speed.

According to NEEA's DHP Product Manager Alexis Allan, the level of participation thus far has been promising, particularly since there's been involvement from all areas of the Northwest. This has been a focus for the program from its inception, according to Allan.

"The areas along the I-5 Corridor like Portland and Seattle don't face the same heating and cooling issues as those areas east of the Cascades," Allan

said. "We're making sure we have good distribution across the entire region and we're feeling positive about the overall participation. Regional equity is very important to NEEA and its stakeholders."

BPA Energy Efficiency is an active participant in the pilot program – which extends through Sept. 30, 2009. Six new provisionally deemed energy efficiency measures have been added to the residential sector programs in the Planning, Tracking and Reporting (PTR) system. BPA will provide Conservation Acquisition Agreements (CAA), Conservation Rate Credit (CRC), self-funded and Irrigation Rate Management Program (IRMP) credits for eligible ductless heat pumps installed in existing residences to support the pilot program.

Recognizing that the saving values of this pilot program are provisionally deemed by the Regional Technical Forum (RTF), BPA will work with NEEA to assure the cost and savings risks are managed appropriately as this program progresses. Customers and vendors are kept informed of the pilot status at www.nwductless.com. The Web site also includes sample marketing materials and more program information.

For more information on BPA's involvement in the program, visit www.nwductless.com. BPA utilities that would like to participate in the pilot can contact Fluid Market Strategies directly (contact: Erica Thompson, 503-808-9003 ext. 107, ethompson@fluidms.com) or contact their Energy Efficiency Representative.

Read the full BPA announcement on the DHP pilot program at www.bpa.gov/Energy/N/pdf/FY09_EE_program_announcement_DHP_12-04-08.pdf

—Becca Yates and Carrie Nelson

Utilities Collaborate with Local Libraries to Educate Consumers on Household Energy Consumption

Utilities are collaborating with their local libraries to loan out a measurement gauge called Kill A Watt™. The device measures the amount of electricity used by electronic devices such as flat screen TVs, iPods and computers. The gauge is provided to the public at no charge. It helps educate consumers on their electricity consumption and can assist them with their electronic equipment purchasing decisions.

Eugene Water and Electric Board (EWEB) was the first utility to launch the program last spring. Its success inspired other utilities such as Emerald PUD and Central Lincoln PUD to run similar programs in their own territories. The idea came from Oregon State Representative Nancy Nathanson when she was out shopping for a birthday gift for her husband. "Okay, so maybe it's not the most exciting birthday gift, but it started me thinking about ways we could use this device to help other folks monitor their energy usage without having to purchase the device," said Nathanson.

When EWEB first launched its program, Nathanson said that if the gauges were popular in Eugene she would like to see the program expanded to the state level. The gauges are very popular, in fact on the day the program launched, the Kill A Watts were

all checked out by noon. For several weeks following the launch there was a waiting list of at least 50 people. EWEB originally purchased 15 gauges for the library, but since then four more were added to keep up with demand.



"Teaming up with the public library was a great way to get these handy energy-saving devices into the hands of our customers at no charge to them. The library was a logical partner, because it has a system already set up for loaning out Kill A Watts. The phenomenal demand for these gadgets at the library only shows how interested people are in saving energy in their homes," said Lance Robertson, EWEB's external communication coordinator.

Consumers can also enter their utility rate into the Kill A Watt, enabling them to see projected operating costs by hour, day, week, month or year. This can provide consumers with a better understanding of what each individual electronic device in their homes is costing them. For example, a plasma TV may cost up to \$22 more per month than a traditional TV.

Emerald PUD and Central Lincoln PUD have adopted similar programs with their local libraries. Emerald PUD Energy Services Coordinator Sandy Marr said, "It's important to raise awareness regarding how much energy different types of electronics use, both when they are on and off. If consumers understand this, they can take steps to lower their overall energy usage and lower their monthly bill."

There are some technical issues to consider for utilities interested in running a similar program, such as packaging the Kill a Watt gauge in a way that allows it to be checked out with bar code scanners, and creating a way for the devices to be catalogued in the library.

If you are interested in receiving advice on how to launch a similar program, contact Lance Robertson at Lance.ROBERTSON@eweb.org, or contact your Energy Efficiency Representative.

—Carrie Nelson

