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## Salem Electric to buy BPA "green power"

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### Bonneville Power Administration

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**SALEM, Ore. -- The board of directors of the Salem Electric Cooperative voted unanimously on Jan. 10 to purchase about seven average megawatts of renewable energy from the Bonneville Power Administration each year for the next five years. This is about 17 percent of the utility's projected load for 1996 and is priced at 3.5 cents per kilowatt hour.**

Renewable energy or "green power" is electricity generated by non-polluting, environmentally acceptable, sustainable energy sources. Bonneville's green power will come from resources such as wind and geothermal power.

Salem Electric set a goal to have 17 percent of its load served by green power after first shopping the idea with its members and gaining their approval. Most of Salem Electric's load is served by BPA at the priority firm rate.

Salem Electric had issued a Request For Proposals for consulting services to help the cooperative pursue green power resources. However, after the board voted unanimously to accept BPA's proposal, it decided to cancel the RFP.

"BPA appreciates Salem Electric's confidence in our product," said BPA account executive Paul O'Neal. "We look forward to working with Salem Electric to demonstrate the viability of renewable resources in the region. You can rest assured we will make every effort to maintain that trust."

BPA and Salem Electric also will work to craft a longer-term arrangement to take effect after the five-year period of this agreement is over.

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**For more information contact: Paul O'Neal, Bonneville Power Administration, 360-418-8603, [pjoneal@bpa.gov](mailto:pjoneal@bpa.gov), or Roger Kuhlman, Salem Electric, 503-362-3601.**

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