



BPA awards community education grants

Bonneville Power Administration

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: THURSDAY, June 27, 1996

PR 41 96

LONGVIEW, Wash. - Mark Higginson's "Meet Mr. Electricity" received a \$500 grant today from the Bonneville Power Administration.

The grant is one of 13 given throughout the Northwest as part of BPA's Education Program. The grants support projects that teach environmental awareness and energy efficiency to elementary, middle and high school students.

"Northwest educators are seeing tighter budgets," said Joan McNamara, BPA's education coordinator. "Organizations like BPA should help find creative ways to supplement the shrinking education dollar. As an organization committed to supporting education in the Northwest, BPA is proud to award a grant to 'Meet Mr. Electricity'."

Mark Higginson, an electrical engineer living in Longview, Wash., will bring first-hand knowledge of electricity and magnetism to elementary students in Longview schools. Using hands-on experiments, Higginson makes complex concepts fun and easy to learn.

"This is a great way to excite young minds about math and science as early in their school years as possible, to show them a live engineer, and to get them to think about a possible career in science, math or engineering," said Higginson.

"BPA's grant selection committee was impressed by Mr. Higginson's dedication and initiative," said McNamara. "This is the type of program that other community sponsors may want to support and expand."

The other 12 grant recipients are:

- Water Awareness Week 1997 sponsored by the Idaho Department of Water Resources
- The Montana Energy Calendar sponsored by the 1997 Montana Energy Education Council
- Salmon Camp sponsored by the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, Portland, Ore.
- Plant a Tree, Save a Fish sponsored by the Public Power Council and the Yakama Indian Nation Salmon Corps, Portland, Ore.
- The OCEEE Grant Program sponsored by the Oregon Collaboration for Energy, Education and the Environment, Portland, Ore.
- Salmon Watch sponsored by Oregon Trout, Portland, Ore.
- The Edison Project sponsored by Clallam County Washington Youth 2000

- Classroom Workshops sponsored by Snohomish County Washington Public Utility District #1
- Lake Roosevelt Water Festival sponsored by the Lake Roosevelt Water Festival Planning Committee in Colville, Wash.
- Energy, Environment and Community sponsored by the Energy Outreach Center in Olympia, Wash.
- The Richland Summer Science Camp sponsored by the Columbia River Exhibition of History, Science and Technology; Richland, Wash.
- Salmon Education and Restoration sponsored by the Toppenish Washington School District #202.

###

For more information, contact Joan McNamara, jhmcnamara@bpa.gov, 503-230-3709.
