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***NEWS RELEASE:***  
***Vandals jeopardize electrical service***

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
**MONDAY, June 8, 1998**  
PR 42 98

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: [Mike Berg](#), BPA (503) 230-4274 or [Gail Dreckman](#), BPA (503) 230-3778

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**PORTLAND, Ore. - Do you need your clock radio to wake you on time? How about having a fresh cup of coffee in your well-lit kitchen each morning? The Bonneville Power Administration is offering up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of vandals who caused thousands of dollars worth of damage to transmission lines in southeastern Idaho for the third time in two months. These vandals jeopardize your service.**

BPA's transmission line crew out of Idaho Falls discovered a transmission insulator on the Palisade-Goshen 115,000-volt power line had been deliberately and maliciously damaged by gun fire. This is only a couple of miles from the scene of a second incident about ten miles south of Idaho Falls.

"Fortunately there was no disruption of electrical service to customers, but the \$5,000 it cost to repair the damaged line gets passed on to rate payers," explained BPA Security Specialist Gail Dreckman. "There are no suspects, but the likely perpetrators are young adults, and the same people are possibly responsible for both incidents."

High voltage power lines also pose an enormous risk to anyone who shoots at them. Downed power lines can cause fires and lethal ground voltages can kill or injure the vandals and others in the area."

BPA has spent as much as \$500,000 in a single year just to replace transmission line insulators and other hardware damaged and destroyed by gunshot vandalism. These costs get passed on to customers and ratepayers. Above and beyond these monetary costs and inconveniences to everyone are the possible disruption of essential services-fire, police and ambulance services-that depend on reliable electric service.

BPA created the Crime Witness program in 1994 as a cost-effective way to involve the public in combating crimes that could potentially cause power outages. Through its neighborhood watch-style program, BPA offers cash rewards up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of perpetrators.

Since 1994, the Crime Witness program has generated hundreds of telephone tips resulting in dozens of arrests, thousands of dollars of recovered property and, most importantly, deterrence of future crime. For example, in 1997, a total of 237 insulator units were replaced, representing an 82 percent decrease from

the 1,313 units replaced in 1996. Estimated savings since the program began total more than \$600,000. Informants can call toll free 1-800-437-2744.

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## **JUDI JOHANSEN**

**Administrator and Chief Executive Officer  
Bonneville Power Administration**

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### **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Judi Johansen will be sworn in as the administrator and chief executive officer of the Bonneville Power Administration on June 8, 1998. She will be the 12<sup>th</sup> administrator in BPA's 61 years. At 39, she is the second youngest person appointed to the job. (Don Hodel was 34.)

Johansen was born on June 17, 1958, in Colorado Springs, Colo. She was student body president of her undergraduate alma mater, Colorado State University. She graduated from Colorado State in 1980 and from Northwestern School of Law at Lewis and Clark College in 1983. As a lawyer, she chaired the Electric Power Committee of the American Bar Association's Natural Resources Section.

In 1983, Johansen began her career as the staff attorney for Northwest Public Power Council, a trade association of approximately 112 BPA preference customers. She worked with legal and public policy issues. In 1986 she joined the Gordon, Thomas, Honeywell law firm in Tacoma, Wash., becoming a partner in 1989. She represented public utilities on regional power issues relating to BPA and the Northwest Power Planning Council. She also worked in natural resource mediation involving tribes, state and local governments and private land owners.

She came to BPA in 1992 as the acting director of the fish and wildlife division, and moved on to senior policy advisor to the assistant administrator for power sales. She then became vice president for generation supply, where her duties included the oversight of hydroelectric and thermal operations, scheduling, trading and short-term sales. Johansen was the lead negotiator on the 1995 Columbia River Operations Biological Opinion, and led the effort to reduce the agency's spending on power projects. She was also the lead negotiator on return of the Canadian Entitlement to British Columbia under the Columbia River Treaty.

Before returning to BPA, Johansen served as vice president of business development for Avista Energy, a unit of Washington Water Power. She was responsible for strategic planning for gas and electric trading and marketing nationwide.

Johansen's professional and civic activities include membership in the Oregon and Washington state bar associations, senior fellow of the American Leadership Forum of Oregon, Governor's appointee to the Montana Technical Advisory Committee on electric industrial restructuring and an ex-officio membership in the Colorado State Board of Agriculture.

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