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MEDIA ADVISORY:

Will the lights stay on? West Coast power pundits to ponder Y2K

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Bonneville Power Administration
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PORTLAND, Ore. – Portland will host a major gathering of electricity gurus from throughout the West on Thursday, April 22 at the Lloyd Center Double Tree Hotel. The subject: the reliability of the Northwest's entire electrical system and its link to California.

Keynote luncheon speaker for the "[Electric Industry Y2K Readiness Conference](#)" is Gerry Cauley, Y2K Program Manager for the North American Electric Reliability Council (NERC), the industry's reliability watchdog group. He will discuss the results of an April national grid test and lessons learned.

"The conference brings together key organizations in the Northwest power business to share information on their respective Y2K programs," said Joe O'Rourke, Y2K manager for the Bonneville Power Administration. "The Northwest power grid is highly interconnected from generation to retail utilities. We want to make sure everyone is in touch."

Other speakers include Col. Eric T. Mogren, deputy commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Northwest Division, and Dave Lyngholm, Deputy Power Manager of Grand Coulee. They will discuss the readiness of one of the world's largest hydropower generating systems. Representatives of major West Coast components of the high-voltage transmission superhighway, the power grid, will also make presentations.

Key speakers will be available for press interviews from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. at the hotel, or anytime during the day. Call above contract numbers to make arrangements.

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