



BPA meets Northwest's demand for clean power

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PORTLAND, Ore. – The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) today kicked off an effort to meet the Pacific Northwest's growing demand for clean power by selling more megawatts generated from the wind.

"BPA's aggressive move into the next generation of renewable energy technologies is right in line with the Administration's goal to dramatically increase the use of wind power," said Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson. "This is one example of how our new initiative, *Wind Powering America*, can play to the strengths of our regions."

The federal power marketing agency is purchasing 1.8 megawatts of energy produced by three wind power turbines at the Foote Creek Wind Energy Project located near Arlington, Wyo. The purchase is enough energy to power about 700 homes.

"The Northwest is fortunate to have an abundant source of clean, renewable power coming from our rivers. In addition, we need to invest in new technologies such as wind power to keep our world clean and green," said BPA Administrator Judi Johansen.

SeaWest WindPower Inc. and Tomen Power Corp., both of San Diego, Calif., developed the Wyoming project. Two Oregon based utilities, PacifiCorp of Portland and the Eugene Water & Electric Board of Eugene, own 69 wind turbines there. BPA agreed to purchase 15 megawatts from the facility's 41.4-megawatt output and sold that power to Salem Electric of Salem, Ore., earlier this year.

In the second phase of the project, BPA worked with SeaWest to install three additional 600-kilovolt wind turbines. SeaWest will own and operate the three turbines and sell the power exclusively to BPA. Power from the turbines came on line June 18. Three environmental groups, the Renewable Northwest Project, the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Northwest Energy Coalition have endorsed the wind project as an environmentally preferred energy resource.

BPA, a federal agency under DOE, sells electricity at wholesale to more than 130 utilities in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana. The agency also sells power directly to some Pacific

Northwest aluminum and chemical producers.

SeaWest is the largest independent wind energy developer in the United States. The corporation has developed over 400 megawatts of wind energy in California, Wyoming, the United Kingdom and Spain, and currently manages over 400 megawatts.

