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## *BPA workshops to address region's transmission system and its future costs*

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### **Bonneville Power Administration**

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**Portland, Ore.** – Here's a question: How do you manage costs, stay in step with changes in the utility industry and meet today's high standards for reliable electric service at the same time? The Bonneville Power Administration is inviting its customers and other interested parties to learn how the agency plans to upgrade its transmission system's capability to meet the region's future power needs – all while keeping its rates among the lowest in the region.

BPA is hosting a workshop in Portland to share its plans for keeping transmission rates down while maintaining reliability. The workshop will take place Tuesday, Nov. 30 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Embassy Suites Portland Airport, 7900 N.E. 82nd Ave.

BPA's Transmission Business Line (TBL) wants its customers and other parties to help it determine the right amount of investment needed to keep the Northwest federal transmission system a reliable, safe and open market for transmitting electricity in fiscal years 2002 and 2003. The workshop, entitled "Reliability and the Future of Transmission Costs," will also allow the TBL to plan to remove transmission bottlenecks, address workforce issues and identify the best way to replace worn and aging equipment.

BPA owns three-fourths of the high-voltage transmission system in the Pacific Northwest. The agency's lines stretch more than 15,000 miles. Comments on BPA's program will be incorporated into the agency's planning process. For more information, call 1-800-622-4519.

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