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## *Pacific Power and Bonneville Power Administration Announce Renewable Energy Partnership*

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### **Bonneville Power Administration**

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Portland, Ore.—Pacific Power and Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) today announced that BPA will purchase 46,000 kilowatt hours (kwh) of renewable wind power each month for its Portland headquarters through Pacific Power's Blue Sky Power program. This purchase, valued at \$25,000 per year, will help Pacific Power pay for the development of new wind power plants and the energy those plants generate, and help educate customers so more will choose to support cleaner power. Pacific Power presented BPA with its Visionary Level award at a renewable energy celebration at noon today at Pioneer Courthouse Square in Portland.

"I'm very pleased to congratulate BPA for making a difference," said Alan Richardson, President and CEO of PacifiCorp, Pacific Power's parent company. "BPA's substantial purchase of clean, renewable power is not just a statement, but will be of great benefit to the Pacific Northwest region. Pacific Power is committed to developing renewable power, and we're proud to see that our customers support and want to contribute to that mission."

"BPA chose to purchase renewable wind power for our Portland headquarters to demonstrate our commitment to the environment," said BPA Administrator and CEO Judith Johansen. "We challenge other businesses to commit to purchasing renewable energy to support the development of wind power and clean, efficient resources, and we encourage other utilities to make programs like Blue Sky Power available to their customers."

U.S. Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson endorsed BPA's purchase. "BPA is a leader in achieving the nation's goal of using more clean, efficient and renewable energy sources," he said. "BPA's contract with Pacific Power means that the Northwest is one step closer to a clean and affordable energy future. It also demonstrates the growing market for green power regionally and nationally." In April, the Secretary directed Department of Energy facilities to purchase a portion of their electricity from renewable energy sources. BPA's purchase is equivalent to 5 percent of its total energy use.

Blue Sky Power offers all Pacific Power customers—residential, business and industrial—the opportunity to help develop wind power. For \$4.75 per month, customers can buy a 100 kwh "block" of wind power, which is enough electricity to power an average household's color

television for two months and has the same environmental benefits of planting a third of an acre of trees

or not driving a car 1,800 miles. Customers may purchase as many blocks as they like.

Alan Richardson says that Blue Sky Power has been a success since its launch in April. In the first two months, more than 900 customers signed up to purchase more than 2,500 blocks, or 3 million kwh per year of wind power. This has the same environmental benefits of not driving a car 4.5 million miles or planting 825 acres of trees.

Blue Sky Power is PacifiCorp's latest effort to increase capacity for renewable energy in its service territory. Renewable power, also called "green power," uses resources that are constantly

replenished and cannot be depleted—such as wind, water and steam. The company already produces renewable energy at its Wyoming Wind Energy Project and Blundell geothermal plant in Utah. It also has committed to building another 50 megawatts of renewable energy over the next five years, making Pacific Power one of the country's leading renewable energy companies. Blue Sky Power lets customers elect to develop even more wind power, which is non-polluting and uses very little land. In fact, up to 95 percent of land used for wind farms can also be used for other profitable activities including ranching, farming and forestry.

Speakers at today's renewable energy celebration included Pacific Power's Alan Richardson, BPA's Judith Johansen, Oregon Congressman Earl Blumenauer, Multnomah County Commission Chair Bev Stein and Renewable Northwest Project Director Rachel Shimshak. Following their remarks, the dignitaries participated in a competition for the best soap bubble. A cheering crowd used wind power to blow soap bubbles, watched frisbee-catching dogs perform, visited information booths about Blue Sky Power and other renewable energy programs, cooled off with blue snow cones and listened to the Castle Jazz Dixieland Band.

"Green power is the fuel of the future and a bedrock of livable communities everywhere," said Congressman Earl Blumenauer. "Today's announcement is a great example of how we can work together to create livable communities and expand the development of renewable energy, both in the Pacific Northwest and the United States."

BPA is the second major customer to sign up for Blue Sky Power. In April the Multnomah County Commission became the first government in the state of Oregon to agree to purchase clean, renewable power for its energy needs. Multnomah County will purchase 400,000 kilowatt hours, or one percent of its electricity, from Blue Sky Power and other renewable energy programs.

The Bonneville Power Administration is a federal agency, under the U.S. Department of Energy, that markets wholesale electrical power and operates and markets transmission services in the Pacific Northwest. The power comes from 29 federal dams and one non-federal nuclear plant. The dams and the electrical system are known as the Federal Columbia River Power System.

BPA's transmission system accounts for about three-quarters of the region's high-voltage grid, and includes major transmission links with other regions. BPA is a self-funding agency, which

pays for its costs through power and transmission sales. Both power and transmission are sold at cost, and BPA repays any borrowing from the U.S. Treasury with interest. Revenues BPA

earns help it fulfill public responsibilities that include low-cost and reliable power and investments in energy conservation and renewable resources. BPA also funds the region's efforts to protect and rebuild fish and wildlife populations in the Columbia River Basin.

Pacific Power is a PacifiCorp company, which serves 1.5 million customers with electricity and related services in six western states. PacifiCorp is now part of the ScottishPower group of companies.

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### **Sidebar: Hot Weather Energy Tips from Pacific Power**

Pacific Power offers these tips to help people cool off in hot weather, conserve energy and save money on their electric bill:

- Open windows at night and in the morning to let in cool air. Using the intake setting on a window fan helps bring in even more cool air.
- Close windows, shades and blinds when the sun is bright to keep heat out and trap cool air in. Windows in shade can be left open.
- Keep air moving inside your home with ceiling, window, attic and portable fans.
- Use appliances that generate heat—including dishwashers, ovens, irons and dryers—in the evening or early morning.
- Cook outside on the grill or cook in the microwave, which produces much less heat than a conventional oven.
- Turn off lights that aren't being used. They generate unnecessary heat.

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