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BPA to link new generation to Northwest energy grid

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Bonneville Power Administration

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: FRIDAY, March 23, 2001

PR 18 01

CONTACTS: [Mike Hansen](#), BPA (503) 230-4328

PORTLAND, Ore. – The Bonneville Power Administration signed agreements with Goldendale Energy Inc. this week to connect the power from a proposed 248-megawatt gas-fired combustion turbine to the Northwest energy grid.

"BPA is eager to act quickly to bring a new power resource online at a time when the Northwest and the entire West Coast are suffering from an extreme shortage of energy," said BPA's Acting Administrator Steve Wright. "This project can help meet the Northwest's energy needs as well as help contribute to bringing down high energy costs."

The Goldendale Energy Project is to be built in Goldendale, Wash. The developers expect to have the new combustion turbine plant running by July 2002. The merchant plant will sell its output into the wholesale market. Some power may serve the nearby Goldendale Aluminum Smelter.

In the agreement signed between BPA and Goldendale Energy Inc., the energy company will pay BPA \$1.6 million to construct, operate and maintain a 230-kilovolt terminal at BPA's Harvalum Substation. Klickitat County Public Utility District will build a new 9.2 mile transmission line from the generation project to the substation. The terminal will make it possible for the new power to be integrated into the Federal Columbia River Transmission System. BPA has agreed to have the terminal operational by Jan. 15, 2002.

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