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BPA Fuel Cell Program Update

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BPA Fuel Cell Program:

The BPA Fuel Cell Program may soon include grants for fuel cells at wastewater treatment plants. An internal proposal for funding up to 5 of these grants has been made and is awaiting approval. The output from these systems could be eligible for either CO2 offsets through the Climate Trust, or a production credit through BPA's C&RD program.

BPA is offering two 1 kW Relion units to host customers. These hydrogen-fueled systems are appropriate for battery charging applications, and must be made available for monthly tours. Contact Mira Vowles at 503.230.4796 for more info.

BPA will soon have a lease in place with Quantum Leap Technology (QLT) to demonstrate their high efficiency PEM fuel cell. QLT is a development stage, fuel cell company, located in Beaverton, Oregon. Their 6 kW PEM prototype will be tested at the Fuel Cell Test and Evaluation Center prior to delivery to BPA. The system will be showcased at the Street of Dreams this summer.

Climate Change Fuel Cell Rebates:

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The new DoD Climate Change Fuel Cell Rebate Program solicitation period is open. This year only \$1,200,000 is available; so only unique and outstanding applications will receive rebates. The rebates are \$1,000 per kW of installed capacity, but partial grants may be awarded this year due to the limited funding.

Application information is available on BPA's web page, at http://www.bpa.gov/Energy/N/projects/fuel_cell/dod_climate_change/ The solicitation period closes June 1st.

Fuel Cell Legislation Progresses

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Two key committees passed legislation that can significantly impact the fuel cell industry. Lawmakers on the House Energy and Commerce Committee passed a version of the Energy Bill that doubled the spending limit to \$4.05 billion over a five-year period. Although funds would still need separate approval in the appropriations process, passage by this committee is an encouraging signal. Equally encouraging was news from the House Ways and Means Committee. Overseeing an energy-related tax package, the committee passed an \$8 billion bill that will be considered by the full House next week. Although the bulk of the incentives target oil and natural gas production, renewable energy, nuclear

power and clean coal - fuel cell initiatives were also included. The bill establishes a 15 percent credit for fuel cells. It also mandates a 15 percent credit for business and individual investments in fuel cells. If passed into law, the credits would last until the end of 2007.

Fuel Cell Education:

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BPA facilitated two DoD funded, fuel cell workshops for Oregon teachers on February 25th at Pacific University. Teachers were enthusiastic about hands-on workshops, where they received a fuel cell car and curriculum kit. Two more teacher workshops are being planned at OMSI in October. For more information on the Oregon Fuel Cell Education Pilot Program, see:

http://www.bpa.gov/Energy/N/projects/fuel_cell/education/

CHP Consortium Update

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The Combined Heat and Power (CHP) Consortium continues to work towards installing CHP in Oregon and Washington. Projects will be more cost effective thanks to a recently approved NW Natural CHP tariff, which includes a \$0.03 reduction from firm prices and interruptible options. The new OHSU Macadam project is on track for completion June 05, and will include five -60 kW micro-turbines with heat recovery. A 10 MW plant (2 solar turbines) at OSU is awaiting State approval, in the House Ways and Means committee. This project is possible because of seismic upgrades. Kaiser, OHSU and Providence are still under consideration, pending ETO involvement.

CHP audits are available for potential projects; just call Chris Galati at 503.721.2472.

NWHA

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The Northwest Hydrogen Alliance (NWHA) web site is now online:

<http://www.nwhydrogenalliance.org/>

Jack Robertson, the NWHA visionary, may speak at a June Willamette Clean Cities event, on combining the needs of fleet managers with electric utility's needs. NWHA has also been talking with the Northeast Hydrogen Alliance about ways to vet projects, get venture capital and work together. Finally, the NWHA is planning a conference for the spring of 2006, in which a dialog will be started between the transportation and power industries about the potential for hydrogen to become the fuel of choice.

California H2 Highway

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The California Hydrogen Highway Network Blueprint Plan is available at

<http://www.hydrogenhighway.ca.gov/plan/plan.htm>

2005 Fuel Cell Seminar:

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The 2005 Fuel Cell Seminar will be held in Palm Springs November 14th through the 18th. Multiple technical sessions and posters will focus on progress, challenges and markets for fuel cells. Presenters from all over the world will present on their progress towards the commercialization of fuel cells. BPA's Fuel Cell Program has been enhanced by participation on the Organizing Committee. Selecting only the best from 300 abstracts ensures a top notch program this year. You are encouraged to attend this internationally renowned conference; for more info, see www.fuelcellseminar.com.