This ceremony honors employees, individuals and teams whose initiative, innovation, superior service or exemplary acts have made an exceptional contribution to BPA’s mission, the electric utility industry or to the communities we serve.
Todd Amundson  
Mechanical Engineer, Portland, Oregon

Todd has made an impressive imprint on the measurement and verification of energy savings, having overseen the development of ground-breaking regional guidelines to ensure BPA can count on the energy efficiency resources it invests in. Todd has also elevated BPA as a national leader in industrial Strategic Energy Management, a concept that recognizes efficiencies can be achieved not just through equipment, but operations. Todd adapted traditional measurement and verification techniques to identify these energy savings, which totaled 5 average megawatts in 2016. Todd’s most important legacy, however, might be mentoring the next generation of engineers and promoting energy engineering as a career path for college students.

Curtis S. Holland  
Senior System Dispatcher (RELIEF)  
Vancouver, Washington

Operating the Dittmer Control Center — the 500-kilovolt backbone of BPA’s transmission system — requires a vigilant eye and a steady hand. And that’s when things go as planned. When they don’t, Curtis is known as the calming factor, repeatedly proving his value as a dispatcher committed to operating the transmission grid safely and reliably. Without seeking accolades, Curtis goes well beyond his normal duties to take on extra responsibilities, applying his expertise to support agency efforts such as the recent Western Electricity Coordination Council audit, or serving as a subject matter expert when others ask for his perspective on system operations projects. He has also invested in the future of BPA by helping develop other dispatchers, some of whom are senior dispatchers today.

Janet Ross Klippstein  
Public Utilities Specialist, Portland, Oregon

Janet is a recognized knowledge center for everything related to bulk marketing in Power Services. She consistently delivers a level of thoroughness and precision that her co-workers have come to rely on. It doesn’t matter if the assignment has the financial impact of a few dollars or more than a hundred million — she will apply the same attention to detail and strengthen relationships with BPA’s stakeholders in the process. In her quiet competency, Janet does what others argue is the work of two or three people, including single-handedly forecasting and tracking revenue and energy amounts for BPA’s long-term power contracts, seemingly driven by the pure joy of a job well done.

Chehalis TLM Team:

David Reynolds  
Line Equipment Operator A  
Chehalis, Washington

Jeremy Jackson  
Lineman Foreman III  
Chehalis, Washington

Kurk Shriver  
Lineman  
Chehalis, Washington

When the Chehalis Transmission Line Maintenance crew came upon an accident on a remote highway in Eastern Oregon, they noticed the state patrol was already on-site and didn’t immediately stop to help. But as they drove by, they could see a mangled heap of a pickup truck and travel trailer, and a family of five standing at
the side of the road, dazed and untreated. The crew quickly turned back and put their advanced first-aid training to use. For 35 minutes until paramedics arrived, Jeremy, Dave and Kurk applied bandages and a neck brace, dispensed bottled water and ice packs, and offered comfort to the shocked family. Their actions not only demonstrated BPA's safety core value, but also what it means to be good neighbors and civil servants.

**SAFETY EXCELLENCE**

**David O’Claire**  
Supervisory Structural Engineer  
Vancouver, Washington

BPA’s structural engineers design towers to meet a long list of requirements, from withstanding the forces of nature to minimizing costs. Dave has added safety to that list. He laid the groundwork for an innovative cable safety system that will reduce the need by electricians and lineworkers for repetitive connecting and disconnecting of fall protection equipment, lowering both worker fatigue and exposure to falls. Dave and his team also found a weakness in a commonly used fall protection method, connecting to the step bolts on a tower. Dave developed new testing criteria that revealed failures in off-the-shelf bolts, and then designed in-house products to pass his rigorous tests. The new BPA-designed step-bolt flange provides a safe fall-protection connection point.

**Michael Quinn**  
Electrician, Redmond, Oregon

Mike has long served his district as a safety steward, as well as providing leadership across the agency in his role as chairman of the safety proctor group. Over the years, Mike has strived to build a highly engaged, proactive group to encourage and strengthen the safety awareness of the front-line workforce. Mike has also succeeded in encouraging participation by the Safety Office and executives. His influence and leadership have changed the hearts and minds of those he has inspired at BPA. As he embarks on a new frontier, that of retirement this spring, his contributions will continue to help keep people safer at BPA.

**WORKPLACE OR TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION**

**Carrie Cobb**  
Public Utilities Specialist (ENERGY EFFICIENCY)  
Portland, Oregon

While BPA has always measured the energy efficiency savings that result from the programs and incentives it invests in, Carrie suggested several years ago that BPA might be able to document savings that occur outside of these programs. Through her work, BPA has found a way to calculate these “non-programmatic” savings. Carrie also led a campaign to name this source of energy efficiency, which today we call Momentum Savings, referring to the energy efficiency that results from the momentum created in the market by EE programs. Carrie's work, which is recognized around the region as groundbreaking, has quantified real energy savings for public power — about 133 average megawatts from 2010–2014, or 21 percent of the total public power share of the conservation target.

**Paula Gibson**  
Supervisory Public Utilities Specialist (CONTRACTS)  
Vancouver, Washington

When Paula learned BPA wasn’t required to keep paper copies of contracts, she put an end to the status quo, saving the money and staff time Transmission Account Services was spending to create and store hard copies. Paula found a better way: implementing the vision of the federal E-Sign Act to enable electronic signatures. Her proactive approach to process improvement eliminated the need to FedEx paper contracts back and forth between BPA and the customer multiple times for signatures — saving $50,000 a year in courier charges. Additional savings are gained through the reduction of printing supplies and staff time. The streamlined process is expected to result in greater customer satisfaction.

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Kathy Gish
Supervisory Traffic Management Specialist
Vancouver, Washington

As a Supervisory Traffic Management Specialist, Kathy exemplifies a One-BPA mentality. In carrying out her role, she also supports BPA's Pollution Prevention and Abatement programs by working to keep pollutants out of the region's natural resources. She has fostered a collaborative relationship with the Environment, Fish and Wildlife organization to bring about a consistent approach on environmental issues, from storing equipment in locations away from drainage systems, to procuring and transporting new double-wall 10,000-gallon oil-storage tanks, which provide much better environmental protection than the old tanks. Kathy has both raised awareness of environmental issues and minimized impacts on our resources.

Kevin Kertzman
Property Disposal Officer, Vancouver, Washington

Kevin tirelessly works to recycle or repurpose unwanted or excess material, always maximizing the return on ratepayers’ investments. Kevin travels to distant locations to find unwanted material and make sure it’s being disposed of responsibly, helping to increase BPA’s recycling in 2015 by 71 percent. He’s also a networker who uses industry events to find new homes for old materials, such as surplus cell phones he was able to sell for $90,000. By building a relationship with the Department of Corrections, Kevin found a use for old furniture and cubicle systems for which there is virtually no market. Rather than sending 40 to 50 tons of material to a landfill, inmates will refurbish the furniture, saving BPA $35,000 in storage costs and giving adults in custody meaningful skill-building work.

John Anasis
Electrical Engineer, Vancouver, Washington

John has dedicated a significant portion of his career to educating, enabling and empowering his team and others across BPA, and he has left a lasting impact on those around him. His interest in the development of others takes many forms, from engaging with engineers to identify individual learning plans that help them provide the best technical guidance to dispatch in the heat of the moment, to weekly deep-dive sessions he organizes for his team with experts from around BPA. He also pioneered a training curriculum that has become one of the cornerstones for developing engineering talent in Transmission Operations.

Jeff Scheer (posthumous)
Quality Assurance Officer, Vancouver, Washington

While his official title was senior contracting officer in Supply Chain, Jeff was a passionate mentor and teacher who left a lasting legacy. He applied his 20-plus years of experience in contracting with the Air Force, General Services Administration and BPA to help contracting officers be not just technically proficient, but better business advisers. He delivered exemplary advice and guidance, and went out of his way to help his internal customers find ways to prevent re-work or avoid delays and accomplish their work more efficiently. He also believed in providing constant reinforcement through training and helping employees grow by giving them opportunities to apply what they learned. When Jeff took a new position as quality assurance officer, where his contracting expertise was critical to the success of BPA’s Pacific DC Intertie upgrade, one of the deciding factors for him was a desire to expand his sphere of mentorship.
COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Kimberly Butler
Public Utilities Specialist (ADMINISTRATION)
Portland, Oregon

When Kim isn’t working behind the scenes on BPA’s customer contracts, you will likely find her volunteering behind the scenes to ensure the Northwest Federal Employees Association carries on its long history of providing value to employees and the communities we serve. As the president, she often gives up her lunch hour, evenings and weekends to prepare for and coordinate events, such as fundraisers that support local veterans and scholarships for minority students. Kim also volunteers for a group called Free Hot Soup, distributing food and warm clothing to the homeless, and spends several hours every other Sunday donating blood platelets to the Red Cross, giving cancer patients the strength they need to keep fighting.

SPECIAL SERVICE

Christopher Bachman
Transmission Project Management (FLUX RESOURCES)
Vancouver, Washington

When the North American Electric Reliability Corporation issued new requirements for the physical security of electric system cyber assets, BPA faced a significant challenge. With less than two years until the deadline, Chris inherited the project and became the mastermind behind its success. He quickly grasped the intricacies of the project and delivered security alarms, access panels, card readers, motion detection and camera systems that met or exceeded NERC requirements at 72 substations. It’s safe to say BPA would not have met its deadlines without him, and in the process he improved operations, extended the lifespan of assets and enhanced the protection of critical infrastructure that delivers power to the Northwest.

Eric Curtis
Warehouse Management (RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATES)
Vancouver, Washington

Officially, Eric is a materials handler. Unofficially, he is the Ross Warehouse IT guru who uses his skills to make warehouse operations more efficient. And he’s not shy about taking on new responsibilities, such as the recent million-dollar seismic shelving upgrade at the Z669 warehouse, which he volunteered to lead. Most of the materials in the 130,000-square-foot building had to be moved to temporary locations. Thousands of items needed to be relabeled and entered into the system with their new locations. Eric ensured each item was analyzed for its use rate, so high-traffic material could be kept in easily accessible locations. He brought order to chaos, and the warehouse rerack was completed on time and within budget.

Eliud Imbuye
Energy Efficiency Planning and Evaluation (TEK SYSTEMS)
Portland, Oregon

When Eliud joined the Energy Efficiency Planning and Evaluation team, he quickly dedicated himself to understanding the complex data behind BPA’s EE program and has since brought tremendous value to the organization. He took a complicated 16-hour manual process and transformed it into a streamlined, almost completely automated process that quickly produces quality data. He also developed a tool to extract data on non-residential lighting — information that BPA previously had no way of analyzing — and has automated reports on EE achievements to provide more actionable data. Eliud consistently goes above and beyond in support of energy efficiency.
Christine Morgan  
Business Applications  
(CORSOURCE TECHNOLOGY GROUP)  
Portland, Oregon  
Christine applies her web expertise to make BPA's software more efficient and usable. She is always willing to jump into the most perplexing situations and offer creative solutions to complex technical challenges. Often Christine must perform time-consuming research to provide solutions to atypical requests. With her can-do attitude, she works tirelessly to find solutions to problems she does not have an immediate answer for. Her research efforts allow her customers to focus on business line support as opposed to complex programming and coding. She has developed and implemented projects to automate processes, streamlining work and avoiding unnecessary delays due to human error.

James West  
Business Services (FLUX RESOURCES)  
Portland, Oregon  
James consistently challenges the status quo, always striving to improve the process and experience for his customers, and his efforts can be felt agencywide. James helped design Transportation Services’ online parking registration program, reducing the need to collect personally identifiable information, improving tracking and reporting features and making the parking registration process more user-friendly for more than 1,400 employees. James also worked closely with IT to transition BPA’s conference-room scheduling into Outlook, took the initiative to gain access to offsite conference rooms to meet demand, and advanced BPA’s conferencing technology by identifying and correcting connectivity challenges. His work has improved efficiency for all conference-room users across BPA.

Peter Zwingli  
Continuity of Operations (MBO PARTNERS)  
Portland, Oregon  
Peter’s efforts have directly advanced BPA’s readiness to serve the Pacific Northwest in a disaster. He spearheaded the effort to create an alternate scheduling center in Spokane and played a significant role in the project’s successful implementation. Through the many obstacles encountered along the way, he kept in mind the crucial end-state: BPA’s ability to operate the system from an alternate location. He has also led BPA’s work with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation for coordinated disaster response and river operations. This effort has better positioned the three agencies to work together through a large disaster and keep the power flowing through the region.

Daniel E. Bloyer  
Customer Account Executive, Bend, Oregon  
Dan exemplifies the highest standards of integrity and loyalty to BPA and its mission while ensuring our customers’ voices are heard. As an account executive in Central Oregon, he has navigated a diverse array of issues, from irrigation in the Klamath Basin to serving new data centers in The Dalles. Dan’s smaller customers see him as their BPA guide and advocate. He seeks to understand their concerns, empathizes with them, and can always be counted on to clearly explain BPA’s position. And they benefit from his ability to get to the root of the issue without drowning them in unimportant detail. His calm and thoughtful demeanor lends itself to collaborative problem-solving internally and with customers.
Claire A. Hobson  
Customer Account Executive, Portland, Oregon  
As the critical link between BPA and one of its largest and most diverse Power customers, Claire excels as a spokesperson and relationship-builder. Claire is an account executive for the Pacific Northwest Generating Cooperative, comprised of 14 utilities across seven states. PNGC and its member utilities are as geographically diverse as their interests and challenges. Claire is an expert in each of the contractual arrangements and managed the dramatic change to those contracts between 2003 and 2012 from self-managed Slice contracts to load-following contracts. Her outstanding customer service is matched by her workplace contributions. She promotes a welcoming and productive environment through her warm, inclusive, respectful encouragement of others.

Juan Carlos Mora Flores  
Natural Resource Specialist, Eugene, Oregon  
While the familiar sight of a transmission line might go unnoticed by many, those who live along BPA’s lines have a uniquely personal view of them. Carlos, who is responsible for ensuring the area around the lines is clear of vegetation, is the face of BPA for many of these landowners. The primary objective is to ensure safe, reliable transmission operations. But for Carlos, it’s also about relationships. Carlos has a thorough understanding of BPA’s legal rights and technical expertise, but also carries out his role with compassion and empathy for the residents’ love and enjoyment of their land. Carlos gets high marks from his colleagues for anticipating problems and diligently working to resolve concerns, while at the same time balancing the landowners’ interests.

Jennifer Eskil (retired)  
Energy Efficiency Partnership Market Lead  
Walla Walla, Washington  
For three decades, Jennifer directly supported BPA’s vision as an engine of the Northwest’s economic prosperity and environmental sustainability. Through the energy efficiency programs she developed, she demonstrated a willingness to try innovative approaches, to roll up her sleeves and resolve problems, and to bring together all stakeholders. Her career accomplishments include the WaterWise program in the 1990s that improved the efficiency of irrigation systems, the Save-A-Watt campaign that helped pull the region through the energy crisis in 2001, and the Energy Smart Industrial program that quadrupled BPA’s industrial energy savings under her leadership. Jennifer didn’t just develop programs, she helped develop people by recognizing their talents, putting them in the roles they were best suited for, and ensuring the work was fulfilling for all involved.

Michael S. Hansen  
Manager, Media Relations and Policy Communication  
Portland, Oregon  
For 30 years, Mike has been an outstandingly steadfast messenger on behalf of Bonneville’s mission and reputation. Early in his career, Mike helped design and put into practice the innovative strategies and methods of outreach that enabled BPA to work much more effectively with the public and constituencies on an array of hot issues across the region. His public involvement experience led to a senior media spokesman’s role, where his genuine belief in the foundational values of public power is evident in his deft handling of controversial issues, from rate cases and direct-service industrial contracts to transmission builds and fish and wildlife topics. Unfailingly consistent and trustworthy, Mike takes on challenges with energy and enthusiasm, and puts his people in a position to succeed. As one colleague put it, Mike never “throws you in front of the bus,” instead he’ll step in front of the bus and stop it for the good of his colleagues, BPA and its utility customers.
Thomas D. Miller
Attorney-Adviser, Portland, Oregon

Thirty-five years in the General Counsel’s office has earned Tom a reputation as the most knowledgeable legal practitioner of BPA’s marketing statutes. With a career dating back to the implementation of the Northwest Power Act, Tom’s work has had significant, lasting impact. In the late 1990s, Tom’s expertise was critical to BPA’s survival and financial health in a period of dramatic industry change, when BPA faced the prospect of losing customers to other marketers. Tom later worked with customers for several years to develop our current long-term power sales contracts, which gave all parties consistency and stability for 20 years. His commitment and passion are unparalleled, as is the level of respect with which he treats both his clients and opposing counsel.

Joseph C. Sharpe
Manager, Pollution Prevention and Abatement
Portland, Oregon

Through Joseph’s distinguished efforts, BPA’s Pollution Prevention and Abatement group is nationally recognized as an industry leader in environmental stewardship. Joseph has built a streamlined, effective organization that protects the Northwest’s valuable natural resources, often saving money and surpassing compliance requirements in the process. In a recent effort to ensure the safe storage of mineral oil, a potential pollutant BPA uses in large quantities to insulate electrical equipment, Joseph and his team worked with Facilities, Transmission Services and Supply Chain to build a new storage facility at the Ross Complex. This will save BPA $150,000 per year in storage tank rental charges. Joseph has established a working environment in which there is extremely high organizational pride and tremendous camaraderie, and where employees are committed to fostering the success of each other and the organization.

AEA nominations are accepted year round. If you know someone who is doing an outstanding job at BPA, be sure to nominate that employee for the Administrator’s Excellence Awards. Nominations for the 2018 awards will be accepted through Oct. 14. Check the recognition website on BPA Connection for more details.