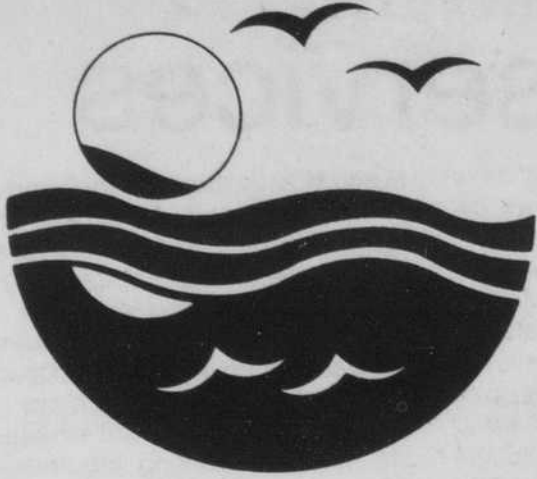


Of environmental concern



By Catherine Siegner

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Atomic Safety and Licensing Board has identified the parties which will be allowed to take part in a special pre-hearing conference in Portland August 14, to determine whether the Trojan plant should be restarted.

In a written order issued Thursday, the Board named the Columbia Environmental Council, the Coalition for Safe Power and Stephen Willingham of Portland as parties to the proceedings.

Three other petitioners, David McCoy, C. Gail Parson and Nina Bell must participate as one party, the order said.

The hearing will also address modifications planned for Trojan's control building. The building's walls were found to not meet federal specifications for withstanding earthquakes, after an inspection last March.

A \$20,500 fine has been levied against Portland General Electric Co. by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for the exposure of two workers at the Trojan plant to excessive amounts of radiation.

On April 5, one worker at Trojan received 27.3 rems and another received 17.1 rems while they were looking for a source of radiation within the plant.

Federal regulations limit accumulative radiation exposure to 3 rems in a three-month period. The exposures at Trojan are the highest ever received by any U.S. nuclear plant worker, according to the NRC.

In a letter to PGE, Ernst Volgenau, director of the NRC's office of inspection and enforcement, said, "The apparent items of noncompliance (with NRC regulations) associated with the incident, when viewed in conjunction with other events and items of

noncompliance which have occurred since the Trojan plant was licensed for operation, also raise serious concerns about your ability to appropriately identify, evaluate and correct problems."

The State Board of Forestry will hold a public hearing in Salem Thursday and Friday to consider two proposals for regulating the aerial use of herbicides in Oregon.

One proposal from Governor Straub's office would set up 200-foot buffer strips around major streams or open water when herbicides containing dioxin (2,4,5-T and Silvex) are aerially applied.

The other proposal, submitted by the Oregon Environmental Council, would provide for notification to all persons living within one mile of the spray area at least 21 days prior to spraying, and to all owners of municipal water supplies within fifty miles downstream of the spray area, among other provisions.

Interested persons may present testimony on the proposals at the hearing, but testimony will be limited to five minutes, and should also be presented in written form.

The hearings will be held at the office of

the State Forester, 2600 State Street, Salem, and will begin at 9 a.m.

Private owners of less than 5,000 acres of forest land may now reserve Douglas fir and hybrid poplar seedlings for next winter's planting from the Oregon State Department of Forestry.

About four and a half million seedlings are available. Prices are determined annually, although estimates are \$60 per thousand for Douglas fir, and \$89 per thousand for hybrid poplar. There are minimum orders of 400 seedlings for the fir and 100 seedlings for the poplar.

More information may be obtained from the Public Affairs office at the State Forester's headquarters, 2600 State Street, Salem, Oregon 97310.

The Department of Land Conservation and Development will hold a State Citizen Involvement Advisory Committee meeting Friday, August 4, at the State Library in Salem.

The meeting will begin at 9:30 a.m. and will be in the basement conference room.

Atiyeh blasts tax relief program; wants budget cut

By KEVIN HARDEN
Of the Emerald

A property tax relief program announced by Governor Bob Straub Thursday is a dangerous proposal, Victor Atiyeh, Republican nominee for governor, said Friday.

Straub's proposal, which would provide property tax relief by returning the state's \$200 million budget surplus to the taxpayers, is "faulty fiscal management," Atiyeh said.

Straub told reporters in Portland that in the face of the property tax limitation proposed by Oregon's ballot Measure 6, his tax relief program would have less "devastating effects."

By returning the surplus and limiting taxes on private homes to one and one-half percent above the 1975 assessed value of the property, Straub hopes to make the relief more "fair" than that offered by Measure 6.

But Straub's idea is "dangerous" because it is based on a surplus that is constantly changing, Atiyeh said.

"It's very dangerous to hold out property tax relief to Oregonians based on the present surplus," Atiyeh told reporters. "The surplus may not always be there."

Atiyeh, who has yet to take a stand on Measure 6, said he favors a different form of property tax relief. A budget cut to government would be the best way to proceed, he said.

Atiyeh outlined a plan to cut government spending by 10 percent as tax relief to be im-

plemented if he is elected governor. That cut will be uniform to all areas of government and will eventually improve the state's operation while giving relief to the taxpayers.

The taxpayers are using Measure 6 as a message to state government, he said. That message is spend less and lower taxes.

Atiyeh, who, according to a poll taken by GMA Research for KATU-TV and KXL radio in Portland, leads Straub by nearly 20 percentage points, added that the poll is an indication of the people's confidence in his abilities as a possible governor.

The poll, which showed Atiyeh with 49.9 percent of voter support to 30.8 percent for Straub, and 19.7 percent undecided, was the lowest dip in popularity for Straub. Atiyeh says that dip was because


people are beginning to turn to him for leadership.

"I know what's going on in our campaign headquarters, we are way advanced in volunteers," Atiyeh said. There is no way Straub can catch up in volunteers."

"The fact that I'm a challenger and he's a sitting governor and that I'm leading him by 20 percent in the metropolitan area has got to be devastating."

The trend Atiyeh sees because of the poll is that Straub's support is dropping and his is rising. Eventually, the 20 percent undecided will vote for him, he predicted.

"I believed honestly that I was what Oregonians wanted in 1974, but that was a bad year for Republicans all around," Atiyeh said. "Now this poll shows that I have a wide base of support behind me."

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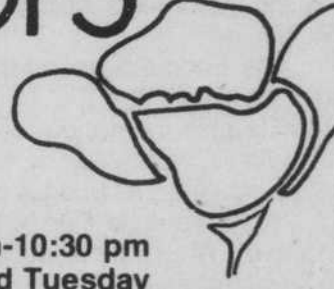
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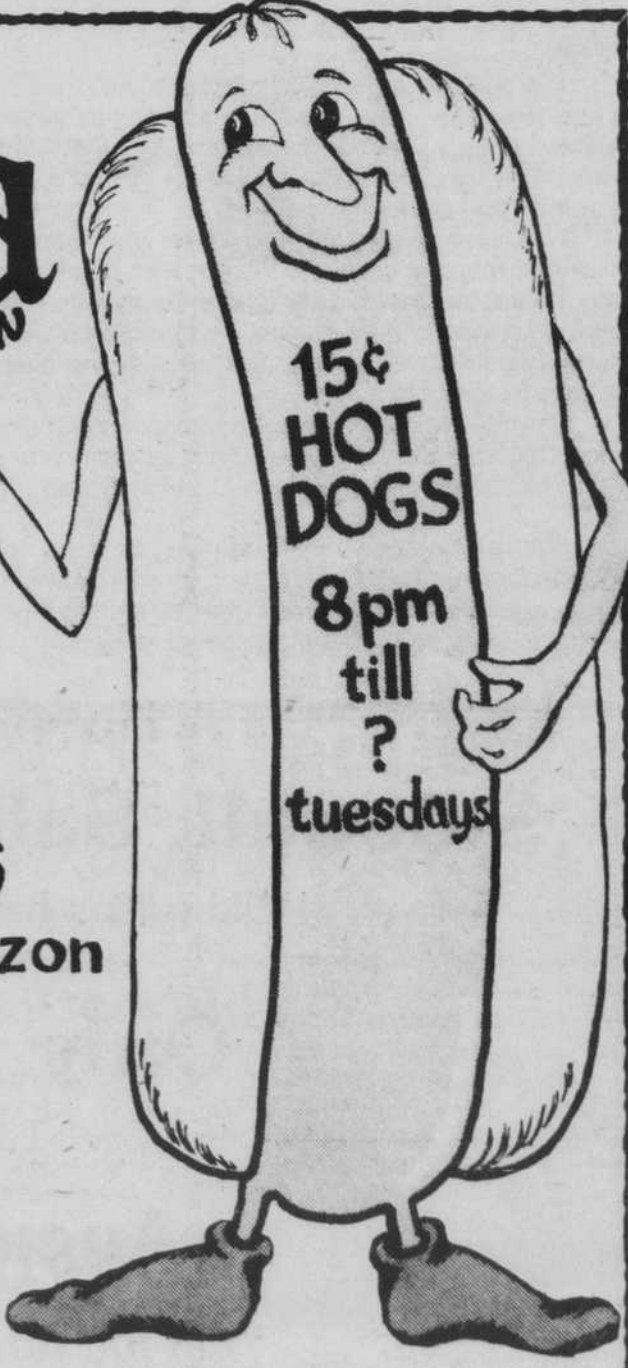


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