



catherine segner

of environmental concern

The Survival Center will sponsor a workshop on three proposed urban growth boundaries for the Eugene/Springfield area Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in the EMU.

Planner Steve Gordon will explain a recently released 24-page summary report identifying forest lands, agricultural lands and wildlife habitat.

The three plans' boundaries differ in density restrictions of future residential developments. One of the proposals will eventually become part of the revised 1990 Metropolitan Plan.

The Lane Council of Governments plans to hold an all-day

workshop Feb. 17 on the proposed boundaries at the Lane County Fairgrounds.

The State Energy Facility Siting Council will begin hearings this month on whether operation of the proposed twin Pebble Springs nuclear plants would be run safely. EFSC has already decided that Portland General Electric Co., the major sponsor of the plants, is capable of running them.

Former Energy Department head Lon Topaz says PGE has such a poor safety and environmental record at its Trojan plant that it shouldn't be allowed to build Pebble Springs.

"PGE has shown some willingness to unilaterally defy a rule, or regulation or environmental condition they feel is not important. So, from a management standpoint, they ignore it," Topaz said.

He said the series of minor accidents at the Trojan plant since it began operation in 1975 indicate PGE "is not particularly forthright in the way they go about operating a nuclear plant."

EFSC must hold hearings on the safe operation of the proposed plants and the need for power from them before deciding whether to grant a construction permit.

A bill giving states the right to

vote on the location of federal radioactive waste storage sites has been co-sponsored by Fourth District Congressman Jim Weaver.

Weaver said the legislation would give states the right to prohibit such sites through an act of the state government or through a state-wide referendum.

"Unlike other environmental pollutants, nuclear wastes must be isolated for a longer period of time than any man-made structure has ever endured," Weaver said. "Such a burden is not to be placed lightly on the shoulders of the people of any region."

Environmental Protection Agency deadline for submitting an air pollution control strategy has been requested by the Eugene/Springfield Air Quality Maintenance Area Citizen's Advisory Committee.

EPA declared the area was not in compliance with federal particulate standards in 1977 and requested a control strategy by the beginning of 1979.

The committee said more time is needed to study dust emissions from paved and unpaved local roads and how to control its sources. Road dust is a primary cause of high particulate levels in the area.



Photo by Ed Warren

EWEB Commissioner John Bartels appealed for support from the public Friday to help push for non-thermal electrical generating plants.

Commissioner seeks local support

Bartels warns of shortage

By RON TAYLOR
Of the Emerald

Solutions to our future energy needs have to be worked out with grass root political involvement now, EWEB Commissioner John Bartels said Friday during a Survival Center-sponsored meeting at the University.

The Survival Center has agreed

to support Bartels' grass roots plan for action, says Jim Stratton, Survival Center director. Stratton says the center will cooperate with EWEB and Bartels in educating the public on possible negative effects of a centralized power generation system in the Northwest.

Explaining why he supports the Strube Dam proposal, Bartels said, "No matter what the Department of Energy or anyone else says — we are going to need more megawatts."

Bartels said projects such as Strube are more desirable than conversion to thermal plants to supply EWEB's base electric load.

More hydropower might also be produced by converting non-generating irrigation and flood-control dams already constructed into generating stations, he said.

Bartels listed nine sites that could have generating equipment installed to help meet forecasted power needs through 1990. Since December of 1974, EWEB has promoted the idea of equipping existing non-generating dams with generators, he said.

But Bartels' main concern Friday was soliciting public support.

"I want some help. I think we're going to need more power not coming from BPA, (Bonneville Power Administration)," Bartels said. "We don't even have a future allocation from BPA for a planning base. We have to act because we are going to run out of power."

Speaking about the conversion proposals, Bartels said all of the projects will have environmental problems, each one different. What he wants is community consensus on the projects so that EWEB can begin to determine, on a case-by-case basis, which pro-

jects will be feasible, he added.

"The government's action to this point has been nil," he said. "It's Carter's policy to do this stuff, but it's not getting done. It's a federal problem and they wish it would go away."

Bartels said the reason for the government's inaction is that the Bureau of Reclamation and the Army Corps of Engineers don't want to go back to Congress and rewrite appropriations for the original projects. This would have to be done if electrical generation was added to the existing irrigation and flood control dams, he added.

Bartels mentioned two inventories of unused hydroelectric generating capacity already completed by the corps. He said EWEB had gone to the corps in 1974 with conversion proposals. That action motivated the corps to do the inventory, but since that time the corps has been sitting on their findings, he added.

EWEB provided an all-time record of 533 megawatts of electricity last Friday morning, and only 166 megawatts of that amount was generated by EWEB, Bartels said.

But he warned that for EWEB to obtain more power by itself, and not through BPA, is a risky business.

"If we get more generation on our own, BPA may subtract it from our allocation. We can't get any solid commitments from BPA," Bartels said.

If the government won't follow its own policies, then it's up to the public utilities to put pressure on to get things started, he said.

"We're riding out of the stockade to go to war."

Public law school starts

People's Law School will again offer a series of lectures and discussions on various aspects of law for the layman.

All of the classes are free and open to the public. They will begin Wednesday from 7-9 p.m. Classes will be held at the Lincoln School cafeteria, 12th and Jefferson St. in Eugene.

People's Law School is sponsored jointly by Lane County Legal Aid Service, Inc. and the University Law School Student Bar Association. Because the teachers are law students, the law prohibits them from giving legal advice.

Everyone is invited to attend any or all of the classes to learn about his/her legal rights and responsibilities, as well as how to recognize and avoid legal problems. A partial schedule follows:

Feb. 7 Getting Legal Advice: When you need it, court appointments, community resources and referrals, and what to do if you're dissatisfied.

Feb. 14: Buying and Selling a Home: Learn about earnest money, land sales contracts and financing.

For more information about People's Law School, contact Nina Johnson during the day at 342-6056, or Marilyn Odell in the evenings at 343-5539.



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