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Hallack charges BPA interference

By GREG WASSON
Of the Emerald

SALEM — Congress approved the Northwest Power Bill to ensure that Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana will coordinate their energy ef-

forts, but state Sen. Ted Hallack, D-Portland, isn't sure the legislation will have that effect.

Hallack, who heads the Senate Committee on Energy, says his growing understanding of the bill leaves him suspicious.

"There have been secret

meetings, contracts negotiated by the wrong parties at rates that are different from those we were promised, a whole bunch of elements that don't add up to me to be a wonderful, marvelous, enlightened piece of legislation."

Last week, the Senate approved SB 282, which establishes the mechanism by which Oregon's representatives will be appointed to an inter-state council, charged with overseeing decisions made by the Bonneville Power Administration.

But according to Hallack, the BPA has already started to negotiate power contracts that will run for 20 years.

"The months are going by and I'm guessing that it will be June or July before the council is in place. If everything is done in advance of the existence of a council, that's directly violative of the spirit of the federal legislation."

Before the council is selected, each of the four states must

create a procedure for choosing their two representatives. In the meantime, decisions are being guided by a transition team composed of two members appointed by each of the four governors.

"The transition team is also going to conduct a so-called scoping study," says Hallack, "And some other things that are concomitant to laying the short and long-term plans that the federal law mandated the council to do. Here again, if the plan has been neatly packaged by the transition team and the council isn't sworn in until July, is that going to be a *fait accompli*?"

"The rush of things being done before there is a council is a very unhealthy sign."

Hallack's counterpart in the House, Rep. Wayne Fawbush, D-Hood River, shares many of Hallack's concerns. However, Fawbush says what's done is done.

Continued on Page 4

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Date: 2/10/81 Place: Campbell Center, 155 High Street.
Time: 12:30-2:30 pm

Date: 2/11/81 Place: Cal Young Junior High Cafeteria,
2555 Gilham Road. Time: 7-9 pm

Thurston Sector

Date: 2/26/81 Place: Thurston Middle School, 6300
Thurston Rd. Time: 3-5 pm

Date: 2/26/81 Place: Thurston High School, 333 N. 58th.
Time: 7-9 pm

Southeast Eugene Sector

Date: 2/19/81 Place: Amazon Community Center, 2700
Hilyard. Time: 1-3 pm

Date: 2/19/81 Place: Roosevelt Junior High Library, 24th
& Hilyard. Time: 7-9 pm

Bethel/Danebo Sector

Date: 2/25/81 Place: Petersen Park Barn, 870 Bertzen.
Time: 1-3 pm

Date: 2/25/81 Place: Petersen Park Barn, 870 Bertzen.
Time: 7:30-9:30 pm

Springfield Sector

Date: 2/11/81 Place: Farwest Federal, 1570 Mohawk.
Time: 7-9 pm

Date: 2/12/81 Place: Willamalane Senior Center, "C" &
Water. Time: 1:30-3:30 pm

Southwest Eugene Sector

Date: 2/18/81 Place: Eugene Public Library, 13th &
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Date: 2/18/81 Place: Eugene Public Library, 13th &
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