

State official in charge of energy tax credits resigns

Agency's handling of incentive program under scrutiny

By HILLARY BORRUD
Capital Bureau

SALEM — A top administrator at the Oregon Department of Energy resigned last week amid scrutiny of the agency's handling of tax incentives for renewable energy and efficiency projects.

Chief Financial Officer Anthony Buckley, who oversees tax incentive, energy grant and

loan programs, will work at the agency through Friday, according to his Sept. 22 letter of resignation. The Department of Energy faces criticism by current and former lawmakers for allowing energy tax credits to be sold at deeper discounts than allowed under state price regulations. Lawmakers plan to take up the subject during hearings in Salem this week.

Inconsistent interpretation

The state offers the tax credits to government and private organizations to help offset the cost of efficiency and renewable energy projects. Recipients can use the credits to reduce their taxes, or sell them to raise capital. Lawmakers passed a law in

2009 that required the Department of Energy to adopt a formula to determine sales prices for tax credits. The goal was to ensure that owners of energy projects who opted to sell their tax credits received nearly the full face value.

However, Buckley told tax credit recipients and brokers in 2014 they could ignore the formula, according to public records and interviews. At the same time, other employees at the department told tax credit recipients they had to follow state price guidelines.

Buckley's resignation letter did not provide a reason for his departure, but he heaped praise on the agency. "I cannot say enough great things about ODOE, about all the people I've

encountered in my years of service here, and especially about you and all the others on the management team," Buckley wrote in a letter to agency director Michael Kaplan.

Two employees who work in the division Buckley oversees, loan manager Paul Zollner and business energy incentive program specialist Nakeia Daniels, also recently resigned. An assistant in the agency's administrative division, Mande Wilding, resigned around the same time.

Another employee in the energy incentives division who handled energy tax credit sales, Joe Colello, resigned in August. Colello was one of the employees who told brokers and tax credit recipients they had to follow state price regulations.

Zollner also did not provide a reason for his resignation in a letter to Buckley.

"I appreciate the opportunities I have been given while at energy," Zollner wrote in a Sept. 24 letter released by the agency.

High turnover

State auditors who were investigating a complaint about the energy department's handling of the tax credits this summer heard that employee morale was low and turnover was high, according to the auditors' notes from interviews with two agency employees. According to the agency's statistics, turnover was at 32 percent during the 2009-2011 biennium, 50 percent during the 2011-13 biennium and 37 percent in the 2013-15 biennium.

Agency spokeswoman Rachel Wray said that since the department is small, some employees leave in order to advance their careers.

"We're proud that many of our employees have gotten the kind of professional experience at ODOE that makes them great candidates for jobs with more responsibility," Wray wrote in an email on Monday. "As for program operations, we've been working to improve these programs and our oversight of them, and it's our intention to make the programs strong and reliable enough to withstand dynamic situations like staff turnover."

The Capital Bureau is a collaboration between EO Media Group and Pamplin Media Group.

Seaside to hold second workshop on Hood to Coast to iron out conflicts

Don't ban event, councilor says, change the date

By KATHERINE LACAZE
EO Media Group

SEASIDE — Discussion about Seaside's participation as the finish line for Hood to Coast will be back on the table during a second work session next Monday night.

The Seaside City Council held a preliminary work ses-

sion last week after 74 local businesses submitted a letter to the council relaying their concerns with the annual event.

Business owners said the race disrupts what could be a significantly profitable late August weekend for small businesses, at little to no benefit to the city.

Event organizers said they contributed \$25,000 to the Seaside Chamber of Commerce, \$25,000 to Providence Seaside Hospital and \$17,000 to the Sunset Empire Park & Recreation District this year,

despite a disastrous finale that was marred by a storm.

City Councilor Randy Frank, who moderated the work session last week, said he believes the timing of the event is bad for the city. He does not want to ban Hood to Coast from Seaside, but wants some changes made.

"I'm not trying to get rid of the event," he said. "I just think that they need to consider changing when they have it. It's just too big of a burden on our town and resources at that time of the year."

Hood to Coast Chief Operating Officer Dan Floyd had said last week that he and race founder Bob Foote would attend the City Council meeting Monday and respond to complaints, but race organizers may now attend the work session next Monday night.

In an interview with the Seaside Signal last week, Floyd said he is considering backup options for a finish line location.

"We love Seaside and we'd love to be back, but it would be smart of us to always have a backup plan for Seaside and

every other location on our race course," he said.

The problem with changing the venue, or even just the date, Floyd said, is that the race is about 200 miles long. Any change would impact not only Seaside but every jurisdiction that provides a start or exchange location on the route.

Because of time constraints, it is important to hold a second work session as soon as possible, Frank said. The city needs to make a decision so organizers can

finalize plans for next year's event.

City Councilor Tita Montoro said she perceives the second work session as an opportunity for collaboration between local residents and Hood to Coast organizers, including Foote or his daughter, Felicia Hubber, who now serves as president.

Even if they don't attend, City Councilor Dana Phillips said, the city can record various opinions and concerns expressed by citizens and pass on that information to Hood to Coast organizers.

ACCUWEATHER® FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

Astoria 5-Day Forecast

Tonight
Areas of low clouds
50°

Wednesday
Times of clouds and sun
65° 49°

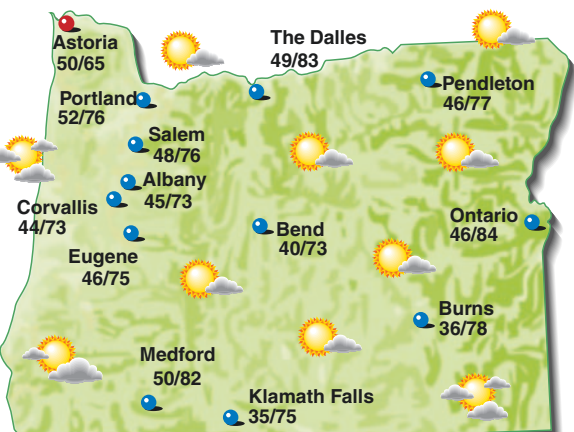
Friday
Mostly cloudy, a shower in the afternoon
66° 48°

Shown is tomorrow's weather. Temperatures are tonight's lows and tomorrow's highs

Thursday
Mostly cloudy
67° 49°

Saturday
Mostly sunny with a shower in places
67° 50°

Oregon Weather



Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2015

Almanac

Astoria through Monday.

Temperatures

High	76°
Low	44°
Normal high	66°
Normal low	47°

Precipitation

Yesterday	0.00"
Month to date	2.13"
Normal month to date	1.94"
Year to date	31.24"
Normal year to date	40.04"

Sun and Moon

Sunset tonight	7:00 p.m.
Sunrise Wednesday	7:12 a.m.
Moonrise today	8:12 p.m.
Moonset today	9:05 a.m.



Regional Cities

City	Today			Wed.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Baker City	82	35	s	82	38	s
Bend	77	40	s	73	40	s
Brookings	64	51	s	63	50	s
Eugene	81	46	s	75	45	s
Ilwaco	67	54	s	62	53	pc
Klamath Falls	79	35	s	75	35	s
Medford	88	50	s	82	48	s
Newport	62	51	s	61	49	pc
North Bend	63	50	s	64	50	pc

Under the Sky

Tonight's Sky: The constellations of autumn: Pegasus, Andromeda, Perseus, Cassiopeia and Cepheus, all stand high overhead mid-evening.

Tomorrow's Tides

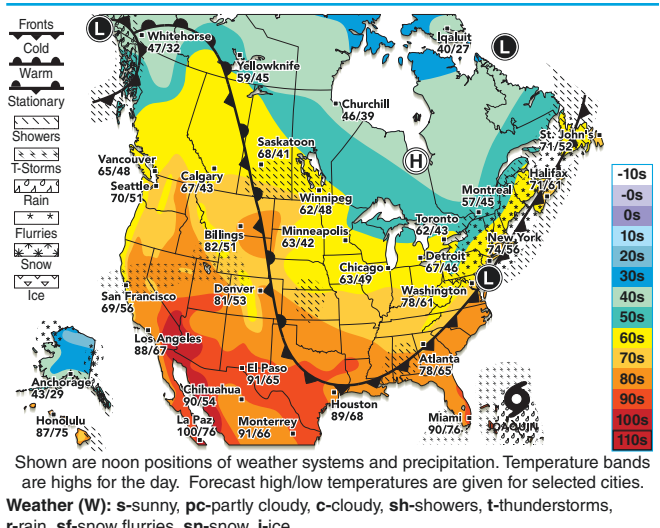
Astoria / Port Docks

Time	High	Time	Low
3:32 a.m.	8.4 ft.	9:30 a.m.	0.3 ft.
3:31 p.m.	9.4 ft.	10:14 p.m.	-1.2 ft.

National Cities

City	Today			Wed.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Atlanta	77	68	t	78	65	t
Boston	78	65	c	70	52	r
Chicago	63	51	sh	63	49	s
Denver	77	53	pc	81	53	pc
Des Moines	70	46	r	67	45	pc
Detroit	74	54	sh	67	46	s
El Paso	93	67	s	91	65	s
Fairbanks	35	28	sn	35	27	sf
Honolulu	86	77	sh	87	75	s
Indianapolis	76	57	t	71	49	pc
Kansas City	75	52	c	70	49	pc
Las Vegas	100	75	s	102	75	s
Los Angeles	88	65	pc	88	67	pc
Memphis	84	69	t	77	60	pc
Miami	88	77	t	90	76	t
Nashville	77	67	t	75	60	sh
New Orleans	86	73	t	87	71	pc
New York	81	68	sh	74	56	r
Oklahoma City	87	62	s	83	59	s
Philadelphia	81	70	sh	76	60	r
St. Louis	82	58	c	72	52	pc
Salt Lake City	85	64	pc	85	62	s
San Francisco	69	56	pc	69	56	pc
Seattle	73	51	s	70	51	r
Washington, DC	82	72	sh	78	61	r

Tomorrow's National Weather



Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day. Forecast high/low temperatures are given for selected cities. Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

OBITUARIES

Angela (Bodie) Ellenburg Brainerd, Minnesota Aug. 28, 1970 — Sept. 25, 2015

Angela Ellenburg, 45, of Brainerd, Minnesota, and formerly of Astoria, Oregon, passed away on Friday, Sept. 25, 2015, at her home in Brainerd. She was born to David and Vicki Bodie on Aug. 28, 1970, in Astoria, Oregon.

From a young age, Angela was always a high energy person who loved music, being outdoors, family and friends.

She found her soul mate and partner for life at the age of 26, when she married Nick Ellenburg. Together, they had many successful business adventures, working together and raising a



Angela Ellenburg

family. Her success in business gave the Ellenburgs time to enjoy the outdoors and share their love of nature with their two children. Angela was a loving wife, mother, sister, daughter and will be greatly missed.

Angela is survived by her husband, Nick; sons, Rudy and Porter; mother, Vicki Bodie; sister, Jennifer Long (Rich); and brother, Eric Bodie (Kerry).

She was preceded in death by her father.

Memorial services will be 1 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 29, at Living Word North in Brainerd, Minnesota. Arrangements are with Kline Funeral Home, Pequot Lakes, Minnesota.

On the record

Menacing

At 9:05 p.m. Saturday, Clatsop County Sheriff's Office arrested Donald Russell Kemmerer, 55, Warrenton, for two counts of menacing, three counts of unlawful possession of a weapon and re-

sisting arrest after a domestic dispute at Kemmerer's home on the 91000 block of Smith Lake Road in Warrenton.

DUI arrest

At 6:23 p.m. Sunday, Astoria Police arrested Frederick Charles Smith, 67,

Astoria, for driving under the influence of intoxicants, reckless driving and two counts of hit and run. Smith reportedly crashed into two vehicles near the Gateway Cinema and fled before being arrested for DUII.

Public meetings

TUESDAY
Port of Astoria Commission, noon, special meeting, old Port offices, 422 Gateway Ave.

THURSDAY
Northwest Oregon Housing Authority Board, 10 a.m., annual meeting, followed by regular monthly

meeting, NOHA office, 147 S. Main Ave., Warrenton.
Seaside Parks Advisory Committee, 7 p.m., City Hall, 989 Broadway.

Lotteries

OREGON
Monday's Pick 4:
1 p.m.: 6-9-9-2
4 p.m.: 9-8-5-9
7 p.m.: 3-1-4-4
10 p.m.: 5-2-7-0
Monday's Megabucks:
1-4-8-16-29-32
Estimated jackpot: \$4 mil-

lion.
WASHINGTON
Monday's Daily Game:
7-6-4
Monday's Hit 5: 19-20-21-24-29
Estimated jackpot: \$120,000.
Monday's Keno: 02-18-

19-26-29-33-37-40-42-45-46-49-50-51-64-67-69-70-79-80
Monday's Lotto: 05-14-15-19-37-48
Estimated jackpot: \$4.7 million.
Monday's Match 4: 03-05-11-12

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The Daily Astorian publishes paid obituaries. The obituary can include a small photo and, for veterans, a flag symbol at no charge. The deadline for all obituaries is 9 a.m. the business day prior.

Obituaries may be edited for spelling, proper punctuation and style. Death notices and upcoming services will be published at no charge. Notices must be submitted by 9 a.m. the day of publication.

Obituaries and notices may be submitted online at www.dailyastorian.com/forms/obits, by email at ewilson@dailyastorian.com, placed via the funeral home or in person at The Daily Astorian office, 949 Exchange St. in Astoria. For more information, call 503-325-3211, ext. 257.

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