

HOUSING

The Portland Observer

Northwest Natural To Hold Public Resource Planning Meetings

Northwest Natural Gas Company is holding three Integrated Resource Planning Meetings: in Portland on August 23, in Salem on August 24 and in Eugene on August 25. The public is encouraged to attend.

This is the utility's second Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) or Least Cost Plan.

Both the Oregon Public Utility Commission and the Washington Utilities and Transportation commission require local distribution companies to develop biennial long-term resource plans. The plans evaluate resource planning strategies for serving the company's core customers at the lowest possible cost. These strategies take into account customer requirements and growth forecasts, current and future gas supply options, and conservation options.

The first public meeting will be held in Portland on Monday, Aug. 23, from 7-9pm in One Pacific Square's 4th floor Hospitality Room, 220 NW 2nd Avenue in Portland's Old Town.

The second meeting will be held in Salem on Tuesday, Aug. 24, from 7-9pm at the Northwest Natural Gas Salem Office Auditorium, 3123 Broadway, NE.

The final meeting will be held in Eugene on Wednesday, Aug. 25, from 7-9pm at the Northwest Natural Gas Eugene Office Auditorium, 790 Goodpasture Island Rd.

Anyone who wants to receive a summary of the draft 1993 Plans should send a letter with their name and address to: Director, Least Cost Planing, Northwest Natural Gas Company, 220 NW 2nd Ave., Portland, OR 97209.

Pacific Power Rate Hike

As a result of the Bonneville Power Administration's recently announced rate hike, Pacific Power said Friday that its residential prices could rise by 6.2 percent.

Pacific Power filed with the Oregon Public Utility Commission to pass through the increase to residential and irrigation customers affected by the BPA rate hike. If approved, the increase would take effect Oct. 1.

The proposed increase would be the first time the utility's prices have increased for six years.

"In 1987, we made a commitment to our customers to hold the line on prices for at least five years," said Paul Lorenzini, PP president. "It's been six years and our prices have actually fallen 8 percent. However, the magnitude of Bonneville's increase requires us to pass increased costs through to our customers."

One of the BPA programs that will be affected by the agency's rate hike is the "regional exchange," under which Pacific's residential and small farm customers have received a credit that reduces their power costs. The credit is based on the difference between BPA's prices and Pacific's costs.

"Since it was instituted more than 10 years ago, the regional exchange has provided real benefits to Pacific's customers," said Lorenzini. "In fact, prices to our customers dropped by as much as 20 percent when we started the exchange. But, overtime, Pacific's relative costs have decreased, while Bonneville's have continued to climb, which reduces the credit available to customers."

This year, Bonneville faced significant cost increases related to fish and wildlife protection, resource ac-

OPB August Pledge Drive

"Quite simply, this really is public television and our members account for our largest single source of income, contributing 49% of our revenue," according to Helen Kennedy, Oregon Public Broadcasting's membership director. "It is especially gratifying that so many families have affirmed their support for public television and for the value it contributes to their quality of life."

And families are the key to this year's August pledge drive with programs to charm everyone from preschoolers to grandparents.

Here are the highlights for August pledge 1993.

Friday, August 20, 9:35pm **How Ordinary People Do Extraordinary Things** With Dr. Robert Kriegel. Kriegel presents forward-looking theories on excelling under pressure and stress reduction.

Saturday, August 21, 6pm **Mario Lanza: The American Caruso**

Lanza's turbulent life is profiled through excerpts from his most popular films.

Saturday, August 21, 7:30pm **The Judds: Their Final Concert**. After 14 number-one country records and countless awards, Wynonna and Naomi ended their musical partnership with this moving performance.

Sunday, August 22, 2 to 10:30pm **Healing And The Mind With Bill Moyers Marathon**. The acclaimed broadcast journalist hosts a marathon of his recent five-part series on healing.

Monday, August 23, 9:10pm **The 50's: Moments To Remember**. Many of the performers that made the 1950s fabulous come together, including Tresa Brewer, Rosemary Clooney, Frankie Lane and Pattie Page.

Oregon Public Broadcasting is the public television and radio network serving Oregon and southern Washington.

Community Calendar Announcement

Housing Our Families will be hosting a Neighborhood Party on Sunday August 22, 1-4pm at Unthank Park, corner of N. Kerby and Failing. The party is to celebrate the organization's recent acquisition of the Colonial Park Apartments and to kick off their rehab and revitalization projects in the apartments and surrounding community. The event will feature free food and cold drinks, live entertainment, an open mike jam session for local bands, fun activities for children including face painting, a raffle with exciting prizes like a Red Lion getaway package, and more. Neighborhood residents will also have an opportunity to nominate their house to be painted for free in Housing Our Families' up coming Paint-a-Thon.

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Legal Aid Series 14: General Assistance

Finding a job is challenging enough for the average person. But for those stricken with physical or mental health problems, the real challenge is being able to work at all.

For disabled people, there is General Assistance (GA), a welfare program that provides cash for those disabled and unable to work for at least 60 days. To qualify, you must be 18 years or older, have less than \$50, not be eligible for Aid to Families with Dependent Children (ADC), and be either single or a childless couple. You must also suffer physical or mental health problems that keep you from working, as well as meet the GA guidelines.

GA guidelines are complicated and detailed, and you'll only find basic information here. If you or your doctor have questions, call Legal Aid's Welfare Rights Hotline at 241-4111. Under the GA guidelines, your health problem may be physical or mental, or both. Physical problems include those that would make you ill or cause you pain by lifting five pounds or sitting and/or standing for four hours. You also qualify if you can't use at least one hand or are nearly blind, even with glasses. In addition, you can get GA if a doctor says your physical problem could be cured by medication or therapy allowing you to work within 60 days, or it is imme-

diately life threatening, cannot be controlled without treatment and would get worse if you worked.

You may also get GA for a mental or emotional illness if you have at least two of the following conditions: a hard time concentrating or finishing tasks on time; severe problems being or working with others; severe limitations on your daily activities; or times when work or work-type situations make your symptoms or problems worse. You also qualify if you're a danger to yourself or others or you cannot take care of your basic needs. And you can get GA if a doctor finds drug or alcohol problems keep you from working. But you'll have to get treatment for your addiction if prescribed, provided such treatment is available.

GA pays \$268 in cash for one person, less if you're living with someone. Some health care is also covered, but during hospital stays, only doctor bills are paid.

To apply for GA, you must go to a Senior and Disabled Services Division (SDSD) branch office. If unable to go because of health problems, SDSD can mail an application or send someone to your home. You can also ask someone else to apply for you at the branch office. You'll have to fill out several papers, and apply for benefits through Social Security. After applying, you'll need to see a doctor who'll have to write a report saying you cannot work for at least 60

days. The report must state why you can't work and should include any proof the doctor may have of your health problem. The doctor should include in the report a diagnosis, a prognosis, (how long your recovery will take), medical records, exam results and other documentation of your disability and an explanation of how your illness meets GA guidelines. The report must be signed by a medical doctor (M.D.), doctor of osteopathy (D.O.), psychiatrist (M.D.) or psychologist (Ph.D.) and sent to SDSD.

Proving you deserve GA takes a lot of work, but SDSD must help you, as well as pay for your doctor visits. Legal Aid can also help by giving your doctor a form that makes filling out the report easier. SDSD may ask for more time if your doctor delays sending in the report. If denied GA, you must be notified in writing, which is called a denial notice. If you get one, call Legal Aid's Welfare Rights Hotline at 241-4111 right away to get legal advice and find out about a hearing.

Multnomah County Legal Aid Service provides legal advice and representation to low-income people living in Multnomah County having welfare problems. Appointments may be made by calling our North/Northeast Community Law Office (on the Portland Community College Cascade Campus) at 295-9494.

In Honor Of Women's Rights Day

"Third wave feminists: We Are The Leaders We've Been Waiting For." Everyone is invited to celebrate Women's Rights Day. Join in a discussion of the deteriorating social and economic conditions which compel women to become the leaders everyone needs. Speakers are Lisa Clay, African-American human

rights advocate and founder of "Drummers and Dreamers;" Judy Smith, feminist and publisher of Blue Stocking; and Jordana Sardo, anti-OCA activist and Organizer for Portland Radical Women. Come toast the defiant new wave of women's leadership. The festivities begin at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 22 in

Dahlke Manor's Community Room, 915 NE Schuyler, Portland. A delectable International Buffet will be available at 12:30 p.m. for a \$7.00 donation. A door donation of \$3.00 is requested. Auspices: Radical Women. For more information, childcare or directions, call (503) 228-3090. Wheelchair accessible.

ONA Donates \$3,000 To Police Activities League

The Oregon narcotics Enforcement Association presented the Police Activities League (PAL) with a donation of \$3,000 to help with its prevention efforts for youth in the community on August 11, 1993, at the Portland State University campus. PAL and PSU are in a joint

effort offering the National Youth Sports Program, a five-week sports and educational camp for low-income youth.

PAL, which is a collaboration of all law enforcement agencies in Multnomah County and a public/private partnership kicked off its fall fund

raising campaign with the ONEA donation. "Pal is at a critical stage in its development right now," said PAL executive Director Maura White.

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SUMMER PROGRAM 'ENERGIZES'

The 'force' is with Franklin High physics teacher Howard Adler when he gets back to school this year.

Adler spent three weeks in a special U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) summer program, learning all about the universe--how it works, its basic particles and forces. He plans to use his first-hand information about high energy particle physics and astrophysics to energize students in his classroom this year.

Adler was one of 45 high school teachers from around the United States selected to participate in the Topics in Modern Physics National Institute (TMP) held at Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory (Fermilab) in Batavia, Ill. Fermilab is home of the world's highest energy particle accelerator, the Tevatron.

TMP participants joined in sessions with Fermi physicists that demonstrated how physicists understand the small and complex world of subatomic structure as well as the im-

mense cosmos. Many hands-on labs and activities were designed to link the Fermilab experience to classroom activities that participants will use with their own students.

Fermilab is one of several special research facilities operated by DOE as part of the United States high energy physics program.

For more information, please contact Lew Fredrick, director, Public Information Office, Portland Public Schools, 331-3304.

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