



# Business

## Cooling System Brewing For Downtown Portland

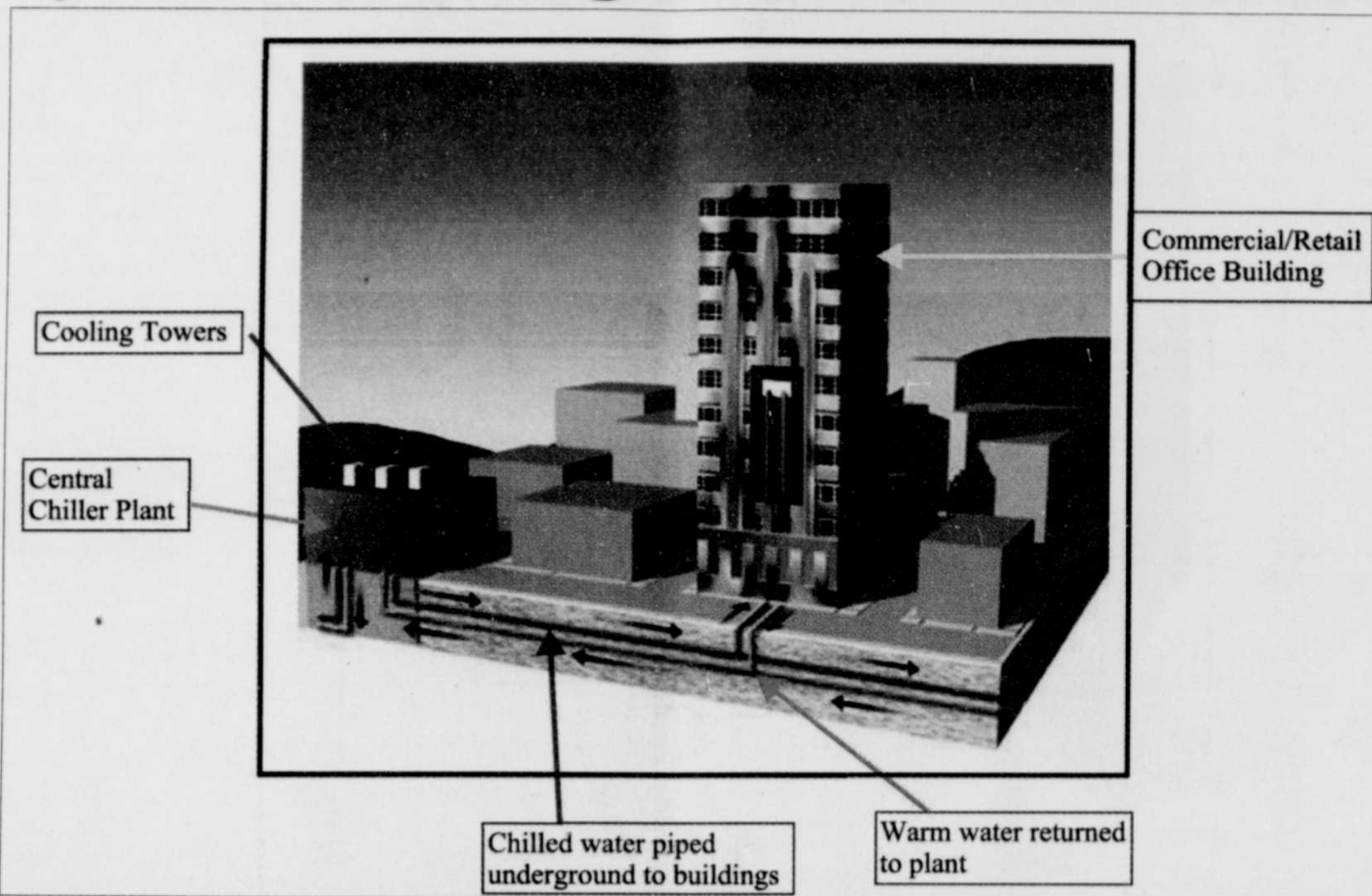
Portland Energy Solutions, an affiliate of Portland General Electric, has begun the first phase of construction on a neighborhood district cooling system.

The first central plant will be housed in the new Brewery Blocks project rising from old Blitz-Weinhard Brewery on West Burnside and will have the capacity to cool six million square feet of office and retail square in downtown Portland.

The district cooling system works by distributing chilled water from the central plant through a network of underground supply and return pipes, supplying clean and reliable district cooling services to buildings.

New construction projects can tap into district cooling rather than purchasing and installing their own air conditioning equipment. Existing buildings also can access district cooling as a means to replace aging air conditioning machines.

"As new commercial and industrial construction takes place, it makes sense to investigate and identify new and better ways to make and use energy," said Gary



Heikkinen, PES general manager. "The system directly responds to current demands for energy saving measures that are economically and environmentally beneficial."

While district cooling systems are in place or under development in some 40 other North American cities, like Minneapolis, Chicago and Denver, the Brewery Blocks development will be the first downtown system in Oregon. It is scheduled to be operational the first quarter of 2002. Drawing board plans include development of a second plant on the southern end of downtown. The two systems combined will have the capacity to cool 12 to 15 million square feet, or more than of the major building in downtown Portland. "Portland Energy Solutions serves an important role in sustaining our city as a great to live and work," said Peggy Fowler, PGE CEO and president. "Delivering innovative, reliable services like district cooling is part of PGE's and PES's ongoing commitment to meet our customers' energy needs both today and into the future."

## Publishers Set Agenda for 18th Annual Conference

Cloves Campbell Jr., president of West Coast Black Publishers Association and publisher of the Arizona Informant, is pleased with the progress of the organization's 18th Annual Conference in Las Vegas at the Monte Carlo Resort, Oct 10-13.

The publishers group is a



Cloves Campbell Jr., President of the West Coast Black Publishers.

voice for truth in the delivery of news about the hardships and struggles of the minority community; yet at the same time the group delivers messages of hope and progress for improving social and economic conditions.

Members of the association

are devoted to promoting, strengthening, and expanding the role of the Black press in the African American community.

"Everyone involved is looking forward to the conference. Our newspapers are a vital part of the community and we are proud of our commitment to tell the stories that affect our lives," Campbell said.

Appropriately themed "The Legacy of the Black Press: Challenging the Status Quo," plans are set for a meaningful forum of learning and networking while bringing together member publishers from the states of Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, Oregon and Washington.

The agenda for the conference includes the examination of timely issues and topical concerns that directly affect the community, its growth and development, through various workshops and seminars. The publishers are planning to strengthen their role as a powerful influence in all communities in the western U.S.

Business leaders, political and government officials, and dynamic, enterprising individuals of local, regional and national

distinction will serve as both speakers and panelists. More than 400 high school students will be attending conference activities geared to their interests.

"We eagerly accept the responsibility of reaching out to help our young people. Our conference provides a unique opportunity for qualified high school



Charles Washington of the Portland Observer represents Oregon as a member of the West Coast Black Publishers Association.

students to interact with outstanding role models of corporate America. These efforts empower them to overcome obstacles and accomplish their full potential as worthy adults," stated Campbell.

Members of publishers group include John Holoman, Herald Dispatch; Mark Kimber, California Advocate; Peggy Hunt, Tri-County Sentry; Hardy and Cheryl Brown, Riverside Black Voice; Amelia Ashley-Ward, Reporter Publications; Elizabeth Beaver, The Fact; Christopher Bennett, Seattle Medium; Gail Berkley, Post Publications; Ellen Coley, Bakersfield News Observer; Ruth Hopkins, The Pasadena Journal News; Les Kimber, Cali-

fornia Advocate; William Lee, Sacramento Observer; Ramon Savoy, Las Vegas Sentinel Voice; Kimberly Bailey and Patricia Richardson, Northwest Dispatch; Brian Townsend, Sam Bernardino Precinct Reporter; John and Geri Warren, San Diego Voice and Viewpoint; Charles Washington, Portland Observer and O. Ray Watkins, Compton Bulletin. Established in 1971, the West Coast Black Publishers Association continues to serve

as a magnet organization for coordinating the good will and growth of the Black press into an effective powerful network entity facing the new millennium.

For room reservations, please call the Monte Carlo Resort at 800-311-8999 and ask for code VVCBPAO to secure conference rates. For further conference information you are invited to call the office of Alescia Buford and Associates at 818-995-6545.

## Fair Housing Group Address Discrimination

Local elected officials, civil rights advocates, housing professional and other supporters of civil rights in housing will gather April 26 for a Fair Housing Luncheon at the Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel.

The event is sponsored by the

Fair Housing Council of Oregon in honor of National Fair Housing Month, will feature Norm Rice, the President of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Seattle and former Seattle mayor.

The luncheon program will also

feature Mexican folk singer Candelario Zamudio and Rattling Thunder, an award winning Native American dance theatre.

For registration and more information, contact Diane Hess at 503-412-6000.

## Mailman May Not Deliver on Saturdays

By DAVID HO

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Through snow, rain and gloom of night — but maybe not on the weekend.

Battered by slowing business and huge projected losses, the Postal Service recently announced that it will study cutting back to a five-day schedule that would eliminate mail delivery on Saturdays. The agency also will examine how much money can be saved by consolidating and closing some postal plants and offices.

With rising costs, postal officials say they face a \$2 billion to

\$3 billion loss this fiscal year. After five years in the black, the post office had a \$199 million loss last fiscal year.

The agency's governing board will ask Postal Service management to report their study results within 90 days, said S. David Fineman, the board's vice chairman. Fineman said the financial savings of going to five-day service could be "substantial."

"It could offset the amount of the loss that we have and we would hope that whatever actions we take will be able to cause us to ask for less of a rate increase," he

said. The price of first class mail went up a penny to 34 cents in January. Postal managers are preparing to apply this summer for another rate increase, to take effect next year.

The study will examine ending Saturday delivery for all mail, except overnight delivery. The study won't consider closing post office windows for other services.

The study of consolidating postal facilities will focus on behind-the-scenes operations like mail sorting and delivery and will seek ways to avoid affecting consumers, Fineman said.

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