



EAST OREGONIAN

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WINNER OF THE 2017 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

One dollar

ECHO

Canadian company plans Nolin Hills wind farm

350-MW project would be built on private land

By **GEORGE PLAVEN**
East Oregonian

A Canadian energy company is looking to develop its largest wind farm to date on private farmland four miles south of Echo in Umatilla County.

Capital Power Corporation, based in Edmonton, Alberta, recently notified Oregon regula-

tors it will pursue the Nolin Hills Wind Power Project, which would generate approximately 350 megawatts of renewable electricity.

The company filed what's known as a Notice of Intent with the Oregon Department of Energy in September, announcing it will apply for a site certificate to build the project. Preliminary information shows the facility would be

located on 44,900 acres with an 18-mile, 230-kilovolt transmission line to connect onto the energy grid. The precise number, size and layout of turbines has not yet been determined.

Paul Wendelgass, director of business development for Capital Power Corporation, said the company hopes to have the wind farm completed by 2020 in order to qualify for the federal production tax credit, which currently pays

2.4 cents per kilowatt-hour but will phase down by 20 percent per year through 2019.

The Department of Energy anticipates Capital Power will submit its application for a site certificate by February 2018. For now, the public has until Monday, Nov. 6 to provide comments on the Notice of Intent.

"We've been conducting environmental studies at the site," Wendelgass said. "We're working

on studies to refine our site layouts, evaluate constraints from an environmental perspective and do our best to avoid or mitigate the impacts where we can."

Capital Power, listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange, traces its history back to the Edmonton Electric Lighting and Power Company, formed in 1891. The company became an independent

See WIND/8A



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Noor out as Oregon schools chief

By **STEVEN DUBOIS**
Associated Press

PORTLAND — Oregon schools chief Salam Noor resigned Wednesday after less than 2 1/2 years on the job.

Gov. Kate Brown announced the news in a statement, saying Colt Gill will serve as acting chief during the search for a permanent replacement.

Noor's resignation comes about a month after test results showed Oregon students declining in reading, writing and math. Noor, whose official title was deputy superintendent for public instruction, did not immediately return a phone message seeking comment.

Brown was out of the country on a trade mission and unavailable for comment.

See NOOR/8A

Blues expected to turn white

Shafts of light shine through the clouds illuminating the foothills of the Blue Mountains on Wednesday east of Pilot Rock. A low pressure system moving through Eastern Oregon will bring rain in the lower elevations and snow in the higher elevations. The National Weather Service is forecasting scattered snow showers in the mountains Thursday morning and more significant snow by late in the day and into Friday. The service expects travel impacts on mountain roads, especially Interstate 84, U.S. Highway 395 and Oregon Route 204.

Forestry wants more money for fires

By **CLAIRE WITCOMBE**
Capital Bureau

SILVERTON—Oregon's forestry department may ask legislators in the upcoming session for more money to deal with escalating wildfires.

State Forester Peter

Daugherty told the Board of Forestry Wednesday that there is "big interest" in the Legislature in addressing fire policy, particularly when it comes to fires on Oregon's federal land.

"They all want to do something, and I don't know quite what it is they want to do," Daugherty said. "But they have created a fire caucus, and there will be a fire policy discussion at their next legislative session."

The timing may be right for the forestry department to make its case to legislators. While Oregon's rural communities consistently see fire's effects up close, the state's major cities got a dose of smoke and ash from wildfires this summer.

The Eagle Creek Fire, which began in early September and is still burning on the scenic Columbia River Gorge east of Portland, caused particular distress. And this week, more than 20 people have perished as a result of wildfires in California wine country.

Oregon Gov. Kate Brown was also "very engaged" in



Collin Andrew/The Register-Guard via AP

In this Aug. 24, 2017, photo, Hannah Blackstock scouts a wildfire in the Willamette National forest northeast of Lowell. Fire season has cost an estimated \$38.9 million in 2017.

See FIRE/8A

PENDLETON

Sexual predator's return to town sparks an alarm

By **PHIL WRIGHT**
East Oregonian

Sexual offender Steven "Max" Duggan in September announced on Facebook he was moving back to Pendleton. Dan Logman alerted the post like a guard dog to an intruder and has been barking about it since.

Logman said Duggan back in 2009 harassed his girlfriend, now wife, Vanessa Logman. When he told Duggan over the phone to stop, he said Duggan showed up 90 minutes later at their front door. That was enough for Logman to determine he was dangerous.

"That's when I started researching who he was," Logman said.

He found Duggan's criminal past, which includes 1990 and 2001 Umatilla County convictions for rape and sodomy. Police told him to treat Duggan as a serious threat, Logman said.

Logman, a burly man who bench presses more than 400 pounds, said he kept track of Duggan after that. Duggan ended up in prison in Washington for drug crimes, then got out in



Duggan

See DUGGAN/8A

