

# Local electric rates go up after BPA increase

Blue Mountain Eagle

Local electricity costs will soon be increasing.

On July 26, the Bonneville Power Administration adopted a 5.4 percent average wholesale power rate increase and an average transmission rate decrease of 0.7 percent for the cost of power it provides to its nonprofit electric utilities in the Northwest, including Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative, according to an OTEC press release. BPA will apply this rate increase to OTEC's wholesale power

purchases beginning Oct. 1.

Over the last several months, OTEC has been discussing its cost of service, the potential impacts of a BPA wholesale rate increase and associated distribution cost increases. OTEC's current average rate including power supply and distribution costs ranks them 26th lowest in the nation.

"Regardless of this favorable ranking, we continue to focus on utility operations and efficiency in delivering power. Because we understand the impact it has on our

local economies," said OTEC General Manager Les Penning in the release.

BPA delivers clean renewable hydropower to more than 140 Northwest utilities and continues to face significant challenges in several areas.

"The combination of a recent court decision ordering increased spill at the hydroelectric dams along the Columbia River and the collapse of the secondary energy market has many Northwest utilities who get their power from BPA, including OTEC,

concerned," Penning said. "Combined with continued investments in their aging infrastructure (approximately \$6 billion over the next 6 years) and lost revenues from the reduced demand for the sale of the excess power BPA produces, consumers may now be expected to make up for those lost revenues."

Historically, the sales of BPA's excess energy onto the secondary open energy market helped to reduce wholesale rates to their consumers, including OTEC.

Prior to the increase

taking affect in October, OTEC's Board of Directors will review the final "Cost of Service" study assessing revenue requirements for operations of OTEC's distribution system as well as the final landing point of the wholesale power cost and approve the final rate design and increase.

"When looking at rates, generally our Board of Directors will concentrate on two primary categories," said Penning. "Delivery charge and energy charge. Our upcoming 'Cost of Service' study

will guide the delivery charge and ensure that it is — or is moving closer to — covering all fixed costs such as poles wires, etc."

OTEC's members will be informed of the exact amount of this rate increase beginning in October through the *Ruralite* magazine, the "News from the Trail" billing insert, OTEC's website ([www.otecc.com](http://www.otecc.com)) and Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/OTEC-Coop](http://www.facebook.com/OTEC-Coop)).

For more information on BPA's rate increase visit [www.bpa.gov/news](http://www.bpa.gov/news).

## Objection period set on Camp Lick

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The Camp Lick planning area on the Blue Mountain Ranger District of the Malheur National Forest entered the 45-day objection filing period for the draft decision notice and finding of no significant impact Aug. 23. Individuals and entities who have previously submitted specific written comments regarding the proposed project during the 30-day scoping period or comment period on the preliminary environmental assessment may submit an objection.

The draft includes silviculture and fuels treatments, riparian and upland watershed restoration treatments, prescribed burning operations, the installation of an interpretive sign and multiple road projects. The project also includes forest plan amendments to change old growth boundaries to bring these areas up to Malheur Forest Plan standards, allow removal of trees greater than or equal to 21 inches diameter at breast height and allow harvest in late and old structure stands.

Specific directions on how to file an objection and complete details for this project can be accessed on the Forest Service website at: [fs.usda.gov/project?project=46219](http://fs.usda.gov/project?project=46219), or copies can be requested by contacting Hannah Smith at 541-575-3031 or [hannahsmith@fs.fed.us](mailto:hannahsmith@fs.fed.us). Objections must be postmarked or received by the reviewing officer within 45 days from the date of the publication of the legal notice. All objections are available for public inspection during and after the objection process.

For more information, contact Hannah Smith, NEPA Planner, at 541-575-3031 or by e-mail at [hannahsmith@fs.fed.us](mailto:hannahsmith@fs.fed.us).

*Arrests and citations in the Blue Mountain Eagle are taken from the logs of law enforcement agencies. Every effort is made to report the court disposition of arrest cases.*

### Grant County Circuit Court

One count of harassment against Anthony William Westlund was dismissed.

### Oregon State Police

Arrested Tanaya S. Robinson, 37, for driving under the influence of intoxicants Aug. 15.

Arrested James J. Credeur, 28, on a warrant for failure to appear for second-degree animal abuse in Deschutes County Aug. 18.

Arrested David R. Stillwell, 22, for driving under the influence of intoxicants after stopping him for prohibited lighting.

Arrested Liv Madeline Elfstrom, 28, for driving under the influence after stopping her for a traffic violation Aug. 19.

### Grant County Sheriff

The Grant County Sheriff's Office reported the following for the week of Aug. 11-16:

- Average inmates: 17
- Bookings: 5
- Releases: 8
- Arrests: 1
- Citations: 1
- Fingerprints: 2
- Civil papers: 16
- Warrants processed: 2
- Asst./welfare check: 3

### Justice Court

The Grant County Justice Court reported the following fines and judgments:

Carrying concealed weapon: Jordan Mackenzie Diamond-Hughes, Burns, fined \$590.

Unlawful possession of marijuana: William A. Westlund, John Day, sentenced to 24 months probation, 36 hours in jail, 60 hours community service, fined \$390.

Second-degree disorderly conduct: Holly Ann Newman, fined \$435, required to have no contact with the victim.

Offensive littering: George E. Duff, Joplin, Missouri, sentenced to 120 hours in jail, fined \$100.

No resident shellfish license: Keith Alan Brandt, 61, Redmond, July 28, fined \$72.

Interfering with an emergency vehicle: Elizabeth Ann Fischer, 39, Minneapolis, Minnesota, July 23, fined \$260.

Operate without proper fenders: Eric Michael Vanderzanden, 27, Banks, April 10, fined \$170.

Driving while suspended: Emma Lam, 22, Wilmington, Delaware, April 12, fined \$445; Talia C. Maloy, 40, Prairie City, April 13, fined \$445; Brandon Neil Hoodie, 28, Burns, June 6, fined \$445.

Consumption of intoxicants: Brandon Neil Hoodie, 28, Burns, June 6, fined \$445.

No operator's license: Ashlee Annamarrie Herrera, 18, Clearfield, Utah, June 3, fined \$260; Michael Wainright, 38, Raleigh, North Carolina, July 3, fined \$260.

Operating a motor vehicle while using a mobile communication device: Cameron H. Schneider, 24, John Day, July 30, fined \$135.

Driving uninsured: Michael Wainright, 38, Raleigh, North Carolina, July 3, fined \$260; Tina Kay Couey, 57, Canyon City, May 22, fined \$130; Adrian Leah Couey, 32, John Day, July 11, fined \$260.

Careless driving — accident: Brandi K. Henderson, 31, John Day, June 9, fined \$370; Jorene Jean Smith, 63, Bonanza, July 10, fined \$370; Harold E. Miller, 76, Baker City, July 5, fined \$435.

Violation of the speed limit: Marianne Lowrey Buck, 62, Livingston, Texas, 52/25 zone, May 29, fined \$260.

## COPS AND COURTS

Violation of the basic rule: Jose Luis Garza, 33, Fresno, California, 72/55 zone, May 1, fined \$160; Annalise Lee Bradshaw, 20, Payette, Idaho, 76/55 zone, Aug. 1, fined \$160.

Exceeding speed limit: Timothy B. Stypolkowski, 38, Bend, 70/50 zone, July 31, fined \$160; Matthew Alan Witzel, 19, Crane, 73/65 zone, July 21, fined \$160; William Alan Kuhn, 55, Bend, 44/30 zone, July 23, fined \$135; Wayne Keith Frater, 71, San Francisco, 44/30 zone, July 23, fined \$160.

Small Claims: Colleen Robertson vs. Robert Moreland. Money judgment awarded to Colleen Robertson for \$236.90; Colleen Robertson vs. Danetta Lewis. Money judgment awarded to Colleen Robertson for \$3,021.99; Colleen Robertson vs. Kyra Adair. Money judgment awarded to Colleen Robertson for \$486.06.

### Dispatch

John Day dispatch worked 451 calls during the week of Aug. 14-21. Along with the various traffic warnings, trespassing, injured animals, noise complaints and juvenile complaints, these calls included:

### • John Day Police Department

Aug. 18: Responded with Grant County Sheriff's Office, Oregon State Police and Forest Service law enforcement to a report of someone who drove off from Leathers with a gas hose in the tank. Cited a 53-year-old man for driving an ATV on a highway. Cited a 66-year-old John Day man for failure to wear a helmet after stopping him for riding a moped on the

sidewalk. Responded to a report of a dog fight in Prairie City and cited a man for failure to provide rabies vaccination and maintaining a dog as a nuisance. Responded to a report of illegal drugs being sold near the Dollar Store.

Aug. 19: Responded to a report of a dispute in Prairie City. Responded to a report of an illegal campfire.

Aug. 20: Arrested a California man for driving under the influence of intoxicants. Cited a John Day man after catching two dogs running in the street.

### • Grant County Sheriff's Office

Aug. 16: Received a report of dogs running loose in Canyon City. Responded to a caller who reported an unwanted evicted subject.

Aug. 17: Responded with Oregon State Police and Forest Service law enforcement to a report of a fight in Mt. Vernon. Responded with Oregon State Police, John Day police and Forest Service law enforcement to a report of a woman screaming at the Trout Farm.

Aug. 18: Responded to a report of a domestic assault. Warned campers about hav-

ing a campfire. Responded to a report of illegal fireworks.

Aug. 20: Responded to a report of an illegal campfire.

Aug. 20: Responded to a report of shots fired at the rock pit. Received a report of an ATV accident in the Seneca area.

### • John Day ambulance

Aug. 15: Responded for a 58-year-old woman who was unconscious.

### • Mount Vernon Fire Department

Aug. 18: Responded to a grass fire on the side of Highway 26.

### • John Day Fire Department

Aug. 16: Responded to a report of illegal burning.

Aug. 20: Responded to the Industrial Park for a report of a campfire.

### • United States Forest Service

Aug. 18: Advised of a possible fire southwest of the Cant Ranch.

Aug. 19: Advised of an illegal campfire.

Aug. 21: Dispatch called AAA for a subject with a hole in their oil pan. Advised of a possible fire near Forest Service Road 131.





# Capital Bureau

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The doctor speaks Spanish - el doctor habla Espan-ol.

# Blue Mountain Eagle

## EARLY DEADLINE

### For the September 6th Edition Ad, Classified & Legal Deadline August 31st by 5pm

Office will be closed Monday, September 4th.

# Blue Mountain EAGLE

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