## **Department of Energy**



Bonneville Power Administration P.O. Box 3621 Portland, Oregon 97208-3621

October 27, 1999

In reply refer to: KCC

## Additional Field Hearing Announced for the Wholesale Power Rate Case

On August 13, 1999, the Bonneville Power Administration published its initial rate proposal for FY 2002-2006 wholesale power rates. The initial proposal describes how BPA intends to develop rates to implement BPA's Power Subscription Strategy, published in December 1998. The Power Subscription Strategy outlined a process that will enable the people of the Northwest to share the benefits of the Federal Columbia River Power System after 2001 when current rates and most firm power contracts expire. BPA will make a final decision on its rates in early to mid 2000 after the Administrator considers the record developed through the formal rate hearing process.

An important part of the record is the testimony BPA receives during the rate case field hearings. These hearings are an opportunity for participants (those not directly represented in the rate case as an official party) to share with BPA their thoughts and concerns about the initial proposal. BPA has already held eight field hearings around the region presided over by the hearing officer conducting the rate case, and is now scheduling one additional meeting. The meeting will include a brief explanation of the initial proposal, an opportunity to ask questions of BPA representatives and provide formal comment for the official rate case record. Registration begins at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m.

## Tuesday November 9, 1999

Doubletree Inn at South Center Mall 205 Strander Boulevard Seattle, Washington (206) 246-8220

For further information about the rate case, please refer to the rate case <u>Keeping Current: Sharing the Benefits; BPA's Initial Proposal for the 2002 Power Rate Case</u>; the <u>1999 Power Rate Case</u>: <u>The Process and How to Participate</u>; and the <u>1999 Power Rate Case</u>: <u>Studies Used to Develop the Rates</u>. These documents and other related information are available on the BPA Web site at:

http://www.bpa.gov/power/ratecase

or may be requested from BPA's Public Information Center by calling 1-800-622-4520.