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**BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**BPA hosts nation's largest regional science bowl**

*Students from Northwest compete for \$134,000 in scholarships  
from 17 regional colleges, as well as a berth in National Science Bowl*

**Portland, Ore.** – As many as 132 teams of middle and high school students from across western portions of Washington and Oregon will compete in the nation's largest regional science bowl over the next two weekends.

The Bonneville Power Administration is hosting the BPA Regional Science Bowl for the 24<sup>th</sup> straight year. The middle school competition is set for Saturday, Jan. 31, with the high school students taking to the buzzer on Saturday, Feb. 7, at the University of Portland. The top team in each division will travel all-expenses paid to Washington, D.C., to compete in the Department of Energy's National Science Bowl from April 30 to May 4.

Beyond the prestige of winning and the prospect of the national competition, BPA and science bowl volunteers have worked to establish partnerships with universities and colleges in the region to offer scholarships for the top three teams in the high school division. In all, 17 colleges and universities in the Northwest are offering \$134,000 in scholarships to members of the top teams.

In addition to the competition, demonstrations and hands-on activities will take place throughout the day at the event. In the afternoon, a separate engineering competition allows teams that have not advanced to the double-elimination round to test their engineering and design skills in a hands-on project.

The more than 600 students in the competition come from public and private schools in western Washington and western and central Oregon – from as far north as Republic, Wash., and as far south as Ashland, Ore. Many practice for months, in groups and individually, for the competition, which is as intense as any sporting event, particularly at the high school level.

BPA sponsors the science bowl to showcase students' talents in science, technology, engineering and math, as well as to encourage them to consider careers in these fields. This helps to ensure a future labor pool of scientists and innovators so critical to the energy industry.

The BPA Regional Science Bowl is sponsored by the University of Portland, Google, Vernier Software & Technology and Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories Inc.

### **BPA REGIONAL SCIENCE BOWL 2015 – Middle School**

**Where:** Franz Hall, University of Portland, Portland, Ore.

**When:** Jan. 31, 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**Notes:** The event is free and open to the public. Championship rounds begin at approximately 4 p.m. in Buckley Auditorium.

### **BPA REGIONAL SCIENCE BOWL 2015 – High School**

**Where:** Franz Hall, University of Portland, Portland, Ore.

**When:** Feb. 7, 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**Notes:** The event is free and open to the public. Championship rounds begin at approximately 4 p.m. in Buckley Auditorium.

**More info:** [www.bpa.gov/goto/ScienceBowl](http://www.bpa.gov/goto/ScienceBowl)

**Complete list of teams for both middle school and high school:**

[www.bpa.gov/goto/ScienceBowlTeams](http://www.bpa.gov/goto/ScienceBowlTeams)

*BPA is a nonprofit federal agency that markets renewable hydropower from federal Columbia River dams, operates three-quarters of high-voltage transmission lines in the Northwest and funds one of the largest wildlife protection and restoration programs in the world. BPA and its partners have also saved enough electricity through energy efficiency projects to power four large American cities. For more information, contact us at 503-230-5131 or visit our website at [www.bpa.gov](http://www.bpa.gov).*

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