

BPA NEWS

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BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION
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CONTACT: Doug Johnson, BPA, 503-713-7658
or 503-230-5131

Arrests made in connection with 2022 BPA substation attack

Recent attacks near Renton, Washington being investigated

Portland, Ore. – A Centralia, Washington man and an unidentified accomplice have been arrested in connection with a November 2022 attack on the Bonneville Power Administration’s Ostrander Substation in Clackamas, Oregon. That attack cost BPA and its ratepayers more than \$100,000.

“BPA thanks the FBI for its persistence in investigating this incident,” said BPA CEO and Administrator John Hairston. “Unplanned power outages can range from minor inconveniences to life-threatening situations. Anyone attacking any component of the power grid should know they are jeopardizing the safety of others. This is a serious crime, and we are glad the individuals allegedly responsible have been caught.”

Recent attacks near Renton, Washington

In mid-December and early April, an attacker damaged equipment on BPA’s Covington–Maple Valley 230-kilovolt transmission line near Renton, Washington. In December, a vandal damaged a transmission line structure. Then on April 6, a vandal damaged equipment less than one mile away from the location of the December incident. Both incidents occurred about 4 miles northwest of the town of Maple Valley on BPA’s transmission line right-of-way less than a mile south of Highway 169.

“These deliberate attacks on equipment take line workers and other personnel off task and cost ratepayers money,” said Covington district manager Stefan Schildt. “We are hoping anyone with information about who may have caused this damage will come forward and help bring that person or persons to justice.”



If you have information, please submit an anonymous tip through Crime Stoppers by texting the info through the P3 Tips App on your cell phone, at www.P3Tips.com or by calling [1-800-222-TIPS](tel:1-800-222-TIPS) (8477). Reference case #C23042408.

About BPA

The Bonneville Power Administration, headquartered in Portland, Oregon, is a nonprofit federal power marketer that sells wholesale, carbon-free hydropower from 31 federal dams in the Columbia River Basin. It also markets the output of the region's only nuclear plant. BPA delivers this power to more than 140 Northwest electric utilities, serving millions of consumers and businesses in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, western Montana and parts of California, Nevada, Utah and Wyoming. BPA also owns and operates more than 15,000 circuit miles of high-voltage power lines and 261 substations and provides transmission service to more than 300 customers. In all, BPA provides nearly a third of the power generated in the Northwest. To mitigate the impacts of the federal dams, BPA implements a fish and wildlife program that includes working with its partners to make the federal dams safer for fish passage. It also pursues cost-effective energy savings and operational solutions that help maintain safe, affordable, reliable electric power for the Northwest. www.bpa.gov

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