Crime! If you see it, report it!

Damaging Bureau of Reclamation property is a crime. Reclamation and the Bonneville Power Administration are in a partnership against crime. The dams, powerhouses, substations, and transmission lines owned and operated by these two agencies constitute major parts of the Federal Columbia River Power System.

The Pacific Northwest Federal Crime Witness Program features a toll-free crime informant hotline which allows you to report, confidentially, any illegal activity that you witness against Reclamation or BPA property or personnel.

The Crime Witness Program is designed to heighten public awareness of the serious impacts of crime within or around power production facilities, electrical substations, and transmission lines.

Reclamation and BPA operate a 24-hour toll-free hotline to gather information about a crime or a crime in progress. This toll-free number is linked directly to BPA headquarters in Portland, Oregon.

The partnership between Reclamation and BPA is aimed at stopping and reporting crime.

Crime Witness Hotline:
1-800-437-2744

What is a Crime?

What to watch for as a Crime Witness:

- dumping of any waste materials on Reclamation property
- theft of Reclamation property, buildings and vehicles
- physical harm or threats to Reclamation personnel

If you see or suspect that any of these crimes have been committed, be a Crime Witness.

Once your call is received, it is assigned a case number and given to a trained security specialist to follow-up and investigate.

You can help deter criminal activity and reduce costs to Reclamation and its customers (you) by calling the Crime Witness Program hotline at 1-800-437-2744 or the BPA Security Office at (503) 230-4274

The Mission of the Bureau of Reclamation is to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American People.

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Why is this important to You?

Thousands of people in the Pacific Northwest depend on a reliable source of electricity. Hospitals, schools, businesses, and government agencies need electricity to perform the tasks we all depend on every day.

The Bureau of Reclamation operates 10 hydroelectric power plants in the Pacific Northwest, making it a key player in providing the power needed to keep the productivity of the region intact.

Reclamation's Pacific Northwest power plants produced an average of 22.9 million kilowatt-hours of electricity during 1997. That's almost three times the annual power consumption of the City of Seattle.

Reclamation facilities also provide a reliable source of water to meet the demands of irrigation, fish and wildlife, flood control, and recreation.

The Pacific Northwest Region that Reclamation operates within is a vast geographical area encompassing either all or parts of the following states: Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming.

Since many individuals, cities, towns and businesses depend on Reclamation facilities for various reasons, it is important that those who may witness a crime or have information about a crime to report it immediately to the proper authorities.

The Crime Witness Program's toll-free hotline is one way of reporting such activities.

Why is this important to the Ratepayer?

The Bonneville Power Administration is known for its ability to transmit power to cities, towns, homes and businesses throughout the Pacific Northwest and beyond.

BPA's team of security specialists recognize the need to apprehend, arrest, and convict those who would damage high voltage transmission lines and other facilities that provide power to the region.

High voltage transmission lines, when brought to the ground by gunfire or other acts of vandalism are dangerous. They can cause momentary lethal ground voltages that can kill or seriously injure people. Downed power lines can also cause forest or field fires leading to a potential loss of property and wildlife.

Each year, theft and vandalism cost BPA's rate payers $500,000 to $1 million. And these figures are only direct dollar costs to BPA of replacing stolen or damaged equipment. Over and above these costs are lost revenues and the economic losses of electricity to consumers due to power interruptions.

The Crime Witness Program will help in pursuing an investigation with local law enforcement agencies. Rewards of up to $1,000 are issued in such a way that the caller's identity remains confidential.

Pacific Northwest Federal Crime Witness Program
P.O. Box 3621 CGS-1
Portland, OR 97208-3821
1-800-437-2744

US BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION

CRIME WITNESS

1-800-437-2744

To Report Theft, Vandalism, or Illegal Dumping on Bureau of Reclamation Property or Harm to Bureau of Reclamation Personnel.

UP TO $1,000 REWARD