Urges Gov. Bush to oppose restrictions

FMEA makes case for municipal broadband service

“Because no one should be left behind in the digital revolution,” the Florida Municipal Electric Association is urging Gov. Jeb Bush to oppose legislation designed to limit the ability of Florida municipalities to provide broadband services. In a Feb. 21 letter, FMEA Executive Director Barry Moline said that, to meet President Bush’s national goal of making broadband available everywhere by 2007, “deployment by any entity willing to invest in broadband should be encouraged, not limited.”

If communities are forced to wait and see whether private companies will provide broadband services, Moline said:

- important economic development opportunities “will pass them by for neighboring states and regions,”
- children will lose educational opportunities, and
- health care will be more expensive and less accessible without telemedicine innovations.

Federal court says FERC didn’t ‘play fair’ in approving incentive rate for MISO

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission didn’t play fair in approving an incentive rate for transmission-owning members of the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, a federal appeals court ruled Feb. 18. The commission violated the due process rights of the parties when it approved without prior notice a 50 basis point adder to the rate of return of MISO transmission owners as an incentive for companies to join regional transmission organizations, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit held.

The three-judge panel upheld other aspects of the commission’s decision on a just and reasonable rate of return for the MISO transmission owners, including use of a high-low midpoint—instead of a median or mean—of a proxy group of utilities. In Kentucky Public Service Commission v. FERC, the court said it is particularly deferential in reviewing policy determinations where an agency has expertise.

However, FERC “is entitled to deference only if it plays fair, and we conclude that the commission failed to give adequate notice that it would add 50 basis points to the rate of return generated by its calculations, to encourage participation in regional transmission organizations.”

The commission declined to consider “innovative ratemaking proposals” in initially setting the case for hearing and the administrative law judge also declined to consider incentive rates, the court noted. “As a result, the record compiled at the hearing contained no evidence on the need for—or appropriate size of—such a premium,” the court said. The commission “ultimately applied the adder in MISO’s case without considering any record evidence.”

“Deployment by any entity willing to invest in broadband should be encouraged, not limited,” said FMEA Executive Director Barry Moline in a letter to Florida Gov. Jeb Bush.

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8 The EPA will decide by Aug. 1 whether to take action on a N.C. petition to reduce out-of-state pollution sources.
FCC urged to revise radio band order

The Federal Communications Commission needs to revise a report and order on reconfiguration of the private land mobile radio portion of the 800-MHz band, said utility and other critical infrastructure industry (CII) trade associations, including APPA. The highly complex reconfiguration plan includes measures to eliminate unacceptable interference to incumbent licensees from low-site cellular wireless, especially that of Nextel, but it should be revised to avoid potential harm to incumbents, especially critical infrastructure industry entities, APPA and the others said in a Feb. 17 filing.

The CII groups said they strongly support the extension of interference protection and notification measures to the 900-MHz PLMR band. CII licensees should receive treatment similar to that provided to traditional public safety licensees, APPA and the others said. Incumbent licensees already operating in the 861-862 MHz “Guard Band” portion of the spectrum should be permitted fully funded relocation of their systems.

APPA and the others asked for clarification of relicensing procedures during rebanding to ensure the application of current 800-MHz rules, as well as new measures to make certain that former Nextel frequencies are allocated properly. The FCC should adopt an expedited waiver process for public safety and CII licensees seeking to implement a private cellular architecture, APPA and the others said. Also, licensees operating simultaneously in both border and non-border areas should be required to reband only once, they said.

Joining in the Feb. 17 filing were APPA, the United Telecom Council, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, American Petroleum Institute, Edison Electric Institute, Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies and the American Water Works Association.

Senate panel gives nod to bill that would remove bankruptcy pothole

The Senate Judiciary Committee reported legislation that would provide protection for municipal electric utilities in the event a company with which they have a contract declares bankruptcy. The Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005 (S. 256) would expand the bankruptcy code definition of “forward contract merchant” to include governmental entities such as public power utilities. The bankruptcy code allows a “forward contract merchant” to terminate and liquidate a contract with a bankrupt entity.

Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., has said he will bring S. 256 to the floor soon after the President’s Day recess. Although the bill enjoyed bipartisan support in the Judiciary Committee, its prospects are questionable. Over the past few Congresses, bankruptcy legislation has been held up due to a provision that was attached to the legislation to ensure that perpetrators of abortion clinic violence were not able to declare bankruptcy in order to avoid paying fines and debts associated with their criminal acts. Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., has indicated he will offer this language again as an amendment to S. 256.

House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jim Sensenbrenner, R-Wis., and Rep. Rick Boucher, D-Va., along with approximately 60 cosponsors, have introduced a companion bill, H.R. 685, in the House. The House is expected to take up the bill once the Senate has completed floor action.
High court asks U.S. solicitor general for opinion on Snohomish antitrust suit

The U.S. Supreme Court has given some hope to Snohomish County, Wash., Public Utility District's efforts to recover some compensation from companies that the PUD alleges manipulated the market during the California energy crisis. The Court on Feb. 22 issued an order inviting the solicitor general to file a brief expressing the views of the United States on Snohomish's suit seeking treble damages from more than a dozen companies for violations of California antitrust and consumer protection laws.

Although the court has not decided yet whether to hear Snohomish’s appeal, the Feb. 22 order “is encouraging,” a spokesman for Snohomish said. The Supreme Court’s request to acting U.S. Solicitor General Paul Clement to file a brief required the assent of four justices, the same number that ultimately would be needed to grant review of the PUD’s suit (Public Utility District No. 1 v. Dynegy Power Marketing, et al., No. 04-621). The order shows that the Supreme Court recognizes that the issues are significant enough that they should be considered, the spokesman said.

The utility appealed to the Supreme Court last year after the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit upheld a lower court ruling that Snohomish’s suit was pre-empted by federal law, which gives the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission exclusive jurisdiction over interstate sales of wholesale electricity. “The fundamental question in this case is whether, under the market-based system of setting wholesale electricity rates, FERC is doing enough regulation to justify federal pre-emption of state laws,” the Ninth Circuit said.

Should the Supreme Court agree to hear the case, Snohomish is confident that the court would decide in its favor, the PUD spokesman said.

Calif. bill would mandate reserve requirements

A proposed bill in California would extend the power reserve requirements already in place for investor-owned utilities to municipal and alternative energy suppliers. Under the bill, AB380, the California Public Utilities Commission would establish resource adequacy requirements, like those already in place for investor-owned utilities, for municipal electric utilities and other electricity suppliers.

The bill was introduced by California Assembly Speaker Fabian Núñez. He said concerns about the availability of sufficient power this summer justify the legislation.

California Municipal Utilities Association favors implementation of resource adequacy requirements as long as it’s by a regional reliability group, such as the Western Electricity Coordinating Council, rather than the state PUC, said CMUA Executive Director Gerry Jordan.

The state Legislature passed a similar bill last year, but Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger vetoed it. The bill is part of a package of energy bills crafted by Núñez to be put forth this year.

RFPs: LIPA seeks to purchase up to 990 MW of electricity and is accepting proposals to develop a new 10-MW fuel cell

The Long Island Power Authority in New York is seeking as much as 990 MW of electricity from generating facilities off Long Island. The electricity would be imported over both the Cross-Sound and Neptune cables. LIPA is also soliciting proposals to develop a 10-MW fuel cell generation project by early summer 2006 on a site owned by it.

The Cross-Sound cable links Long Island to the New England power grid. The cable can transfer up to 330 MW of electricity. The Neptune cable, which will be available in July 2007, pending regulatory review, will transport up to 660 MW of electricity via a cable from Nassau County to Sayreville, N.J. It will link Long Island to the PJM power grid. The LIPA is seeking long-term agreements for the purchase of power to be transferred over both cables. The term of the contracts is to be between five and 20 years.

The utility seeks between 10 MW and 330 MW of power for the Cross-Sound cable, beginning May 1, 2005. For the Neptune cable, LIPA seeks between 10 MW and 660 MW beginning July 1, 2007. By allowing contracts of as little as 10 MW, the utility said it hopes to encourage replies from green power energy producers.

A conference is to be held March 16 for interested parties. Responses to the RFP are due April 15.

LIPA wants the fuel cell project to be operational by July 1, 2006. The utility will enter into a power purchase agreement for up to 20 years for the capacity, energy ancillary services, and environmental attributes from the project. Responses are due by April 25.

Both RFPs are posted at www.lipower.org.
Salt River Project intends to buy 10 MW of biomass energy from Snowflake White Mountain Power, LLC. SWMP is to construct a 15- to 20-megawatt wood-fired facility near Snowflake to be completed no later than January 2008, according to its 10-year contract with SRP. At least 80% or more of the energy sold to SRP will be generated via the burning of Arizona forest thinnings. This will insure that thinnings harvested to reduce the damage caused by forest fires will be used resourcefully. Thus, the proposal will simultaneously fulfill two expectations, cooperating with the state’s Healthy Forest Initiative and providing energy to the area. “We are pleased to be part of a process that will benefit not only SRP’s renewable energy supply, but also respond to the state’s forest management challenges,” said Marcie Edwards, general manager of Anaheim Public Utilities. “Following our evaluation, we hope to be able to offer guidance to customers considering fuel cell installations.” The fuel cell also will improve both reliability and power quality, Anaheim said. The cell is designed to disconnect from the utility grid in case of power outages and will operate as a backup power generator. The municipal utility will conduct tests to evaluate the fuel cell’s performance, fuel efficiency and other operating characteristics. To help offset the cost of purchasing and installing the fuel cell, Anaheim Public Utilities was awarded a $200,000 grant as part of the Department of Energy’s Climate Change Fuel Cell Buydown Program.

Anaheim Public Utilities in California has installed and is evaluating a new 200-kilowatt fuel cell at the East Anaheim Police Department and Community Center. The fuel cell, which was developed by UTC Fuel Cells, is designed to deliver approximately 1.5 million kilowatt-hours of electricity per year with virtually no air pollutants since the fuel cell converts hydrogen-rich fuels, such as natural gas, directly into electricity through a chemical reaction, the utility said. As an additional benefit, excess heat—a byproduct of fuel cell technology—will be captured and used to heat the facility, the utility said. The unit is expected to operate continuously with only annual planned outages for maintenance. “By providing electric power and heat for the facility, the fuel cell improves efficiency without excessive air emissions in our city,” said Marcie Edwards, general manager of Anaheim Public Utilities. “Following our evaluation, we hope to be able to offer guidance to customers considering fuel cell installations.”

Coal is and will continue to be a vital source of electricity in the United States, APPA said in Feb. 16 comments to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. The association urged the Senate to pass S. 131, President Bush’s Clear Skies plan, saying the bill would promote continued use of the nation’s abundant supply of coal and alleviate pressure on the U.S. natural gas supply. Although the public power sector has less coal capacity and more natural gas and hydro power capacity in its mix than other utility sectors, “coal is still a crucial part of our generation mix, accounting for 30.1% of nameplate capacity,” APPA said. Public power utilities generate electricity from a larger proportion of lower-emissions sources than other stakeholders in the electric utility industry and have invested more heavily in newer, cleaner, coal technologies, the association said. More than 56% of public power’s operating coal units are less than 20 years old, while only 23% of investor-owned utilities’ coal units are under 20 years of age, APPA said. APPA told the committee it supports legislation to promote competitive transportation alternatives for rail customers and improvements in the rail customer protection mechanisms that are implemented by the Surface Transportation Board.

Anaheim tests 200-kilowatt fuel cell

The cell is designed to disconnect from the utility grid in case of power outages and will operate as a backup power generator.

Clear skies plan helps ensure vital role for coal, APPA tells Senate committee

SRP inks biomass energy contract

Salt River Project intends to buy 10 MW of biomass energy from Snowflake White Mountain Power, LLC. SWMP is to construct a 15- to 20-megawatt wood-fired facility near Snowflake to be completed no later than January 2008, according to its 10-year contract with SRP. At least 80% or more of the energy sold to SRP will be generated via the burning of Arizona forest thinnings. This will insure that thinnings harvested to reduce the damage caused by forest fires will be used resourcefully. Thus, the proposal will simultaneously fulfill two expectations, cooperating with the state’s Healthy Forest Initiative and providing energy to the area. “We are pleased to be part of a process that will benefit not only SRP’s renewable energy supply, but also respond to the state’s forest management challenges,” said Richard Hayslip, manager of SRP’s Environmental, Land, and Risk Management departments.

Since October 2003, SRP has added wind, geothermal and, with this purchase, biomass power to its renewable energy resources.

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You Can Count on APPA
FMEÅE: public and private broadband can co-exist

(continued from page 1)

At the rate BellSouth is deploying fiber-to-the-curb technology—which is 1/10th the speed of fiber-to-the-home—communities would need to wait more than 60 years before it is available universally, he said.

Public and private broadband can co-exist—as do public and private schools and hospitals and even public libraries and private bookstores—and, “in fact, benefit one another,” Moline said. Broadband networks provide substantial benefits to communities that will not necessarily be recognized by the private sector when making investment decisions, he noted. For a private provider, a school or hospital represents a monthly subscription fee. “In contrast, for those same circuits, the community reaps the benefits of a better education for hundreds of its children and priceless, life-saving technologies for its citizens,” he said.

“In cases where the public benefits of a service or technology are very large yet not fully recognized by private firms, the public provision of such service or technology is entirely legitimate,” Moline said. Since they are serving a public purpose, municipalities often deploy more extensive and robust broadband networks than the private sector would construct, he added.

“No one would seriously ask a town faced with overcrowded schools to grant a ‘right-of-first-refusal’ for private firms to construct schools before building new or expanding public schools; nor would anyone seriously argue that the construction or expansion of a public library should be postponed without permission from local book stores,” he said. “Yet that is exactly what a right-of-first-refusal asks communities faced with inadequate broadband services to do.”

Municipal broadband investment not only does not crowd out private investment, it actually stimulates investment by private companies, Moline said. A recent econometric analysis by Applied Economic Studies Inc. found no evidence to support the “crowd-out” argument, he said. “In fact, municipal construction of communications networks expands the number of private firms serving the same market by more than 60%.”

The companies that are most vocal in opposition to public broadband development “are some of the largest recipients in this country of corporate welfare,” Moline said in response to “level playing field” arguments. This debate “is not between ‘purely’ private companies and municipal governments; it is between heavily subsidized beneficiaries of governmental handouts on one side and locally elected and openly accountable public servants on the other,” he said. As to claims that local governments shouldn’t be in this business using taxpayer dollars, Moline said virtually all of these municipal broadband initiatives are designed to pay for themselves. Those claims also highlight the hypocrisy of the large telecom companies since they’re among the biggest receivers of government subsidies, he added.

While the large incumbent companies are spending billions to buy their competitors—SBC-AT&T and Verizon-MCI, following Sprint-Nextel—they are simultaneously spending millions to convince state legislatures to eliminate an entire class of potential competitors, municipalities, Moline told Public Power Weekly. Also, BellSouth and Verizon have argued to the FCC that the alternative networks in Florida—including municipal networks—justify the elimination of local competition rules, he said.

“The only assured outcome of the ‘right-of-first-refusal’ is that some communities, which might have provided broadband infrastructure themselves, will instead be served by an unregulated monopoly that only reluctantly provides service in the community,” Moline told Gov. Bush. “It’s a prescription for the worst of both worlds: low quality and high prices.”

Broadband access has become increasingly essential to economic growth, health care and education, Moline said. “We’re just trying to lift up our communities, nothing more.”

“The only assured outcome of the ‘right-of-first-refusal’ is that some communities, which might have provided broadband infrastructure themselves, will instead be served by an unregulated monopoly that only reluctantly provides service in the community,” Moline told Gov. Bush.


**Employment**

**Electric operations & maintenance manager** — Salary range: $68,257-$92,348 annually (appointment may exceed midpoint depending upon qualifications). Sign-on/recruitment bonus of $5,000-$5,000 and annual retention incentives. Excellent benefits. GD and 10 years of experience in electrical transmission, distribution and underground line work that includes three years of management and/or supervision. Must have the time of application and must maintain lineman certificate and a California driver’s license. Apply by: Open until a sufficient number of applications are received. Submit application to: City of Banning, Human Resources, 99 E. Ramsey St., Banning, CA, 92220, or visit our Web site at www.ci.banning.ca.us. EOE.

**City of Banning electric utility openings** — Electrical service planner — Salary range $53,322-$68,598 annually and benefits. Sign-on/recruitment bonus and retention incentives. Performs a variety of duties associated with the design and construction of electrical distribution system in order to ensure adequate utility resources to meet the city’s current and future electrical demands. Three (3) years of college courses in electrical engineering and five years of relevant electrical distribution system design and construction experience. Possession of a California EIT is desirable. Class “C” California driver’s license. Powerline technician — Salary range $56,022-$72,071 annually and benefits. Sign-on/recruitment bonus and retention incentives. Performs a variety of duties associated with the installation, operation and maintenance of the city of Banning’s electrical power transmission and distribution system. A high school diploma or GED and a minimum three years of approved apprentice school with completion of lineman certification. Must have the time of application and must maintain a lineman certificate, forklift certificate, first aid certificate and a class A California commercial driver’s license with D.O.T. medical certification. May be subject to call out and/or call-back. Open only to establish an eligible list. Electric service tanker — Salary range $34,189-$41,889 annually and benefits. Under close supervision, performs a variety of duties associated with performing non-aerial tasks in support of electric crew field activities. Knowledge of operational procedures for maintenance and repair of electrical equipment used in electric maintenance and repair. A high school diploma or GED. No previous work experience required. Must obtain within six months of employment and must maintain a class A California commercial driver’s license. Open only to establish an eligible list. Receiving applications until filled. Initial screening of applications on 02/28/05. Qualified applicants must submit a variety of qualifications. Sign-on/recruitment bonus of $3,000-$5,000 and annual retention incentives. Performs a variety of duties associated with the electric utility system in order to ensure adequate utility resources to meet the city’s current and future electrical demands. Three (3) years of related experience. Various combinations of utility experience or technical training in electrical distribution system design and construction experience. A high school diploma or GED and 10 years of experience in electrical transmis- sion, distribution and underground work that includes three years of management and/or supervision. Must have the time of application and must maintain a lineman certificate and a California driver’s license. Apply by: Open until a sufficient number of applications are received. Submit application to: City of Banning, Human Resources, 99 E. Ramsey St., Banning, CA, 92220, or visit our Web site at www.ci.banning.ca.us. EOE.

**Superintendent of electric** — The borough of Ephrata (population 13,000) located in northern Lancaster County, Pa., seeks success- ful and dynamic candidates for two positions of superintendent of Electric and assistant superintendent of public works. The borough offers competitive salary ranges and an excellent benefits package. To apply, please visit our Web site at www.bryantx.gov or contact Human Resources at 979/209-5060.

**Overhead line manager** — Supervises activities of multiple crews engaged in the installation, maintenance and repair of overhead electrical lines, poles and appur- tenances. Evaluates electric distribution system performance to identify deficiencies and potential failure/diruption of electric services. Requires bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering or related field and five years of experience in electric utility operation. Must have a California driver’s license. Designs efficient and cost-effective electrical utility distribution systems. A high school diploma or GED, a California EIT and two years of directly related experience. Various combinations of utility experience or technical training in electrical distribution system design and construction experience. A high school diploma or GED and 10 years of experience in electrical transmis- sion, distribution and underground work that includes three years of management and/or supervision. Must have the time of application and must maintain a lineman certificate and a California driver’s license. Apply by: Open until a sufficient number of applications are received. Submit application to: City of Banning, Human Resources, 99 E. Ramsey St., Banning, CA, 92220, or visit our Web site at www.ci.banning.ca.us. EOE.

**Energy management specialist** — Analyze energy consumption and equipment in residential and commercial facilities, work with customers with high bill complaints, oversee and administer customer programs, work to establish relationships with build- ers/developers and vendors and research new energy-saving opportunities. Bachelor’s degree in mechanical, electrical, civil or other appropriate area of study, with two years of directly related experience or equivalent combination of education and experience. Various combinations of utility experience or technical training in electrical distribution system design and construction experience. A high school diploma or GED and 10 years of experience in electrical transmis- sion, distribution and underground work that includes three years of management and/or supervision. Must have the time of application and must maintain a lineman certificate and a California driver’s license. Apply by: Open until a sufficient number of applications are received. Submit application to: City of Banning, Human Resources, 99 E. Ramsey St., Banning, CA, 92220, or visit our Web site at www.ci.banning.ca.us. EOE.

**Assistant superintendent of public works** — This new position will work directly with 15 employees in a union work environment in delivering top-notch results that meet or exceed customer expectations. You will be responsible for developing and implementing performance measurement systems. You will prioritize work requirements, delegate assignments, observe and track progress, supervise, coach and provide performance feedback to employees. A candidate demonstrating a successful track record in building a work culture through goal-setting, measuring results, coaching and building employee teamwork is optimum. Applicants meeting the above requirements and qualifications must submit a resume, references and sal- ary requirements by March 23, 2005 to: Human Resource Department, Borough of Ephrata, 124 S. State St., Ephrata, PA 17522. EOE.

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Employment

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Transmission engineer—Develops long-range transmission and substation plans; aids in the development of routes and plans for electric transmission lines. Applies electrical engineering principles to design and modify electrical substations, relay and communications systems used in the electric power utility. Requires: Bachelor's degree in electrical engineering or related field, plus six (6) to eight (8) years directly related experience (three (3) years of experience related to electrical substations and/or transmission line maintenance and construction). BTU offers competitive salaries and an excellent benefits package. To apply, please visit our Web site at www.bryantx.gov or contact Human Resources at 979/209-5060.

Substation technician—Inspects, repairs and maintains all electrical equipment in the electric substations. Requires high school diploma or equivalent plus six (6) to eight (8) years related experience in troubleshooting and repairing electrical equipment. Various combinations of education and experience may be considered. BTU offers competitive salaries and an excellent benefits package. To apply, please visit our Web site at www.bryantx.gov or contact Human Resources at 979/209-5060.

Journey lineworker—Anderson Municipal Light & Power (AML&P), Anderson Ind., is accepting application for journey lineperson positions. The applicant must be able to perform work related to the construction, maintenance and repair of overhead and underground electrical distribution and transmission systems. This position requires a high school diploma and/or GED. The applicant must have a minimum of six (6) years experience that includes the completion of a recognized utility line worker apprenticeship program. Must have extensive knowledge in rubber glove electrical line work, safety procedures, installation and wiring of all types of transformer banks. The applicant must have the ability to operate aerial and derrick digger trucks, worked in confined spaces and require the qualifications in the methods, materials, and equipment used in transformer banks and transmission line construction. The position requires residency within a twenty (20) minute radius within the service boundaries of Anderson Municipal Light & Power for after-hour emergency callouts and on-call duty schedule. Successful applicants must have or acquire a commercial drivers’ license (CDL) for the state of Indiana. A pre-employment background investigation, drug screen, and physical exam are required before employment. AML&P, a department of the city of Anderson, offers an excellent health and benefit package. Starting pay is $24.60 per hour. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. For further information, please call AML&P at 765/648-6480. Please submit your resume to: Personnel Department, City of Anderson, P.O. Box 2100, Anderson, IN 46018.

Assistant director of electric utility—Salary: $75,000 - $85,000. The city of Manassas seeks an individual to direct the electric utility staff responsible for the budgeting, planning, engineering, construction, operations, and maintenance of substations, transmission and distribution facilities, service connections, and customer service. To succeed in this position, you must have a Bachelor's degree in electrical engineering and five (5) years progressively responsible management experience within an electric utility. Experience must include the management of transmission and distribution facilities, electric rates and sales forecasting, system planning, and organizational skills. The position requires residency within a twenty (20) mile radius of Manassas. The city of Manassas offers an excellent health and benefit package. To apply: Department of Human Resources 9027 Center St., Room 302, Manassas, VA 20110 or fax 703/257-5827, email: hr@ci.manassas.va.us. Position open until filled.

Licenseing and regulatory compliance specialist—$1,918.59 to $2,532.94 bi-weekly. This position performs various tasks that support the district’s regulatory compliance with governmental legal and regulatory requirements. Specific requirements include, but are not limited to, the Federal Energy Power Act; the Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act and related biological opinions, state and federal Environmental Policy Acts and procedures, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) regulations, License No. 2114; federal, state and local regulations relating to the use of land, air and water, and protection of the environment and other regulations, obligations, or agreements. Qualifications: General understanding of natural resource issues relating to the development and operation of hydro power projects. Specific knowledge of FERC licensing process, compliance standards and documentation, and of the Priest Rapids Project license requirements and measures proposed and issues addressed in the new license application is preferred. Strong written and oral communication, interpersonal, analytical (including the ability to quickly read and understand complex regulations and technical information), quantitative and organizational skills are required to succeed in this position. Knowledge and practical experience working in the context of natural resource regulatory environment preferred. Proficiency in computer skills and organizational skills are also required. The ability to be courteous, efficient, and effective in a busy and complex work environment, to communicate effectively both orally and in writing, and to rapidly assimilate and apply technical concepts in the context of regulatory requirements is required. Assertiveness, sensitivity to the interests of others, teamwork, patience, persistence, willingness to accept direction from supervisors, function effectively within a team environment involving more than one supervisor and exhibit diplomacy, forthrightness and integrity. The position also requires the exercise of discretion in dealing with sensitive strategic and confidential issues. This position is open until filled. Applications may be obtained from our Web site at www.gcpud.org or picked up at any of our local offices. Send to Grant County PUD, P.O. Box 878, 30 C St. SW, Ephrata, WA 98823. Excellent compensation and benefits package. Equal opportunity employer.

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It costs 70 cents per word to place a classified ad in Public Power Weekly. There is a minimum charge of $35. The deadline for classifieds in Public Power Weekly is every Monday, one week prior to the date of publication. Display ads also are available.

Ads to be published in Public Power Weekly may be e-mailed to jobs@appenet.org or submitted via APPA’s Web site: www.APPAnet.org/applications/classifieds.

Ads posted on the Web cost $200 for a four-week posting and must be submitted through the Web site.

For more information, call Luke Kozikowski at 202/467-2946 or e-mail L.Kozikowski@appenet.org.

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FTTP Triple Play Software Solutions—For utilities offering Cable TV and Internet services or Triple-Play with FTTP, ETI provides software for customer care, billing, community access and local ad insertion. ETI provisions television, telephone and high-speed access with all major manufacturers. Call Sabrina Porter at 800/332-1078 ext. 301, or e-mail sporter@etisoftware.com.
EPA will decide on North Carolina clean air petition by August

The Environmental Protection Agency will decide by Aug. 1 whether to take action on a North Carolina petition to cut emissions from specific out-of-state pollution sources, North Carolina Attorney General Roy Cooper said. “This is a win for all of us who want to stop these out-of-state polluters from damaging the air we breathe,” Cooper said. Thirteen states are named in the petition, which asks the federal government to force coal-fired power plants in those states to reduce the pollution they contribute to North Carolina’s air, in compliance with North Carolina’s stringent Clean Smokeystacks law.

If the EPA agrees with the petition’s assertion that certain out-of-state plants are contributing to North Carolina’s difficulty in maintaining clean air standards, then it must move forward with a proposed solution to the problem. According to a schedule filed with Raleigh’s U.S. District Court, a public hearing will be held on that proposal the week of Sept. 12. The EPA will publish its final decision and all findings by March 15, 2006.

The news comes after Cooper threatened legal action if EPA would not make a decision on the North Carolina petition, which was initially filed last March. Cooper is optimistic, and said his state has a strong case. He said that under the proposed schedule, EPA should have a plan to reduce out-of-state pollution by next year.

People

John D. Hewa has replaced the recently-retired Allen Todd as the utilities director in Manassas, Va. Hewa most recently was the assistant electric director for the city, and was director of engineering for the Bristol, Tenn, Electric System. He has served on a variety of committees for APPA.

Phil Lehmkuhler has been named manager of economic development and member services of the Indiana Municipal Power Agency. He is responsible for economic development plans and improving IMPA’s service offerings. Lehmkuhler was employed with the Indiana Department of Commerce. He is an adjunct finance professor at the Indiana University, Bloomington.

Tobias Sellier joined the APPA staff last month as communications specialist. Jarmila Zapata is now communications assistant for the association and Luke Kozikowski joined the APPA staff this month as editorial assistant.