



News Release

ADVISORY/Lands Commissioner Sutherland To Highlight Trees and Energy On Arbor Day, April 11; DNR Recognizes Puget Sound Energy With National Award

--(BUSINESS WIRE)--

THE EVENT: Commissioner of Public Lands, Doug Sutherland, will present the prestigious "Tree Line USA" Award to Puget Sound Energy, which serves 920,000 electric customers in Washington.

The 2001 national award recognizes the electric and natural gas utility for promoting the goals of electric service reliability and the growth of healthy, abundant and smaller-height trees along Washington's streets and highways and in its urban areas.

"Tree Line USA is a national award recognizing those who ensure the delivery of power while safeguarding trees," said Sutherland. "Puget Sound Energy has excelled at doing both."

Commissioner Sutherland will also highlight ways that planting trees in residential areas can help homeowners save energy.

"Proper landscaping can make a significant difference in your heating and cooling bills by as much as 50 percent," said Sutherland. "Trees help cut energy costs by providing shade in the summer and protect homes from wind and harsh weather in the winter."

Sue McLain, PSE Vice President of Operations, will explain how the utility's special tree nurseries have benefited communities while reducing the number of tree-related power outages.

WHEN: 3 p.m., Wednesday, April 11, Washington's 84th celebration of Arbor Day.

LOCATION: Puget Sound Energy's unique "UtiliTree" nursery, located on the north shores of Lake Tapps, at 1601 203rd Avenue East in Sumner. Media will have an opportunity to tour the nursery and view the site. Built last winter, the nursery supports about 250 trees in 10 different tree varieties. Trees grow to about 25 feet tall.

If driving from Seattle, take the Valley Freeway 167 southbound. Take the Algona-Pacific Exit. Turn Left under the freeway and drive east on Ellington Road to "A" St. Turn right heading south. Cross the Stuck River Bridge and turn left on to Lakeland Hills Way S.E. Proceed approx. 1 block and turn left on to Oravetz Rd. Follow Oravetz Rd. to the Kersey Way Intersection. Turn right heading south on Kersey Way. In approximately 2 miles, you will come to a shopping center/gas station on your left. Directly after the shopping center turn left on to 9th Street E. Follow this road for approx. 1.5 miles to 203rd Ave. E. Turn right on to 203rd Ave. E. This is a dead end road, proceed through the gate at end of road. Signs providing directions to the Lake Tapps property will be posted.

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