



News Release

Puget Sound Energy Receives Second National Award as 2001'S Top Utility; Electric Light & Power Cites Personal Energy Management Program as Basis for Honor

BELLEVUE, Wash.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Jan. 10, 2002--A leading national trade magazine recently chose Puget Sound Energy (utility subsidiary of Puget Energy) (NYSE:PSD) as its Utility of the Year, marking PSE's second national award as the top U.S. utility for 2001.

The honors stem from the Washington state utility's launch of an innovative time-of-use energy-pricing program that rewards consumers for using electricity more efficiently and inexpensively.

Electric Light & Power announced PSE's selection in the magazine's December 2001 issue, saying the utility "changed its way of thinking" to develop its energy conservation program and "is now the leader for the rest of the country in terms of demand side management." Last summer PSE also received the Edison Electric Institute's highest honor, the Edison Award, as America's top investor-owned utility for 2001.

PSE's Personal Energy Management(TM) program, Electric Light & Power magazine said, is the nation's largest undertaking to price electricity based on the time of day it is used while also showing consumers the comparative, fluctuating cost of providing their energy. About 320,000 homes and businesses currently pay PSE's time-of-use rates for electricity. They pay about 30 percent less during low-demand, off-peak hours than at high-demand times of day. The utility recently proposed to extend the pricing plan to virtually all of its 930,000 electricity customers.

Electric Light & Power noted that the California Consumer Power and Financing Authority now is advocating a time-of-use energy plan based on PSE's program "to help prevent recurrence of (California's) ugly nightmares."

Personal Energy Management also earned PSE worldwide recognition as a finalist for "Power Company of the Year" as part of the Financial Times' 2001 Global Energy Awards.

CONTACT: Puget Sound Energy
Grant Ringel, 888/831-7250