



News Release

PSE Team Wins ENERGY STAR(R) "Recycle My Old Fridge" Refrigerator Art Contest

BELLEVUE, Wash., Sep 30, 2008 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- Puget Sound Energy project team members have turned a 1952 refrigerator door into an award-winning work of art -- and a reminder that we can all help the environment and save energy by recycling old, inefficient appliances.

The PSE team was honored at a ceremony in Washington, D.C., with an award from the U.S. Department of Energy & ENERGY STAR(R)'s "Recycle My Old Fridge" refrigerator art contest. PSE's 1952 fridge door was recognized in the category of "The Art of Recycling: The Coolest Show in Town" at the ceremony held at the National Building Museum this month. The door, which is decorated with a life-size image of a retro-styled housewife, flowers made from refrigerator motor parts and the banner "Time to Unplug" will remain on display at the museum indefinitely.

Sharon Kegley, market manager for Energy Efficiency Services for PSE, found the door on an informational tour through local refrigerator recycling organization, JACO Environmental. PSE and JACO are partners in a local refrigerator recycling program that offers a \$30 rebate and free pick-up to PSE customers who contact JACO to decommission older refrigerators, which can use up to four times the energy of newer models.

"While investing in newer, more efficient appliances is a great way to reduce household energy use, throwing away an older, less energy efficient refrigerator is not a good long-term plan for the environment," said Cal Shirley, vice president of Energy Efficiency Services for PSE. "Most people know not to throw away an old refrigerator, but don't realize how much energy it continues to use when left on in their basement or garage."

Over the course of its two-year partnership with JACO Environmental, PSE has helped customers recycle more than 6,000 refrigerators. Once a unit has been picked up from a customer's home, JACO removes all the toxic materials (such as Freon), disassembles the shell and interior, and then sorts the materials by glass, metal, plastic, and insulation for reuse.

"We used parts from inside the refrigerator to drive home the message that almost all parts of the old units can be reused," said Kegley. Other Energy Efficiency Services team members involved in creating the winning door were: Mary Carnes, program implementer, whose image graces the outside; Sandra Palmer, senior market analyst; Danny Grady, Powerful Choices facilitator, and Jane Howard, Powerful Choices facilitator. All work at the utility's Bellevue offices.

Images of PSE's "Time to Unplug" submission and all the winning entries can be seen at www.recyclemyoldfridge.com.

PSE customers can obtain more information about how to recycle their old refrigerators and other energy efficiency information and assistance from PSE by visiting PSE.com, or by calling a PSE Energy Advisor at 1-800-562-1482.

About Puget Sound Energy

Washington state's oldest and largest energy utility, with a 6,000-square-mile service area stretching across 11 counties, Puget Sound Energy (PSE) serves more than 1 million electric customers and 737,000 natural gas customers. PSE, a subsidiary of Puget Energy (NYSE:PSD), meets the energy needs of its growing customer base primarily in Western Washington through incremental, cost-effective energy conservation, procurement of sustainable energy resources, and far-sighted investment in the energy-delivery infrastructure. PSE employees are dedicated to providing great customer service to deliver energy that is safe, reliable, reasonably priced, and environmentally responsible. For more information, visit www.PSE.com.

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