



EMERALD PEOPLE'S UTILITY DISTRICT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EPUD Encourages Climate Change Awareness by Sponsoring UO Climate Master Program

Eugene, OR - Emerald People's Utility District will become a Cultivating Sponsor for the University of Oregon's 2008 Climate Master Program. This program, one of the many operating under the UO's Climate Leadership Initiative, offers thirty FREE hours of education to its participants in exchange for thirty hours of volunteer commitment. All training and volunteer hours focus on climate-change science and action strategies for reducing personal Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions in the local community and beyond.

"EPUD is committed to offering alternative energy sources to our customers and to educating them regarding how to minimize their overall energy use," says Joe Savage, EPUD Energy Services Supervisor. "The UO Climate Master Program is a perfect complement to our educational goals. We are honored to sponsor it and we're encouraging our customers and staff to attend."

EPUD was the first utility in the Northwest to purchase renewable resources from the Bonneville Environmental Foundation, chaired by Senator Mark Hatfield. The power is supplied from various sources around the region, including wind and small hydroelectric "fish-friendly" generation facilities. EPUD currently offers 100% and 50% Wind Power Programs to its customers for less than a cent more per kWh than traditional hydropower. Solar electric incentives are also available for residential and business customers seeking to go solar.

"The more educated we are about climate change, the better off we will be," says Savage. "Less energy consumption equals smaller bills for our customers, equals less strain on our resources, equals less emissions, equals a healthier environment. It's a win-win."

For more information on the Climate Master Program, please visit <http://climlead.uoregon.edu>. For more information on EPUD's power and climate initiatives visit our website at www.epud.org.

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