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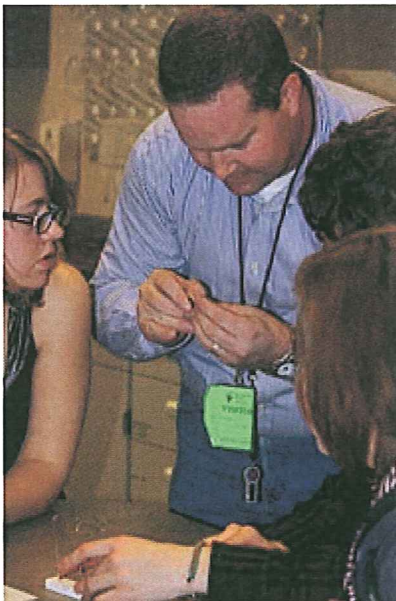
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BPA Engineer Makes Science Come Alive for Heritage High School Students

VANCOUVER, WA—Linda Lebard's Heritage High School afternoon science class buzzed with energy as Bonneville Power Administration Ambassador Mike Hulse showed students how to build a simple motor out of a paper clip, a battery, some copper wiring, and a magnet. Groups of three each problem-solved their way to constructing one of these small motors in pursuit of a small prize. And, even when the competition was technically over, students couldn't seem to step away from trying to make their motors work effectively.



"I believe everyone is an engineer by nature," remarked Hulse who enjoys reaching out to kids regarding possible careers in engineering. This innate sense of engineering is evident in the students' enthusiastic approach to the motor construction. "Whenever they do a hands on project they become immediately involved. If they can touch something and build something, they stay engaged", commented Lebard.

In addition to enticing students into engineering through the motor construction, Hulse explains how examples of engineering work are all around us. "I try to stress the impact engineering has along with importance of staying in school and the value of math and science. Ultimately, if one kid decides to look further into engineering, I feel my visit was a success".

National Engineers Month (February) is orchestrated by the **Business Education Compact**, a local non-profit organization dedicated to "making learning real" for Oregon and SW Washington students. In its 16th year, the program has enabled more than 275,000 students to have the privilege of interacting with a real engineer in their classroom to date.

If you live in the Pacific Northwest, chances are you use electricity marketed and delivered by the **Bonneville Power Administration** - best known as BPA. BPA is a not-for-profit federal electric utility that operates a high-voltage transmission grid comprising more than 15,000 miles of lines and associated substations in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana. It also markets more than a third of the electricity consumed in the Pacific Northwest.

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