Thieves Hit BPA Substation in Tacoma Reward Offered

Local News

Posted by: David Haviland

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Tacoma, Wash. - Recently, Bonneville Power Administration workers discovered thieves had broken into a Bonneville Power Administration substation in Tacoma, Wash., and stole 30-60 pounds of aluminum scrap metal. BPA and law enforcement officials are investigating, and BPA is offering a reward of up to $25,000 for information that leads to the arrest and conviction of those responsible.

The incident occurred between Sept. 23 and Sept. 27 at the South Tacoma Substation at 4320 180th Street East in Tacoma. The perpetrators cut multiple locks to access a gated parking area where the scrap aluminum was being stored.

“We’re hoping that this information will help jog the memory of someone who may know about the break in and theft or may have seen something suspicious at the substation,” said Kevin West, BPA physical security specialist. “Sometimes even small details can help law enforcement officials make significant investigative progress.”

Through its Crime Witness Program, BPA offers up to $25,000 for information that leads to the arrest and conviction of individuals committing crimes against BPA facilities and infrastructure. Anyone having information is asked to call BPA's confidential and toll-free Crime Witness Hotline at (800) 437-2744 or local law enforcement.

Earlier this year, BPA made two $300 awards to individuals who provided tips on thefts BPA experienced in southwest Washington. Since 2006, BPA has paid 12 rewards totaling almost $14,000.

For more details about BPA’s Crime Witness Program, go to http://www.bpa.gov/corporate/contact/crimewitness/index.cfm