

**Bonneville Power Administration**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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## **Vandals shoot out power line insulators north of Libby;**

*Reward offered for information leading to arrest*

**LIBBY, Mont.** - Vandals shot out insulators along the Libby-Conkelly 230-kilovolt power line at a point 30 miles northeast of Libby, near Wolf Creek. The Bonneville Power Administration is offering a reward of up to \$25,000 for information leading to their arrest.

Line maintenance crews discovered the damaged insulators, which were repaired Wednesday. The date of the shooting is unknown. Fortunately, no outages occurred, but repairs cost more than \$2,000. Repair of the equipment will cause the Libby Dam powerhouse to drop 300 megawatts of generation, which will be replaced over other lines to avoid an outage.

"The costs of repairing the line do not take into account the lost power sales revenue and the potential risk to line crews, the general public and the shooters themselves," said Kirsten Kler, a BPA security officer. "We urge anyone who might know of persons shooting in the area to contact the Crime Witness Hot line. The identity of informants will be kept strictly confidential."

The toll free number is: 800-437-2744.

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