

Office of the Attorney General

Press Release

Attorney General
Gay Woodhouse

Consumer Protection Unit
123 Capitol Building
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002
307-777-7874/800-438-5799 Telephone
307-777-7956 Fax

Chief Deputy Attorney General
Vicci Colgan

Deputy Attorney General
Rowena Heckert

Contact: Christopher Petrie 307-777-5838

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 16, 1999

Wyoming Attorney General Warns Against Free Electricity Promotion

Following a meeting of about fifty people at the Hitching Post Tuesday evening, the Wyoming Attorney General's Office is urging the public to be extreme cautious about the "free electricity" offer, and other investments or products promoted by Dennis Lee, Better World Technologies, Inc., United Consumer Services of America, and the International Tesla Electric Company.

The "free electricity" claims were publicized in a full page advertisement which appeared in the September 17 edition of USA Today and in local newspapers. Claiming their devices and technologies that would allow individuals to produce their own electricity by exploiting the so-called "fourth law of motion" and to fuel motor vehicles with "Brown's gas" easily derived from common tap water, Lee urged the public to purchase dealerships for the electricity generating machines and other products. Lee claimed the dealerships have recently commanded prices in excess of one hundred thousand dollars.

During the five-hour promotional meeting at the Hitching Post, Dennis Lee claimed government agencies, from local sheriffs' departments to the White House, have combined with powerful business interests to thwart his efforts to eliminate electric utilities. Explaining to the crowd that his cross country promotional tour was inspired by Christian beliefs and that he was following God's instructions to give people across the nation an opportunity to participate in his program, Lee dramatically challenged law enforcement officials to stop him if they could.

"We are extremely skeptical of all claims made by Dennis Lee's, to put it quite mildly" stated Christopher Petrie of the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Unit. "Lee's demonstrations were nothing more than parlor tricks, and his presentation was a mixture of

scientific and pseudoscientific terms, references to popular conspiracy theories, and reference to religious beliefs calculated to confuse, deceive, and ultimately, to defraud the public of large sums of money.”

The State of Tennessee has obtained a temporary restraining order against Lee and his associates. A permanent injunction is being sought. Court documents in the Tennessee proceedings indicate that Lee served two years in a California prison after pleading guilty to charges related to misrepresentation and misappropriation of more than \$800,000.00 from 200 victims in the late 1980's, has been ordered to pay \$31,000 for violation of Washington's consumer protection act, and has a history of arrests for fraud, forgery, passing bad checks, and drug offenses.

The Attorney General's Office indicates that it will seek an injunction against Lee and his associates to prevent further activities in Wyoming. The Securities Division of the Wyoming Secretary of State's Office is reviewing the matter on suspicion of securities fraud.