

## KLICKITAT PUD



Klickitat PUD staff was recognized by the Washington Department of Ecology for having no wastewater discharge in 2019. From left, Operators Noah Halm and Rod Kiser, Superintendent Brandon Walter, Lead Operator Greg Watson, Trainee Cameron Keith, Operator Tim McMurrin and Water/Wastewater Coordinator Sharon Blodgett. PHOTO BY CYNTHIA BRUCE

## Dedicated Efforts Recognized by State DOE

Each year the Washington State Department of Ecology recognizes wastewater treatment plants that remain in 100% compliance with their wastewater discharge permits.

At the Klickitat PUD Commissioners' meeting March 9, Operations Manager Mark Pritchard read an award letter and presented awards on behalf of Erik Van Doren from DOE. The awards were presented for three district-owned plants and one district-managed wastewater treatment plant for outstanding performance in 2019. These plants serve Wishram, Klickitat, Lyle and Dallesport.

Responsible for these plants are Superintendent Brandon Walter, Greg Watson, Rod Kiser, Tim McMurrin, Noah Halm, Doug Frantum and Cameron Keith. Their efforts are enhanced and supported by Water/Wastewater Coordinator Sharon Blodgett.

Proper operation of a wastewater treatment plant ensures wastewater is suitably treated before discharge, which is vital to protecting public health and the environment.

The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits for these plants require meeting end-of-pipe effluent limits for numerous parameters, including biochemical oxygen demand, total suspended solids, pH and fecal coliform bacteria.

Permits also require completing water quality sampling, proper operation and maintenance of the plant, and numerous studies and reporting requirements.

These important obligations protect Washington's water quality.

The KPUD team has achieved these objectives at the Klickitat plant for 12 consecutive years, at the Lyle plant for 14 consecutive years and at the Wishram plant for 11 consecutive years. The KPUD team received a second consecutive award for management of Klickitat County's Dallesport wastewater plant.

Klickitat PUD is proud of its water/wastewater department staff and congratulates them for their efforts and dedication to maintain compliance 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. ■