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www.klickitatpud.com

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Goldendale Office
1313 S. Columbus Ave.
Goldendale, WA 98620
509-773-5891
800-548-8357

White Salmon Office
110 NE Estes Ave.
P.O. Box 187
White Salmon, WA 98672
509-493-2255
800-548-8358



WA-18

Ron Schultz Retires from KPUD

After a 20-year career in Klickitat PUD’s Engineering Department, Ron Schultz will retire at the end of March. I’m sure he will quickly enjoy sleeping in and not having to make the daily drive from White Salmon to Goldendale.

Ron began his career with Klickitat PUD in March 2002 as a metering and substation maintenance engineer. He has held several positions within the Engineering Department during his two decades of service, including system engineer, White Salmon branch manager and, most recently, engineering manager. Ron has served on the safety standards committee for more than a decade and been a member of KPUD’s joint apprenticeship committee for our lineman apprenticeship.

Ron has been a fundamental member of KPUD’s Engineering Department in these roles. He spearheaded numerous projects and upgrades to optimize system reliability, including expansions to our 230-kilovolt transmission and control systems. He was also key in organizing and responding to unplanned outages to get power restored to customers efficiently. His knowledge of our electric system and our interconnections with the Bonneville Power Administration and PacifiCorp have been an asset that will be greatly missed.

“Ron is the type of person that never stops learning,” says Jim Smith, KPUD general manger. “Year after year he has quietly expanded his role, ensuring we plan, maintain and operate our electric system in the safest, most reliable way possible. His hands-on background from his previous career at SDS Lumber has proven invaluable in helping our engineering group deliver good designs. I will miss his thoughtful insights and his friendship around the office.”

In retirement, Ron will enjoy more time with his wife of 45 years, Joyce, and quality time with their two kids and three grandkids. He will have more time for his many hobbies, including gold panning, ham radio operation and instruction, taking cruises and flying his drone. Ron received his private pilot’s license in 1972 and his commercial license with seaplane rating in 1981. More recently, he received his UAV or drone pilot license.

Ron has been a well-known fixture at the utility with his humorous, good-natured personality. All of us here at Klickitat PUD wish Ron the best in his retirement.



Ron Schultz was an integral part of the KPUD team during his two decades of service.