



The Bingen Substation has been modernized through the years, including the most recent installation of the regulators to support the 2017 transformer addition.

Bingen Substation Updates

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The Bingen Substation was constructed in the late 1960s. It supported load growth in the Bingen and White Salmon areas for more than 45 years with few modifications.

In 2017, Klickitat PUD installed a larger transformer and transferred load to it, preventing overloading of the substation due to load growth.

The original transformer was left in place and provides

limited backup capabilities that improves reliability.

Earlier this spring, Klickitat PUD finished installing new voltage regulators at the Bingen substation that support the addition of the 2017 transformer. Completion of this project provides improved voltage regulation on the electric system in the Bingen, White Salmon and Snowden areas, as well as additional redundancy within the substation—improving reliability and providing flexibility for future

maintenance to substation equipment.

System upgrades such as this sometimes require an outage for the work to be done. Outages on KPUD systems are inconvenient to customers but are necessary to keep workers constructing and maintaining the lines safe.

As part of the power outage planning process, staff assesses work and the time required to complete the work. Other maintenance that may be unrelated to the original need is

often performed simultaneously during the outage to prevent having to schedule an additional outage in the future. KPUD also considers that if work isn't done during a planned outage, it will likely lead to extensive unplanned outages in the future.

Substations provide power capacity and the power is then transported over multiple circuits—power lines—and ultimately delivered to the end user. Circuits can be underground or installed overhead on poles.

One of the major circuits out of the Bingen Substation runs overhead along Jewett Boulevard. In 2020, the power line was rebuilt, increasing the wire size to support load growth in the White Salmon area.

Additional work is being done in the Snowden area, north of White Salmon. Three miles of aged and now undersized power line is being rebuilt. Upon completion of the work, the line supplying power to the Snowden area will be capable of supporting load growth and will improve voltages in the area.

The maintenance and construction being done is part of KPUD's long-range system plan developed by the engineering department. The plan lists projects for future years that address the replacement of aging infrastructure, upgrades to power lines to support trending load growth and improve system reliability. This planning helps KPUD balance labor and budgets year after year.

Klickitat PUD staff takes reliability goals seriously. Staff works diligently year-round to prioritize improvements and minimize customer impact.

If you have any questions, please contact KPUD at 509-773-5891. For updates, follow KPUD at [facebook.com/KlickitatPUD](https://www.facebook.com/KlickitatPUD).

RIGHT: Upgrades are made to the Bingen Substation, as well as other substation equipment, to increase system reliability and capacity. TOP: The brick containment contains the transformer installed in 2017.

