

The power system and the lower Snake River dams

Klickitat PUD recognizes additional generation is essential to electric grid stability. For perspective, load growth in Klickitat County means our customers use 38% more power than they did 20 years ago. We have hit all our conservation targets throughout this period of growth.

We recognize additional renewable energy sources should be part of the growth in generation resources. However, they are variable generation sources, which means there are hours, days and often weeks during our winter months where the wind does not blow, the sun is hidden behind the clouds or we are socked in with fog. For example, during six days of the recent snowstorm, wind warnings and cold temperatures from January 9-14, solar generation contributed zero generation to the region. Batteries and other storage alternatives cannot affordably store the amount of power necessary for periods like this. Our region relied on hydropower, nuclear and natural gas generation—as well as generation imports—to provide a consistent supply of clean electricity day and night.

Klickitat PUD is pleased to have nearly all our power supplied from carbon-free sources. Since we were formed in 1938, Klickitat PUD has benefited from the stable hydropower provided by the Bonneville Power Administration, and we were one of their first customers upon the completion of the federal dams on the Columbia River. We have also been developing renewable

resources for more than 30 years, and we support renewables. There is a diversity in having both hydropower and renewables—they complement each other. However, the ability of existing hydropower to integrate more renewable generation is running out.

The region needs new baseload generation, which is generation that is on demand and dispatched as needed. Several studies by industry experts demonstrate this conclusion, including one by the Bonneville Power Administration in 2022.

Until additional baseload resources are available, every hydropower resource is an invaluable asset to supply power during natural lulls in variable generation and to achieve requirements dictated by Washington state's clean energy initiatives.

The U.S. government has also committed billions in funding to build renewable energy projects to support our future electric needs as legislation moves us toward electrification of other fuel sources.

Proposals to remove the lower Snake River dams work against these goals at both the state and federal levels. We believe that we should retain all economic, available carbon-free resources to support the stability of the electric grid and the economy of our region.

Removing the lower Snake River dams takes an act of Congress. This means that your congressional members will ultimately decide how we move forward. Your PUD will not. We can, however, provide perspective and information. Please take the time to learn about all viewpoints on these issues so you can decide for yourself how best to support your communities with solutions that will work.

Energy Sources

BPA

OTHER NUCLEAR

85%

HYDROPOWER

NORTHWEST

NUCLEAR COAL

WIND

SOLAR

NATURAL GAS

NATIONAL

OTHER SOLAR

WIND

NUCLEAR

COAL

NATURAL GAS

52%

HYDROPOWER

6%

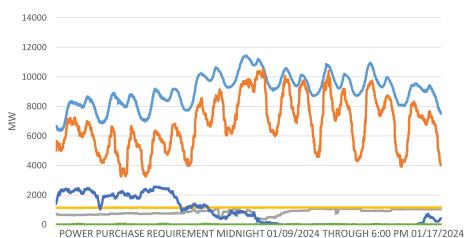
HYDROPOWER

THANKS TO NORTHWEST RIVERS AND THE CARBON-FREE HYDROPOWER THEY PRODUCE, BPA CUSTOMERS BENEFIT FROM CLEANER ENERGY.

HYDRO POWER FLOWS HERE

*ALL FIGURES 2022 ENERGY GENERATED

Load and Resources



Power use was high during the recent cold snap, with loads on the Bonneville Power Administration system peaking at 11,396 MW on January 13, a new record for the post-aluminum smelter era.

The top blue line represents the total electric load during the week of cold weather. Hydropower (orange) provided roughly 75% of the power supply provided to the area. Wind (dark blue) provided some supply early in the period, but tapered during the coldest days. Nuclear (yellow) and gas generation (gray) provided steady output as variable renewable resources failed to produce. Solar (green) produced a peak of 66 MW—about .5% of peak loads. Solar production only occurred during daylight hours, and also tapered down significantly during the cold event.