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WA-18

KPUD Can Help With Winter Bills

Winter has arrived, and along with the colder weather comes an increase in energy use to keep warm. This means higher electric bills that can become a hardship for many elderly and lowincome families.

To help, Klickitat PUD not only provides alternatives for receiving, but for giving as well. We like to call it "neighbors helping

neighbors."

• We have a low-income elderly rate on electric bills issued December through May. The discount ranges from 10 percent to 40 percent. Customers who are



at least 62 and have a household annual income of \$21,000 or less may be eligible. Contact Klickitat County Senior Services for more information at (509) 773-3757 or (509) 493-3068.

- We offer assistance with the Operation Warm Heart/Round Up programs. KPUD customers contribute to the Operation Warm Heart and Round Up programs to help families throughout Klickitat County who are having problems paying their electric bills. To be eligible to receive funds from either of these programs, the household must earn below 125 percent of the federal poverty level and be certified as eligible through the Washington Gorge Action Program (WGAP). Call (509) 773-6831 or (509) 493-2662 for more information.
 - We also have a budget plan to

spread out your bills evenly throughout the year. This is a good option for those on a fixed income and/or those who have high winter bills. Call Klickitat PUD for more information.

• The federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program available through WGAP is regulated according to income and number of dependents. Call (509) 773-6831 or (509) 493-2662 for more information.

Contributions to the Operation Warm Heart and/or Round Up programs can be arranged through the KPUD Customer Service Department at (509) 773-5891 or (509) 493-2255.

If you would like to help us warm someone's heart—and their home this winter, you can make a one-time donation, add a monthly amount to your bill or have your bill rounded up to the nearest whole dollar amount, with the difference being contributed to the program. Contributions to these programs amounted to about \$15,000 last year.

For that hard-to-shop-for friend, neighbor or family member, contact the KPUD Customer Service Department for information about our gift certificate program. They make great stocking stuffers!

We hope you can take advantage of these programs, or can help those in our community who are in need.

From your neighbors and friends at Klickitat PUD, we wish you a happy holiday season!

Jim Smith, Interim General Manager