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WA-18

# Your KPUD Update

I'd like to update you on various happenings at Klickitat PUD. First and foremost, I am sincerely thankful for all the outreach to our employee who was hurt this past week. He is back at work, and we are excited about how well he is recovering. We might have only 10,000 residential customers at the PUD, but our posts reached more than 6,000 people that week. The support shown for him was extraordinary.

Our renewable natural gas facility is coming along nicely. We are working on the final issues on the mechanical construction contract. The electrical contractor is on site. As reported last month, the electrical generation facility is shut down and our staff there is preparing for commissioning, training and startup of the new facility. We still plan to start up in August.

We are hard at work completing items necessary to upgrade our accounting and customer billing systems by winter. Much of the work happens before switching to new systems. The data cleanup work and necessary process reviews and adjustments are being worked on now.

The most notable part of the system that will be apparent to our customers is an updated utility bill. The new bill should be easier to read, and it should provide more information about your electric and water use each month.

We are also completing many large electric system improvement projects. One of the projects is at the Bingen Substation, which serves Bingen, White Salmon and Snowden. Another is a new high-voltage interconnection to the Bonneville Power Administration's transmission system south of Goldendale. The purpose of this project is to provide more secure service to much of our county.

In addition, we are building a new transmission line and substation west of Alderdale. This addition will provide much-needed increased capacity on the east end of our county.

We have completed work on a new well for the Wishram water system. Work also is progressing on a new well for the Lyle water system. These new sources will provide capacity for growth in each of these communities.

Lastly, I am satisfied with work our KPUD employees are doing to revise our safety standards and processes. Staff has been engaged and is improving the systems and work we have had in place for years. I look forward to continued growth through these committees. Given the recent incident, it brings home how important it is to have processes and plans in place to ensure our employees get home safely every day.

Thank you all for your continued support for your Klickitat PUD employees and the services they provide.

**Jim Smith**  
**General Manager**