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WA-18

Happy Holidays



It has been a while since I talked about our local communities. By the time you read this, we will all be making holiday plans and thinking about time with our families.

I have been impressed with the resiliency our local communities have shown during the past year and a half—almost two years—of COVID-19 in our world. Despite the risks and challenges, our county, cities and communities have continued to provide services, and our medical institutions and first responders have looked after our citizens—as have our law enforcement and other emergency management personnel.

Your KPUD employees have been here for you through it all as well. We took our critical worker designation and responsibilities seriously. Your KPUD staff has worked hard throughout the pandemic. While we closed offices to walk-in traffic to limit potential COVID-19 exposure as much as we could, our employees have been here working every day.

They have responded to outages and emergency situations. They have continued to provide the support to connect new services. They have continued to collect revenues; buy necessary materials, tools and services; pay our bills; prepare long-range planning; hire and train people; and do all the other things necessary to ensure the business is sound. The end goal has always been to ensure we have the staff, materials and other things necessary to continue to serve you, even if the pandemic lasts for an extended period.

I am glad we took this approach, as we are still dealing with the pandemic. I am proud of our employees. Their dedication, loyalty and willingness to serve you throughout this time has inspired me. Thank you to each employee for their efforts.

Thank you to all of our customers for helping us through these tough times. Your support and understanding of the changes we have made to stay open have been gratifying and reaffirmed we are doing the right things.

I hope you have your own stories of the good people in our small rural communities. I hope you talk about those and support our rural way of life. We are lucky to be in Eastern Washington and live in these communities.

On behalf of all of us here at Klickitat PUD, Merry Christmas! We hope you have a fun and safe holiday season.

Jim Smith
General Manager