



Skamania County PUD's News From the Wire

**April– May
2016
Edition**

Published Bi-Monthly

**PUD #1 of
Skamania County**

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Hwy.
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8:30 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

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**Board of
Commissioners**

Meeting Schedule

9 a.m.

Monday	04/04/16
Monday	04/18/16
Monday	05/02/16
Monday	05/16/16
Monday	06/06/16
Monday	06/20/16

Underwood substation construction is now complete! The work began in July 2015 and finished in March 2016. In 2008 the PUD purchased our five substations from the Bonneville Power Administration. At the time of purchase the PUD recognized there were both immediate and long term infrastructure upgrade and replacement needs in all five substations. Within a few years after the purchase, the PUD made some minor upgrades and began planning the first major project to rebuild Underwood substation.



July 2015

Underwood, Mill A and Willard area customers are now being served with all new substation equipment. The most significant benefits of this project are:

- The substation is running on a new transformer (the backbone of the substation).
- The old transformer has been repurposed to be a ready-in-place spare.
- Voltage regulators were installed to provide consistent service voltage to our customers.
- Catch basins were built to contain an oil spill in the event of an unexpected leak in one of the oil-filled power transformers.
- Flexibility was built into the distribution circuits to minimize the need for outages for maintenance or repairs.

The completion of this project marks a significant upgrade in quality and reliability of service for the Underwood, Mill A and Willard areas.

Brent Bischoff
General Manager



March 2016

Help us Save our Transformers

Many of our customers receive electricity through a power transformer somewhat near the house or building being serviced (that green box in your yard!). The transformer takes the power at the PUD's system voltage of 7200 volts and changes it to the 120/240 volts that is used by the consumer.

Although it's not a thing of beauty, please don't try to hide the box by planting trees, shrubs, or flowers around it. The transformer must be exposed to the air currents for cooling, and our line crews must occasionally work in or around it. ***This is a safety issue for our crew.***

The opening on the front requires a minimum clearance of seven feet in order for the line crew to safely reenergize it using a "hot stick." Please help us by keeping the area around your transformer clear.

Going Paperless

We care about the environment and we know you do too. We'd like to say thank you to all of the customers that have enrolled in paperless billing in the last 2 years.

By going paperless you can view your bill and receive notices online rather than in the mail. Save time, reduce clutter, reduce costs and help the environment.

Sign up at skamaniapud.com



It's Equal Pay Recalculation Time!

Remember our policy requires the actual account balance be paid to below \$250.00 before the equal pay recalculation occurs. Provided your account meets the requirements, your April or May bill will reflect the new equal pay amount.

Call Before You Dig 1-800-424-5555

Whether you are planning a major construction project or landscaping your yard, it is important to call for a line locate at least 48 hours before digging or excavating.

When calling, be prepared to give your name, phone number, service location, nearest cross road and any special instructions. The Northwest Utility Notification Center will then contact the proper utilities.

"Call Before You Dig" is a free service that can prevent dangerous and costly accidents.



News From the Wire

is an informational newsletter published by
Skamania County PUD for our customers.
Reader comments are welcome.

PUD Commissioners:

District 1..... Dennis Gale, Vice President
360-837-3862
District 2..... Curt Esch, President
509-427-8591
District 3..... Liz Green, Secretary
509-538-2568

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