



Skamania County PUD's

# News From the Wire

**April-May  
2008  
Edition**

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**PUD #1 of  
Skamania County**

**PO Box 500  
1492 Wind River  
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Carson WA 98610**

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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 04/21/08

Monday 05/05/08

Monday 05/19/08

Monday 06/01/08

Monday 06/16/08

## Good News to Report

To the Owners of Pubic Utility District #1 of Skamania County:

As we close the accounting books on 2007, and watch as the 2008 State Legislative session comes to an end, I offer the following report and reflections. In general, your PUD is in good shape!

On the electric side customer growth and increased revenue has afforded some extra money to fund various system improvements underway. These include: replacing 3,700 feet of old overhead wire and poles along SR 14 near Salmon Falls Rd., replacing several old and failing underground cables, trimming trees along 5 miles of SR 14, continuing improvements to our five substations, and making needed improvements to the headquarters facility. All this while holding rates low and improving reliability. For comparison I have attached a chart of neighboring electric utility rates on the next page.

On the water side, both Carson and Underwood water systems are in good financial and operating condition. In Underwood a new pipe down Scoggins Road eliminated the need for the old Ausplund Reservoir and pneumatic pressuring system, providing better service to folks along Kolllock-Knapp Rd. Underwood faced a major test with the September wild fire on the bluff that destroyed 6 homes. The fire-fighting effort drained the water system in less than six hours. While this might meet minimum state standards, it is not a situation the people of Underwood want to live with. Hence, we have been working hard with our state legislators to try to get some financial help to build a large water storage tank to help fight the next catastrophic fire.

The Carson water system saw improvements to our new source at Carson Industrial Site, maintenance and painting at the treatment plant, and hydrogeologic studies to help find new sources of water. We expect to be drilling another well in 2008.

The recent Washington State Legislative session brought many good things for PUDs. New laws improved our ability to do our work 'in-house', to partner with both public and private concerns for the development of renewable energy sources, changes we can live with regarding attachment to our poles by others, such as telephone and cable television companies, and other needed adjustments. Your PUD staff and Commission worked hard with your State District 15 Representatives who helped guide our needed changes through the legislature with good results. (continued)

## Good News to Report

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This year, 2008, will bring many new challenges and opportunities. Your PUD is well situated to deal with the future. I salute our staff. They are the reason your PUD can offer low rates and great service.

I speak for your staff and elected commission when I say 'thank you for letting us serve you'.

Bob Wittenberg, Manager

See Below  
For Rate Comparisons



## Budget Plan Offered

Skamania County PUD offers the Budget Plan or Equal Pay Plan. Your monthly payment will be the same throughout the budget year, so you'll always know how much you owe.

With our budget plan we are now offering auto pay, if you don't want the hassle with mailing a check each month. Auto pay automatically deducts your payment from your checking or savings account. Call us if you are interested in this plan.

### To qualify, you must:

1. Be a residential customer  
(No commercial or industrial customers.)
2. We will need at least 12 months of usage history .
3. Have account paid in full.

	Cost of 1,000 kWhrs per month				
	Skamania	Clark PUD	Klickitat	Hood River	PP&L
				Co-Op	
<b>Basic Charge</b>	\$ 8.45	\$ 6.40	\$14.25	\$10.00	\$ 7.50
<b>Energy per kWhr</b>	\$ 0.0608	\$ 0.0736	\$ 0.0665	\$0.0575	\$ 0.0691
<b>Energy - 1,000 kWhrs</b>	\$60.80	\$ 73.60	\$ 66.50	\$57.50	\$69.10
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$69.25</b>	<b>\$ 80.00</b>	<b>\$ 80.75</b>	<b>\$67.50</b>	<b>\$76.60</b>

### 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  
360-837-3862  
District 2..... Curt Esch  
509-427-8591  
District 3..... Clyde Leach  
509-493-3380

#### Skamania County PUD:

Manager.....Bob Wittenberg  
Auditor..... Chris lobst

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