

Chelan PUD to Hold Another Hearing on High Energy Users



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The Chelan County PUD's holding another public hearing to discuss high energy users.

The agency's considering a new electricity rate for operations which use an unusually intense amount of energy, such as bit coin miners.

The PUD currently has a moratorium on customers who would use 250 kilowatt hours, per-square-foot, per year.

Such loads have an adverse effect on grids, which can negatively impact surrounding residents and businesses.

The PUD's John Stoll contends the utility's concerned the high energy users will cause the rates to spike for all other customers.

He says "We sell a certain amount of our energy into the market. We get a higher rate for that what we sell locally. So as we consume more of that power within the county, that will create rate pressure potentially on the rest of our customers."

He also claims the high energy users present an unusual challenge to the agency. "This is just a unique load, given that's it's very high intensive energy use. It tends to be a bit more mobile. We've seen some of these operations come and go pretty quickly."

The public hearing is Tuesday at 1 p.m. at the PUD's offices. The agency invites comments beforehand about high energy users on it's website. You can also view all remarks thus far on the issue at ChelanPUD.org